

भारतीय यात्री दूसरे हवाई जहाजों पर चढ़ते हैं उनकी सुविधा के लिए क्या कोई विशेष कदम उठाये जा सकते हैं तो यह बड़ा अच्छा सुझाव है और इस पर हम अवश्य ध्यान देंगे।

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

THIRTEENTH REPORT

SHRI G. G. SWELL (Autonomous Districts): I beg to present the Thirteenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.38 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

TARIFF COMMISSION'S REPORT ETC. RE FIXATION OF SALE PRICE OF THE STANDARD CAR

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers under sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951 :—

(i) Report (1969) of the Tariff Commission of the fixation of fair selling prices of Automobiles—Standard Herald Passenger car 4-Door model.

(ii) Government Resolution No. 1(79)/69-A. E. Ind. (1) dated the 19th April, 1972 (Hindi and English versions) notifying Government's decisions on the above Report. [Placed in Library See. No. LT-1917/72].

(1) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons as to why the documents mentioned above could not be laid on the Table within the period prescribed in sub-section (2) of section 16 of the said Act.

(3) A statement (Hindi and English version) explaining the reasons for not laying the Hindi version of the Report mentioned at (1)(i) above simultaneously.

[Placed in Library See. No. LT-1917/72]

12.39 hrs.

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

LOCK-OUT IN THE HEAVY VEHICLES FACTORY AT AVADI

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): You are aware that lock-out has been declared in the Heavy Vehicles Factory at Avadi. The production of Vyjayantha tanks has been stopped. Not only this, 5 000 workers working there have been rendered idle. Yesterday I spoke on the Defence Ministry's Demands for Grants. I said, the industrial relations in the particular factory at Avadi had deteriorated beyond expectation. Serious notice should be taken by the Minister.

AN HON. MEMBER: Under what rule is he raising it?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Under Rule 377. So, how is it that a factory which has earned tremendous fame at the national as well as the international level for manufacturing the Vijayanta tank is facing industrial unrest? Workers belonging to the various unions, especially affiliated to us and the INTUC, met the Minister of Defence Production a month before. Shri M. Kalyanasundaram, Shri K. Gopal and I were present, and I must say that the Minister of Defence Production gave us a patient hearing and ultimately ordered that Gen. Kini who is the general manager of that particular factory should start negotiations at the plant level at Avadi. The negotiations were started and they were going on. But suddenly they stopped. May I know why they stopped?

Formerly, there was the general manager, Mr. Sondhi. Not a day's interruption of work was there. But what has been happening since the general manager, Gen. Kini has taken over? Without imputing any motives to him I may say that the

industrial relations have become extremely bad now. I would request the hon. Minister to kindly tackle the situation more carefully, because it is a very sensitive issue. All those workers had given of their best, worked round the clock and produced the Vijayanta tank which has become the envy of other countries. Today, there is a lock-out there. The present general manager of that factory, without controlling the factory tactfully or skilfully wants to take recourse to the DIR, dismissal, charge-sheets and lock-out.

I would request the Minister of Defence Production and also the hon. Minister of Defence to kindly call a meeting of the representatives of the employees as well as the management here. I assure him, on behalf of the Federation, of our co-operation. Last time he had co-operated and it was lifted. Last time, we co-operated and the work was resumed. I still assure the hon. Minister of our co-operation. But under no circumstances shall we tolerate this kind of situation. When the hon. Minister can talk to the worker nicely, why should the general manager not talk nicely? After all, there is something basically wrong. In the larger interests of labour-management relations and in the interests of production of this wonderful tank to meet the defence needs, I would request the hon. Minister to make a statement here and now that the lock-out will be lifted and work will be resumed.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA)**: I am very sorry that this situation has developed in this manner in our tank factory. As the hon. Member himself has pointed out, extensive discussions were held in my room about a month back, at which we had reached an amicable understanding about the working of the factory as well as the relationship between the employer and the employees. Now, in this trouble which has again arisen, I must say that most of the workers have stayed loyal and they are working fully and co-operating with the management. I must thank them for their devotion to duty and the work that they are doing in the tank factory. A small section of workers are creating some difficulties there in that factory, because of which even the loyal workers find it very difficult to keep on working. The majority

of the workers do wish to continue to work, because the demands that were raised were discussed and the workers' representatives who actually led them in the factory understood it very well that they Pay Commission's report had to come and it was only on the basis of that report that the rest of the grievances of the workers could be looked into and not before that. This was accepted. There were certain other small problems which were also satisfactorily settled.

Gen Kini, who is the general manager, as Shri S. M. Banerjee himself has stated, did start a dialogue with the workers' representatives, but something seems to have gone wrong somewhere which we are trying to discover. We have actually requested the State Government of Tamil Nadu to send us a report. We are awaiting that report from them. We have also asked the general manager to send us his report. We have received reports from him from time to time, telex messages and others, but we have asked for a detailed report, which we expect to receive very soon. I can give this assurance to Shri S. M. Banerjee and the House, this morning, I received a telegram from Shri M. Kalyanasundaram who was present there in those negotiations that I had with the workers that he wanted to come here with some representatives to discuss this matter; I have sent him the message that he is most welcome and he should come here immediately. As a matter of fact, I had asked for him two days back, but unfortunately he was not present in Madras; otherwise, we would have talked about it earlier. I hope that as soon as those representatives come here, we would have talks about it, and whatever misunderstandings are there would be removed.

I would repeat that the workers of the tank factory are not only very hardworking, loyal and nationalist but have been doing their best to see that the factory production is not disrupted. It is only a small, unruly element which is creating trouble, and with the co-operation of responsible leaders, workers and of the State Government and with our own basic attitude of being helpful to the workers, we hope conditions in the factory will come back to normal very soon.