

the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947:—

- (i) The Exports (Control) Tenth Amendment Order, 1987 published in Notification No. S.O. 534(E) in Gazette of India dated the 27th May, 1987.
- (ii) The Exports (Control) Eleventh Amendment Order 1987 published in Notification No. S.O. 657(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st July, 1987.
- (iii) The Exports (Control) Twelfth Amendment Order, 1987 published in Notification No. S.O. 668(E) in Gazette of India dated the 3rd July, 1987.
- (iv) S.O. 725(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th July, 1987 making certain amendments in the Open General Licence No. 18/85-88 dated the 12th April, 1985. [Placed in the Library. See LT No.-4612/87]

12.05 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILL

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: I beg to lay on the Table the Coconut Development Board (Amendment) Bill, 1987 passed by the Houses of Parliament during the second part of the current session and assented to.

12.5½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

Ninth Report

PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI (Balai): I beg to present the Ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House.

12.06 hrs.

PETITION RE: REVOCATION OF HINDUSTAN TRACTORS LTD (ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS) ACT 13 OF 1978

[English]

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH (Bombay North): I beg to present a petition signed by Shri Chandrakant Patel and others regarding revocation of Hindustan Tractors Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act 13 of 1978.

12.07 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): On behalf of Shri H.K.L. Bhagat, with your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing Monday, the 17th August, 1987, will consist of:-

- (1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
- (2) Discussion and voting on Supple-

mentary Demands for Grants for 1987-88 for the State of Punjab.

- (3) Consideration and passing of the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Continuance Bill, 1987.
- (4) Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Ordinance, 1987, together with consideration and passing of the Bill in its replacement.
- (5) Consideration and passing of the following Bills, as passed by Rajya Sabha:
 - (a) The Repealing and Amending Bill, 1986.
 - (b) The All-India Institute of Medical Sciences and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research Chandigarh (Amendment) Bill, 1987.
 - (c) The Parsi Marriage and Divorce (Amendment) Bill, 1987.
- (6) Consideration and passing of the Brentford Electric (India) Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Bill, 1987.
- (7) Discussion and voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1987-88.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): Sir, during the previous sessions of Parliament, the Akali Dal (L) along with the other opposition parties, some Congress Members and Amnesty International had urged the Government to release all those persons kept in Jodhpur

Jail. They were arrested during Operation Blue Star in 1984. Though three years have passed, these persons were neither prosecuted nor released.

On April 14, 1987, a senior Central Minister announced that their cases for release will be reviewed soon.

Jodhpur prisoners also include ladies, minor children, sewadars of SGPC, simple devotees, bank employees and some students.

They are taking examinations for pursuing their further studies. This fact establishes their desire to improve their future and their keen interest to live a peaceful life as loyal citizens and part of the national mainstream. The Government should keep its words and honour the sentiments of people's representatives and social organisations by releasing these detenus without further delay.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Sir, from bread and milk to cooking oil, pulses and vegetables, almost all essential commodities are either in short supply or have registered a steep hike in price. Fears have also been expressed over the possibility of prices of essential commodities rising further in the emerging drought situation. There is need to gear up the public distribution system to meet the challenge. Strict measures would have to be taken to ensure the arrest of the rising prices.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Sir, several files relating to the applications made by the Goa freedom fighters are either gathering dust or not traceable in the freedom fighters cell of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Even otherwise, a very casual approach is given to the pension cases of the Goa freedom fighters. It is not known whether there is any element of accountability with respect to the matter. In the circumstances, there should be a discussion over the procedural aspect so as to evolve an efficient, disciplined and accountable Government machinery to the satisfaction of the commonman.

[Shri Shantaram Naik]

The Office of Welfare Commissioner of Goa under the Ministry of Labour was started in the year 1965-66 and a full-time Commissioner, for the first time in India, was appointed. Prior to 1981, the work of Maharashtra region was looked after by Goa Office of Welfare Commissioner. The Office of the Welfare Commissioner of Goa has been downgraded to that of Office of the Assistant Welfare Commissioner since March, 1986. The overall in charge of Goa Office has now been given to the Welfare Commissioner, Maharashtra. This tendency of downgradation of offices just on the recommendation of an officer, without their being a clear-cut policy on the matter of establishment of offices of Welfare Commissioners, is irrational and devoid of any basis. Besides, Goa is now a full-fledged State. Therefore, Government of India have to decide whether a State is entitled for an office of Welfare Commissioner or it has to make with a neighbouring State's Welfare Commissioner.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): Sir, the following item may be included in the next week's agenda:—

The East Coast Express from Hyderabad to Howrah is a very important long distance train linking two State Capitals. But its coaches are very old causing a lot of inconvenience to the passengers. So I request the Railways to replace these old coaches with new coaches on the East Coast Express immediately.

The Narsapur Express is the last train from Hyderabad to coastal Andhra. Now due to change in the Indian Airlines evening flight timing, the Narsapur Express time should be changed so as to start at 9.00 p.m. from Secunderabad to enable the air passengers to catch it to go to the coastal Andhra areas the same night.

SHRI S.G. GHOLAP (Thane): The following may be included in the next week's agenda:—

It has become very important to store rain-water whenever and wherever possible, especially in hilly, backward and Adivasi areas.

The works like minor irrigations, drinking water supply schemes, especially of Adivasi villages, are held up for want of small forest land. It is a fact that the water supply scheme of Adivasi village Patgaon, District Thane of Maharashtra where six to seven lakhs of rupees have been invested in pipelines and other things and where the Maharashtra Government has intervened has still not been completed for want of small forest land.

Most of the such works which are taken up for employment for the poor and which have been started before the passing of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, are also held up and are not allowed to be completed.

It is our deep experience that even where alternative land is made available by the Collector in exchange of forest land, the matter is not cleared unless it is cleared by the Central Government which takes nearly two to three years.

The only source of economic development in backward and Adivasi, area is to give water to the agricultural land, but generally the backward Adviasi area being just near forest land, works are held up and no improvement is made in the developmental works. It is, therefore, earnestly requested that all the public works which have been started before 1980 in forest land be allowed to be completed. It is further requested that power to allot forest land for public purpose like minor irrigation be given to the Chief Conservator of Forest and thus the State Government should be empowered to complete minor irrigation works which will provide the works for the poor in scarcity area and it will help to develop the forest.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda:—

One of the country's most prestigious projects like the Hirakud Dam Irrigation Project, meant to irrigate about eight lakh hectares of land in Rabi season is silting up very fast due to large scale deforestation in the catchment areas and the heavy quantities of effluents discharged by some of the big and medium industries located nearby, of which some are located in the State of Madhya Pradesh and industries like paper mills at Brajaraj Nagar in the State of Orissa. The experts and technical persons have opined that, if the silting is allowed to continue in this manner, then the reservoir of the project would be fully silted up and would be totally defunct within 40 years from now.

The beneficiaries selected by the DICs to get loans under the self-employment scheme to provide self-employment to the educated youth are facing a lot of difficulties in getting the sanctioned amount of loans from the nationalised banks because of the fact that the Managers of these banks are entrusted with the work of monitoring and are held responsible for repayment of loans. So, because of the apprehension of any default in payment by the beneficiaries, the genuine beneficiaries for whom this very beneficial and welcome scheme was started are not going to get the benefit. The Managers or Branch Managers of the banks are disbursing such loans to the beneficiaries according to their sweet will and whims for the simple reason that they are made responsible for collection of loans.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I request that the following item may be included in the next week's agenda:-

There is need to bring about drastic changes in the policies of the Centre and the State Governments so far as health services in the country are concerned. Whatever, services are made available, they are not properly carried out. Wherever sub-health centres have been opened,

they lack accommodation and staff. There is shortage of medicines and staff in the Primary Health Centres also. The staff do not report for duty at the Centres for serving the rural masses even after their posting there. The medicines are sold in the market clandestinely. The whole scheme is in doldrums due to indiscipline and for want of economic assistance. The Government should, therefore, review the policy about health services to ensure that the entire scheme is carried out in a proper and effective manner

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh): The rising prices in the country have upset the life of common man. The hoarders and blackmarketeers have created artificial scarcity of essential commodities. As a result, their prices are sky-rocketing. It has adversely affected the common man. Therefore, the Government should open fair price shops everywhere immediately. There is a storage of as much as 2 crore 30 lakh tonnes of foodgrains in the Government godowns. If need be, more foodgrains can be imported.

Arrangements should be made to supply edible oils, pulses and other essential food-stuffs in deficit areas

Stringent punishment should be awarded to the blackmarketeers and hoarders. Raids should be conducted at their premises to unearth hidden goods. If inflationary trend is not checked, the poor might be compelled to break the rules and law of the country under the pressure of rising prices. Therefore, timely action must be taken in this respect.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have listened to the submissions made by the Hon. Members in this respect. I shall bring the same to the notice of the concerned Ministers.
