

by me along with my notice. Now a regular Satyagrah has started. The incident may take an ugly turn any moment. The issue has been also raised in the Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha. Redress is, therefore, immediately solicited.

(ii) SHORT SUPPLY OF RAW MATERIALS TO SMALL INDUSTRIES LOCATED IN ASANSOL DURGAPUR INDUSTRIAL BELT.

SHRI ROBIN SEN (Asansol): Madam Chairman, the Asansol-Durgapur small and ancillary industries are the worst sufferers and speedy growth of small and cottage industries in this important industrial belt is deterred due to step-motherly and non-co-operative attitude of the big public sector undertakings specially under SAIL and HSL. Due to non-availability of jobs from these giant public sector undertakings, the capacity of these small industries remains idle during most of the days in the year. This idle capacity of these industries means retrenchment of workers, lay-off and also unsteady and fluctuating economy of these small industries. These small industries in Asansol-Durgapur industrial belt also suffer due to non-having raw materials from Government supply sources. Although in the last year, a gala opening of stock yards was made at Durgapur by HSL/SAIL with the intention to supply raw materials to SSI units of Durgapur-Asansol, but it is experienced that required quantity of steel has not been supplied till to date to any of these SSI/Ancillary industries.

In view of the above, it is urged upon the big public sector undertakings in this industrial belt particularly, HSL/SAIL that reservation of certain items should strictly be off-loaded to these small industries on a fair price and also regular supply of required quantity of raw materials be ensured for both the survival and growth of these small

and ancillary industries and thereby to create employment opportunity to certain extent.

(iii) PROCEDURE FOR GIVING GALIANTRY AWARDS AND PROMOTIONS TO OFFICER OF THE DEFENCE FORCES

SHRI D. D. DESAI (Kaira): Madam Chairman, from the days of Shri Krishna Menon to Babuji, the House has been repeatedly assured about the sound health of Defence Forces.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The rules provide that you confine yourself to the written statement.

SHRI D. D. DESAI: Madam, we had been led to believe that the Defence forces had learnt the lessons of 1962 debacle and had carried out improvements of Command performance all along the line. But the article by Lt. Gen. Harbakhsh Singh (Retd.) in the *Indian Express* on April 25, issue reveals that the Command failures of 1962 were reported in 1965 and 1971. This should cause grave concern since there is little public debate on the issue about the capabilities of the Defence forces. Also in the same newspaper Lt. Col. J. R. Saigal has revealed serious deficiencies in selection procedures particularly above Lt. Col. rank and in giving gallantry awards. While awards and promotions given to right persons build up army morale, these given to the wrong ones, shatter it. Mr. Saigal's revelation that in 1971 an award was 'thrust upon' a Commanding Officer of Singals and that award became a topic of ridicule, is shocking. The Government must come out with a statement about these deficiencies in order to allay public apprehensions about our Defence forces.

(iv) LACK OF TRANSPORT FACILITIES FOR EXPORT OF EDIBLE MUSTARD OIL FROM BEHARATPUR AND KHAIRLI MANDIS OF RAJASTHAN.

श्री राज किशोर (भरतपुर) : सभापति महोदय,  
"पिछले दो महीनों से राजस्थान की भरतपुर तथा खैरली मंडियों से खाने योग्य तेल सर्रासों का निर्यात नहीं होने में तेल उद्योग संकट में आ गया

[श्री राम किशन]

है। एक तरफ कारखाने बंद हो रहे हैं। मजदूरों की छठमां हो रही है, माल मड़ रहा है, दुमरी रेल सुविधा क प्रभाव में टूटकों में थोड़ी मात्रा, अधिक समय और ज्यादा मालभाड़ा देने के साथ कारण तेल मगाने वाले ग्रामाम, बगल ऐसे प्रान्तों में तेल की कमी और भारी महंगाई से हाहाकार मच रहा है। राजस्थान राज्य से तेल के लदान को सुविधा नहीं होने से तेल मगना आयात निर्यात करन वाला की परेशानी तो है ही इसके अलावा जहा सरीदार का हालत खस्ता हो रही है वहा मरमा उपजाने वाले किसानों की भी अन्नो उपज को नहीं कीमत नहीं मिलने में उनमें भी भारी असुविधा फैल रहा है।”

(V) NEED FOR TAKING OVER THE  
MANAGEMENT OF SIDHPUR COTTON  
TEXTILE MILL, SIDHPUR.

SHRI AHISAN JAFRI (Ahmedabad):  
Madam Chairman, Sidhpur Cotton  
Textile Mill at Sidhpur has been closed  
since last three months and nearly  
23,000 workers have gone jobless. The  
mill has been closed due to inefficient  
management. The attention of the  
Government was drawn several times  
by the workers towards the mis-  
management practices of the manage-  
ment but no attention was paid. In  
the result the mill has been closed  
down adding 2500 workers in the huge  
army of unemployed in the country.

There is no likelihood of reopening  
of the mill in the near future by the  
old management and if at all it is re-  
opened by the said management, it  
will fail to give smooth and clean ad-  
ministration

The National efforts so far did not  
achieve the goal of cloth production in  
the country. The Central Government  
are announcing time and again its  
policy regarding the cloth production  
and the textile industry but with no  
results.

Instead of reducing the unemploy-  
ment, such closures of units in the  
various parts of the country, the pro-  
blem is becoming acute and the in-  
vestment of crores of rupees is becom-  
ing idle adding to the gross national  
loss.

The Government has adopted the  
policy of not taking over of such sick

units declaring that such units will be  
given to profit making units but the  
procedure is lengthy and does not help  
quickly. Particularly when the mill  
machineries are good and management  
is been upon closing it. Sidhpur Textile  
Mill is a good example in this.

I request the Government to come  
forward immediately to take over the  
mills immediately to help the produc-  
tion of cloth in the country and I will  
also request the Government not to  
ask for the Report under Section 18A  
of the Industrial Development and  
Control Act of 1961 and take over the  
mill straight-forward looking to the  
peculiar situation prevailing of Sidhpur  
Mill and help the lot of the workers.

MERCHANT SHIPPING (SECOND  
AMENDMENT) BILL

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will  
now take up consideration of Rajya  
Sabha Amendments. Now, I would  
like to point out before the Minister  
moves the amendments that they are  
purely of a verbal or technical nature.  
It only concerns changing the figure  
and the dates.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN  
CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF  
SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI  
CHAND RAM): I beg to move:

“That the following amendments  
made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill  
further to amend the Merchant  
Shipping Act, 1958, be taken into  
consideration:—

*Enacting Formula*

(1) That at page 1, line 1, for the  
word “Twentyninth” the word  
“Thirtieth” be substitute.

*Clause 1*

(2) That at page 1, line 3, the word  
“Second” be omitted.

(3) That at page 1, line 4, for the  
figure “1978” the figure “1979” be  
substituted.