

गंगोली क्षेत्र में देस भर के सैकड़ों तीर्थ-यात्री रुके पड़े हैं और कई दिनों से सबक दूटने के कारण बड़ा रामन व अन्य आवश्यक वस्तुएँ नहीं पहुँच रही हैं ।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: On a point of order, Sir About the privilege motion that was pending against the *Times of India*, I was told by your secretariat that it was going to be taken up today. You better tell us when it is going to be taken up.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a point of order.

Prof. Dilip Chakravarty.

(iii) ADVERTISEMENT POLICY OF GOVERNMENT

PROF. DILIP CHAKRAVARTY (Calcutta South): With your permission, Sir, I want to raise a very serious matter concerning the literary newspapers all over the country, under rule 377.

The advertisement policy pursued by the Government of India is hitting hard the small newspapers and particularly the literary ones. The decision by the Finance Ministry to give exemption from income-tax only Rs. 40,000 per annum spent on advertisements had led to the denial by the business houses of advertisements given to the small newspapers. Further, advertisement policy of the Government is that no newspaper which has a circulation of less than 2000 should be getting any Government advertisement has also accentuated the problem. The attention of the Finance Ministry as also the Ministry of Information and Publicity is drawn to this special problem confronting the small newspapers and particularly the literary newspapers. Before the Janata Government came to power, the small newspapers felt assured that they would be benefited by the policy but unfortunately in reality, their expectations have been belied. This requires urgent, expeditious and favourable consideration by the Government.

2212 L.S.—3.

(iv) ALLOTMENT OF RAILWAY WAGONS FOR MOVEMENT OF SALT MANUFACTURED IN TAMIL NADU.

SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM (Tiruchendur): I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Industry to the situation arising out of the refusal by the Salt Commissioner to recommend to the Ministry of Railways allotment of wagons for the movement of nearly 7 lakh tonnes of salt manufactured by unlicensed manufacturers in the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu in spite of the undertaking of Government as expressed in its Press Note of 23rd April, 1948 and 11 May, 1955 that under its new policy, salt produced in units covering not more than 10 acres will not be subject to any restrictions by way of storage, transport and sale and to request him to consider whether the action taken so far and proposed to be taken in the future by the Salt Commissioner does not transgress the undertaking given by Government arising from the Gandhi-Irwin Pact of 1931 to remove all discriminations as between licensed and unlicensed manufacturers of salt, the latter being in the small scale sector in the rural areas of the coast, and to spell out the measures the Minister proposes to take to ensure the expeditious movement of this salt from Tamil Nadu to the needy areas of Bihar and eastern India for the price of salt has gone up and for the lifting of the ban on exports of salt imposed last year on the basis of inadequate data provided by the Salt Commissioner.

Now, this year, the production of salt is more than 70 lakhs of tonnes as against 45 lakhs which was estimated by the hon. Minister last year in reply to my question. I am glad that the Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry, Shrimati Abha Mati, is sitting here and, I hope, she will reply to all these points.

When the country has achieved self-sufficiency and has even an exportable surplus in salt, how does the Government explain its policy of placing import of salt under OGL from Pakistan, unless it be its intention to put down

[Shri K. T. Kosalram]

all the small scale manufacturers of salt having their units in rural villages on the coastline by not allotting them wagons for movement of their salt within the country and, at the same time, impose a ban on export of salt to neighbouring countries?

When during the last year they had allotted 8,300 wagons o Tuticorin, 1800 to Arumaganeri and sizeable number to Vedaranyam in Tamil Nadu, what are the developments that have taken place now not to allot wagons to unlicensed manufacturers of salt when there is a stockpile of nearly 7 lakh tonnes unless it be the intention of Government to sully the growth of small scale manufacture of salt in this country? Is it the intention of the Government that the Salt Commissioner whose office was established to nurse the growing industry in salt should be permitted to act as he likes and impose restrictions on movement of salt contrary to Government's pronounced policy?

Or, is it the intention of the present Government to annul the provisions of this sacred pact which brings to our memory the contribution, the everlasting contribution, made by our Father of the Nation and undo in the name of bringing into being Gandhian economy and promotion of small scale industries, by taking such discriminatory steps as between licensed and unlicensed salt manufacturers.

I hope, the hon. Minister will reply to this.

CONSTITUTION (FORTY-FIFTH AMENDMENT) BILL—Contd.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we take up further consideration of the Constitution (Forty-Fifth Amendment) Bill.

Mr. Bedabrata Barua.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA (Kallabor): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to confine myself to just two points since the time at my disposal is very short I

would like to start by saying that this House should not get frightened by the false dangers on which also we have been deliberating. The real danger is not that the Constitution could be amend, because, every time an Amendment comes, the Constitutional Amendment will be discussed like the way we are discussing today, and to get the consent of the two-third majority in both Houses would never be easy. We have to do something within the limits of probabilities. There is hardly any probability, as far as I can look ahead, of a situation arising again either out of gimmicks or out of false revolutionary slogans. As I said, to get the consent of the two-thirds majority not only in the Lok Sabha but also in the Rajya Sabha is not easy..

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: I want to know, Sir, when the Minister is going to reply.

MR. SPEAKER: He will be replying after this.

AN HON. MEMBER: The time should be extended. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It has been mentioned, and the House has accepted, that there will be no further extension. But such of those as have not been able to get a chance now, will be given a chance when clause-by-clause consideration is taken up.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: The development of the political system in India, unfortunately or fortunately, is towards more regional parties. Therefore, I do not see this type of mobilisation coming in. But the real danger that I see to the country today and to its democracy is from the possibility of first declaration of Emergency by the Cabinet or by the Government. The founding fathers worked on two assumptions. One is that men in power would respect the spirit of the Constitution. They were not wrong. They were not wrong also in believing that the mass public opinion, determined to defend democracy and that type