

plain that examination does not mean consultation. Examination is something deeper than that. So, the whole thing collapsed there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: My answer is that if any fresh breach of privilege comes in, it will be considered on its merits. My ruling applies to the day's proceedings in the context of which my ruling was given.

Now, Shri Chaturvedi.

15.19 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) REPORTED POLLUTION HAZARDS TO THE TAJ AT AGRA.

SHRI SHAMBHU NATH CHATURVEDI (Agra): Madam, under Rule 377 I beg to raise the following matter of urgent public importance.

The Committee set up by the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals to go into the pollution hazards to the Taj at Agra from the emissions of the Mathura Refinery made an in-depth study of the overall problem of pollution threat to the Taj and has expressed its concern at the existing level of pollution in Agra and concluded that the additional pollution from the Refinery would be negligible.

The committee, therefore, recommended that Agra's two Thermal Power stations should be closed down so as to reduce the level of sulphur dioxide and particulate matter in the city. The other steps suggested include transfer of foundries from their present sites and a ban on the location of industries in north-west of the Taj.

All these steps are bound to have serious repercussions on Agra's industrialisation. It is true that in the long run these power stations are likely to be closed down or kept as 'stand by'. But any hasty step in this direction

would simply spell ruination on the existing industries. The closure of these units should instead be linked with the over-all question of adequate availability of hydel power either from Harduaganj or some new project like 600 MVA Mainpuri project and completion of the grid and 440 Volts sub-station on Agra Bye Pass.

15.22 hrs

[SHRI RAM MURTI in the Chair]

It is a widely known fact that the city has been a centre of foundries for the last several decades. Has the committee tried to find out to what extent they have caused damage to the Taj as distinct from the power houses. Apart from this, foundries are in the process of transfer to Foundry Nagar. But here again, it should be decided once for all whether the newly allocated site also does not involve any pollution hazards to the Taj.

The committee's last recommendation involving ban on new industries in North West zone is equally serious. The refinery is expected to serve as a catalytic agent for promotion of ancillary industrial development in the adjacent areas. Any such ban would give a death blow to this concept and retard industrial growth of this city. Hence this measure should be studied in greater details and instead of placing a general ban, only such industries producing excessive pollution hazards should be discouraged.

(ii) REPORTS DIFFICULTIES FACED BY THE ART SILK WEAVING INDUSTRY IN PUNJAB.

श्री बलदेव प्रकाश : (अन्तर्गत) :

सभापति महोदय, मैं आप की आज्ञा से कूल 377 के अन्तर्गत सदन के सामने एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न को रखना चाहता हूँ। जिसको फिलामेंट यार्न से बाईटे सिक्क बनाने वाले

समापति महोदय : आपने जो नोटिस दिया है, आपने सिर्फ उसे पढ़ना है।

डा० बलदेव प्रकाश : पहले मैं उसे पढ़ देता हूँ।

With the rise of price in viscose filament yarn and its non-availability at the ceiling price the art silk industry in Punjab State is completely paralysed. There is imminent danger of wide spread unemployment in the art silk weaving industry as about fifty thousand workers will be unemployed. It is a small scale industry and the big monopolist spinners of the yarn do not pay any attention to the repeated directions of the Government to sell the yarn at ceiling price. Immediate steps to bring down the price and to save the industry are needed.

समापति महोदय, मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय से इस बारे में बहुत धक्का कहा गया है...

समापति महोदय : नियम 377 के मातहत किसी सदस्य ने जो नोटिस दिया है, वह केवल उसे पढ़ सकता है।

डा० बलदेव प्रकाश : मैं सिर्फ यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश में मानोपलिस्ट्स राज कर रहे हैं या सरकार कर रही है। इतना करने के बाद भी धरर कुछ नहीं होता है, तो क्या किया जाये।

(iii) REPORTED STRANDING OF PILGRIMS IN GARHWAL REGION.

SHRI DHIRENDRANATH BASU (Katwa): Sir, with your permission, I beg to raise the following matter of urgent public importance.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation to the fact that about

5,000 pilgrims have been stranded in the Garhwal Region and the matter is very serious. I am stating the matter in details later on. There is another serious situation arising out of the collapsing state of Farakka bund, due to rise in Ganga and Padma waters above the danger level. If immediate efforts are not made to prevent this kind of collapsing of the bund, the flow of the Ganga and the Padma waters will enter the villages on both sides of Farakka, lakhs and lakhs of houses and people of the State of West Bengal and Bihar will be washed away by the flood. There will be innumerable loss of life and property. Crops on both sides of the Ganges are already on the verge of destruction by the flood havoc. So, the matter should now be dealt with on a war footing to avoid impending dangers and unprecedented disasters.

About the deplorable conditions of 5000 pilgrims in Garhwal region, a delayed report from Tehri-Garhwal district said that five persons, including three children, lost their lives in a cloud burst on Monday night in Daldhung village. Two villages and 18 cattle had been washed away in the floods that followed. Four villages of the area were completely cut off because of serious road breaches.

Road and Tele-communications in the valley, which were badly hit by heavy rain and the two flash floods a fortnight ago, are still paralysed and the only link with the district headquarters is through wireless.

A pilgrim from Calcutta, who trekked about 100 K.M. of difficult terrain, with his family to reach Srinagar (Garhwal) told UNI at Lucknow that the Telegraph offices on his way reported their lines down and he could not inform his relatives about his welfare.

While the district administration was trying its best to transport the stranded pilgrims by all available means, the officials were finding it