

because he protested against the alleged misbehaviour of an officer. On 11th April, when a member of the Executive of the Union was speaking to the organising Secretary, an Air Force Officer came over and abused him in foul language. The President of the Union then met the officer to try and sort out the problem. The attempt at reaching an understanding was abortive.

The President was then charge-sheeted and asked by the Management to explain why he approached the officer. This led to discontent amongst the workers. Many office bearers have since been suspended and the workers are very disturbed by this turn of events. I would request the Minister of Defence to look into this matter with the urgency it merits and see that the position is normalised, and the suspension orders rescinded.

12.12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT, 1955 AND RESOLUTION re. COMMITTEE ON SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.—

(i) The Kerosene (Fixation of Ceiling Prices) Amendment Order, 1978, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 156(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 1978.

(ii) The Light Diesel Oil (Fixation of Ceiling Prices) Amendment Order, 1978, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 157(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 1978.

(iii) The Furnace Oil (Fixation of Ceiling Prices and Distribution) Amendment Order, 1978, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 158(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st March, 1978. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2266/78]

(2) A copy of Resolution No. Q-30021/8/78-Dist. (Hindi and English versions) dated the 28th April, 1978 regarding constitution of a Committee to advise on the "Supply and Distribution of Petroleum Products". [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2267/78].

REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR SC/ST FOR 1975-76 AND 1976-77

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the years 1975-76 and 1976-77-Parts I and II-under article 338(2) of the Constitution [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2268/78]

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Here you will notice that in spite of your repeated advice, today we see a Report for the year 1975-76, the dark year of the Emergency. Why is it so? At least they should give an explanatory note, quoting from the file of the erstwhile Government as to why this Report was withheld. They are shedding so much crocodile tears for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and yet, in regard to the mere submission of a Report, they do not bother to do it; they deliberately withheld it. Would you kindly direct the Hon. Minister to make a statement on this so that we may know exactly why the statement has been withheld?

श्री धनिक लाल मंडल : अध्यक्ष जी, यह रिपोर्ट हम को दिसम्बर, 1977 में प्राप्त हुई है। यह संवेकी में थी, इसलिए

[श्री धीनक लाल मंडल]

हम को हम का हिन्दी में तर्जुमा कराना पड़ा। जितनी भी हेस्ट या जितनी भी गति हम ला सकते थे, उस को लाकर हमने पूरा किया है और यहाँ पेज किया है।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: That does not quite satisfy us: I don't think anybody in this House is satisfied. This report covers 1975-76 and the year 1975-76 ends on 31st March 1976. Today we are in the month of May, 1978. So, two years have passed. We want to know exactly why the submission of the Report was withheld by the erstwhile Government.

MR. SPEAKER: The Committee on the Welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will look into the matter.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: But let him explain fully.

MR. SPEAKER: He received it from the commissioner only last December, he says.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Then he should obtain an explanation from the Commissioner and lay it on the Table of the House. Why is there no explanation for the delay? The Parliament cannot be used as a rubber stamp. We are not here to give ex post facto sanctions: we are not rubber stamps. I would request you to direct the Hon. Minister to obtain a proper and clear explanation from the concerned authority and lay it on the Table of the House within seven days from today.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Sir, will you be content merely by listening to some of us protesting like this and telling the Government in a polite manner that they should lay it in time? My point is, if you go on merely telling them.

MR. SPEAKER: For the Speaker, making a polite request is a mandate, I thought.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: But, unfortunately, your politeness is not taken as a serious warning by them and every time it is being delayed. Therefore, you may now, while continuing to be polite, kindly be more firm and tell them that they must submit a written explanation as to why they are late in doing this.

MR. SPEAKER: That is the rule.

Mr. Minister, you must get the explanation as to why there is delay. (Interruptions).

I have asked him to get the written explanation.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You should express your displeasure over this issue.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: If Speaker's observations go unnoticed like this and fail to yield any result, it would be a matter of great regret.

MR. SPEAKER: You have mentioned that; the Minister is also hearing that

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): Sir, statements under Rule 377 are becoming just a routine redundancy. You had remarked once that after these statements are made in the House and the Minister's attention is drawn to that, the Minister must come with some statement explaining his stand on that, otherwise there is no use of such statements. Some Ministers have been doing that also, but most of them do not do that. For example, the other day, I drew the attention of the Railway Minister to the fact that in Maharashtra so many Electricity Board thermal plants are closed down; but no statement is coming. What are we supposed to do? What is the rule; kindly advise us.

MR. SPEAKER: I understand that several Ministers are giving their replies.