

traders and smugglers from the neighbouring States and also from Rajasthan rushed into the area and started their operations with the object of securing the precious material and becoming rich quickly.

Real 'ruby' may or may not be available in the Tumkur villages but 'ruby corundum' which is also semi-precious and valuable as an industrial abrasive is reported to have been obtained in considerable quantities as a result of feverish digging operations financed by the smugglers. It is also reported that in these villages, land owners struck deals with these traders and allowed the illegal mining to go on in their lands. In this process several middlemen also got rich and the State has been deprived of huge and unestimated amounts of royalties.

As usual, in all such illegal operations, this trade has been thriving without being noticed by the police. It is only after the nefarious trade went on for quite some time, the department of mines and geology woke up and informed the police for checking the illegal trade. But, by then, the smugglers with their rich booties crossed over to other states. Raids conducted on the premises of the illegal miners revealed traces of excavated corundum, besides huge stock of mining implements.

The Minister of Steel and Mines is requested to take urgent action to depute teams of geologists and other mining specialists to conduct surveys in the Tumkur villages regarding the availability of 'ruby' or 'ruby' corundum' and take necessary steps for the excavation of the mines there if traces of the precious material are found. Also investigations should be carried out into the illegal mining activities of traders and land owners in these villages and penal action should be taken against those found guilty.

(i) PROBLEMS OF SMALL SCALE UNITS IN WEST BENGAL ENGAGED IN MANUFACTURE OF UTENSILS AND SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur); Sir, various small scale units in West Bengal which are engaged in the manufacture of utensils, surgical instruments and also in fabrication are suffering from considerable problems in obtaining supply of stainless steel rolled sheets as a result of which production of such small scale plates are manufactured by Durgapur Alloy Steel Project which are sent to other parts of the country for re-rolling purposes and the rolled sheets are thereafter re-transported to West Bengal which, amongst other things, means extra cost as well as delay in supply apart from inadequate availability.

To meet the situation an application for industrial licence for the manufacture of stainless steel and cold rolled sheets in the joint sector has been made by the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation in February 1979. The Ministry of Industry, Government of India, has acknowledged the receipt of this application and is reported to have forwarded the same to the Ministry of Steel for examination. The cost of the project has been estimated at Rs. 65 lakhs for a capacity of 1800 tonnes per year. The project is proposed to be set up at Kharagpur in the district of Midnapur, West Bengal, which is an industrially backward area. In view of the great importance of the project, I urge upon the Government of India, and particularly, on the Minister of Steel and Mines, for early clearance of the project so that it may be immediately taken up at hand for meeting the urgent requirements for raw materials of several small scale units including those in joint sector.

(iii) LAVISH EXPENDITURE ON SYMPOSLA ORGANISED IN DELHI AT VARIOUS HOTELS

डा० रामजी सिंह : (भागलपुर): यह देश के लिये गम्भीर चिन्ता का विषय है कि अभी हाल में राजधानी में "जूबे विचार" के नाम पर संगोष्ठीद्वारा विदेशी वैसे का बीभत्स प्रदर्शन हुआ। प्रबन्धकारी रिपोर्ट

के अनुसार इस विचार की एक संघोष्ठी दिल्ली के पंचतारक प्रतिष्ठा होटल मीर्मा में आयोजित हुई जिसमें लगभग 600 लोगों की शानदार मेहुमाननबाजी की गयी एवं रात्रि भोज आयोजित हुआ जिस पर लगभग 50,000 रु० खर्च हुए होंगे ; इसको मात देने के लिए अशोक होटल में 500 लोगों के शानदार प्रीतिभोज का आयोजन हुआ और शायद तीसरा आयोजन ताजमहल होटल में हुआ जिसमें भी उतनी ही संख्या में लोग पधारे ।

मैं किसी भी विदेशी देश से मंत्री की बात समझ सकता हूँ किन्तु मुझे समझ में नहीं आता कि एक एक प्रीतिभोज पर 50-60 हजार रु० कहां से खर्च किए गये ? जिन्होंने भोज निमंत्रित किया था क्या उनके पास इसकी हैसियत है ? क्या उन्हें किसी विदेशी राष्ट्र से खर्च करने को मिला और उनका प्रचार हो ? यदि ऐसी बात है तो इस से अधिक शर्मनाक और खतरनाक बात कुछ नहीं हो सकती ? विदेशी दूतावास की राजनीति में गिरफ्त कुछ लोग इसे व्यापार समझ कर भी करें तो भी यह खतरनाक है ? बुद्ध, महावीर, गांधी के विचारों पर संगोष्ठी करने के लिए इन आयोजकों के पास न पैसे हैं न समय । इसी लिये यह स्पष्ट है कि बौली किसी की, और खर्च करने वाले कोई दूसरे हैं ।

मैं प्रधान मंत्री जी से इसकी अभिलम्ब जांच करने की प्रार्थना करता हूँ । विदेशी धन का प्रवाह जितने ही जोरों से होगा, भारत की राजनैतिक अस्थिरता उसी अनुपात में बढ़ेगी । मध्य युग के मुगलकालीन शानशीकत को मात देने वाले इन भव्य भोजों के आयोजकों पर कड़ी निगाह रखनी चाहिये और आयकर विभाग की जांच तुरन्त शुरू कर कर देनी चाहिये । तथा फ़ारन ऐम्प्लॉय एक्ट के तहत भी इसकी जांच जरूरी है ।

(iv) RELAXATION OF AGE LIMIT FOR
COMMERCIAL PILOTS

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT
(Rajgarh): Sir, having been allowed under Rule 377, I wish to raise the following matter of urgent public importance:

The unemployed Commercial pilots numbering about 500 are facing great hardship and utter frustration since the last five to seven years. These young pilots trained at Government cost are unable to get employment due to the faulty policy of the Government

The Indian Airlines has clamped limit due to which many commercial pilots waiting in the queue for several years will become time-barred and remain unemployed for the whole of their lives. But since 1972 the age limit was 33 years and in respect of scheduled castes 35 years. If this age limit is not relaxed to age 35 and 38 for S/C and S/T, the unemployed Commercial pilots stand to suffer while the Government stands to loose trained personnel as well as crores of rupees spent on their training.

One fails to understand why these unemployed pilots who are like the second line of defence, are being prevented from employment while the Indian Airlines and Air India are inducting pilots from Defence Forces.

The International Federation of Pilots Association has emphasised the need of putting a third pilot in each flight for reasons of safety. Besides, it is common knowledge that the Boeing Pilots are being overworked and several times suffer from fatigue. The Indian Airlines is paying more than a lakh of rupees per month as Overtime Charges and special two-pilot allowance to the pilots, who are over-worked, while in this very amount, more than 100 pilots could be employed.

The unemployed Commercial Pilots are trained for specialised jobs, hence there is no other avenue of employment open for them. In view of this,