

[Prof. Samar Guha]

(3) What are the precautionary measures the Central Government have asked the various State Governments to adopt to meet the danger if it overtakes some parts of India?

(4) What are the information about the Skylab fall-out received by the Space Department of India from NASA and other international space agencies and Governments as well?

The Government should make a prompt and informative statement today about all aspects of danger, apprehension and hazards connected with the question of crashing of Skylab and fall-out of its splinters.

MR. SPEAKER: A proper reply will be possible only next week.

13.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377—Contd.

(iii) LOCK-OUT BY MESSRS. BENNET COLEMAN AND CO., THE PUBLISHERS OF THE Times of India PUBLICATIONS.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Under Rule 377 I wish to raise the following, namely:

The management of Bennett Coleman and Company, publishers of Times of India allied publications, has declared a lock out throwing nearly 4500 employees out of employment. The employees were agitating on the demand for interim relief. The lock out in Delhi, Ahmedabad and Calcutta and the efforts to take similar action in Bombay came in the wake of the unions in the four centres going on strike after the complete breakdown of

the two and half months of negotiations with the management. The management was adopting delaying tactics not to reach any accord. Meeting of the employees' demands has become urgently necessary, especially since the presentation of the Union budget for 1979-80.

The demands of the employees are quite legitimate, reasonable and should be accepted by the management without delay. The Central Government should not remain as a passive spectator and should immediately intervene in favour of the employees and see that the dispute is settled in their favour.

(iv) RE. CONVERSION OF NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS LTD, CALCUTTA, INTO A GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrackpore): Under Rule 377 I would like to raise the following matters in Parliament:

The National Instruments Limited, Calcutta, is Government of India undertaking under the Ministry of Industrial Development. It manufactures items for the Defence Ministry, Survey of India and also consumer items like cameras etc.

The number of employees is about 1300.

For the last 3 years the company has been suffering losses and the cumulative loss now stands at Rs. 6 crores. The present range of production will not be able to wipe out the loss. The situation in the Company has been made more difficult by the recent formation of the CITU union which is causing indiscipline, violence and loss of production in the company.

The department of Science and Technology has already recommended that the company may be converted into a Government Department and placed under the control of Survey of India as one of the specialised branches. The Defence Production Minis-

try has also expressed the desire to convert this unit into a defence production unit. The large majority of the employees of the Company (of whom 46 per cent are Government servants) have also appealed to the Government to convert it into a departmental undertaking.

This may seriously be considered by the Ministry of Industry.

(v) REPORTED FAILURE OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AT NAGPUR AIRPORT.

SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN (Tirupattur). I request the Deputy Speaker to permit me under Rule 377 to mention the following matter of urgent public importance:

I would like to draw your specific attention to the hair-breadth escape from disaster which I including other passengers in the Delhi bound plane Boeing from Madras had on July 8th evening. The plane which lands at Nagpur airport had been cleared to land by the Air Traffic control and had actually descended to 300 feet. The pilot then discovered that landing was fraught with grave risk as the airport was lashed by thunderstorms and took the decision to overfly Nagpur. He had to do a steep climb as the aircraft had already come down very low. We, the passengers had our hearts in our mouths in those nerve racking moments. Then we realised the debt of our gratitude to the pilot who saved us from near certain death by his skill. In this close brush with destiny, we cannot help asking the question 'How did the Nagpur airport authorities give clearance for the plane to land under such bad weather conditions and treat the passengers as hostages to fortune. We would not like to live those moments again. It is not the first time that a similar experience has occurred in Nagpur. It is high time that Government orders a thorough check up of surveillance and communication facilities at Nagpur so as to avert any disaster in future.

(vi) REPORTED POSSIBILITY OF STRIKE BY WORKERS OF MILLS UNDER N.T.C. AT INDORE AND OTHER PLACES IN MADHYA PRADESH

श्री कल्याण जैन (इन्दौर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नियम 377 के अधीन निम्नलिखित महत्वपूर्ण विषय की ओर आप का ध्यान आकषित करना चाहता हूँ—

मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने मध्य प्रदेश के समस्त कपड़ा मिलों के कामगारों को 45 रुपये प्रति माह की बेतन-वृद्धि देने की घोषणा की है। इस के परिणामस्वरूप मिली श्रम की सभी कपड़ा मिलों ने अपने मजदूरों को बेतन में 45 रुपये की वृद्धि की है। लेकिन नेशनल टैक्सटाइल कारपोरेशन ने अपने अन्तर्गत की कपड़ा मिलों के मजदूरों को उक्त बेतन वृद्धि देने से इनकार कर दिया। परिणामस्वरूप इन्दौर एवं मध्य प्रदेश के अन्य स्थानों की कपड़ा मिलों में आन्दोलन उभर हो गया है और हड़ताल हो गई है। पूर्व में जब बेतन वृद्धि को ले कर आन्दोलन हुआ तो सभी प्रतिनिधि श्रम सचइनों एवं कपड़ा मिलों के प्रबन्धकों ने मामला पक्क निर्णय के लिये मध्य प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री पर सौंपा था। नेशनल टैक्सटाइल कारपोरेशन के द्वारा पक्क निर्णय को न मानने से कपड़ा मिल मजदूरों में अशांति बढ़ रही है।

(vii) REPORTED REMOVAL OF NAMES FROM VOTERS' LIST IN MANGALDOI CONSTITUENCY IN ASSAM.

SHRI AHMED HUSSAIN (Dhubri): I take this opportunity of drawing your kind attention to a human problem which is causing lot of political and social tension in the State of Assam.

Sir, I also like to mention here some unwise and undemocratic action of the Assam Government, as a result of which the reign of panic has been let loose in areas particularly amongst the minority communities. In the last budget session, I raised the issue of deportation of Indian Citizens and harassment caused by the police to the innocent peace loving citizens of the land. We presume that the matter might be under active consideration of the Government. But the recent deployment of the Police to get the Voters names excluded from the list on the eve of by-election of Mongaldai Parliamentary Constituency due to the sudden death of late Shri Hiralal Pate-