

SHRI S. A. KADER (Bombay-Central South): The recent rains have damaged some of the standing crops or grains which are in the market, and reports are coming in that at Moga and other places, huge quantity of grains has been damaged.

I would like to know from Government whether the Meteorological Department had forecast these rains, and if so, whether it was sent to the proper authorities in order to see that the grains lying in the open were covered up or were protected. Our experience of this Department is that their forecasts are generally on the wrong side; if they say that rains will come, rains will not come, and if they say that rains will not come, then rains will come. Many of us have seen the TV programme and heard the radio programmes and seen also the newspapers, but there was no forecast about the heavy rains that had occurred. If the Meteorological Department has not forecast it, then is it an inefficient department? Or have they no implement to forecast properly? Government should look into this matter and report to the House.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): Under rule 377, I want to draw the attention of Government to the new item which has appeared in the *Hindustan Standard* dated the 15th instant regarding the breakdown of one power unit in the DVC. The report says:

"The second unit of the DVC power generating station here went out of commission and the fault is of such a serious nature that it will not be put back into commission within a fortnight, according to sources close to the plant. The unit was repaired only on May 10.... The latest trouble is likely to have an effect on the power position in Calcutta. The erratic supply has been disrupting production at the DSP and Alloy Steel Plant for the past one week."

I would also like to mention that in the month of April in the steel township of the Durgapur Steel Plant, which is under the Durgapur Steel Plant, one Bimal Chaudhury was murdered by some gangsters.

On the 6th May, again an attack had been made on a number of employees of

the Durgapur Steel Plant who were connected with the Durgapur Steel Plant Employees' Union. This matter of the murder of Bimal Chaudhury was raised by the member from that constituency, Shri K. C. Halder, but nothing has come out. This repeated attack is causing serious damage to production as well as to the law and order situation in the steel township.

Another question—this is the last day and tomorrow I will not trouble you with any questions....

MR. SPEAKER: There are others waiting.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing anything new.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Under what rule?

MR. SPEAKER: This was only about the DVC and the other matter.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly sit down.

12.47 hrs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY MINISTER

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): Shri Madhu Limaye said in the course of his speech on Appropriation No. 2 Bill, 1973 on 27th April, 1973 that:

"वह तो आप डी० पी० यादव से पूछिये कि मैं जनता के बोट से हारा या उप्पामारी से हारा। खुद डी० पी० यादव ने कलेक्टर के सामने कहा कि मैं उप्पामारी से जीत गया हूँ। तो मैंने कहा कि मैं कोई पेटिशन नहीं करता आप पांच साल रहिये। इस बात को काटें। कलेक्टर के सामने उन्होंने कहा है।"

Since I was not present in the House at that time, I rise to refute and contradict the unfounded allegations made by

[Shri D. P. Yadav].

Shri Madhu Limaye. I regret that Shri Limaye's statement, to say the least, is not at all correct. I take this opportunity to deny the veracity of his allegations.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377—Contd.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): Under rule 377, I wish to invite the attention of this House, and particularly of the hon. Railway Ministry, to the very grave and serious difficulties experienced by the small industrial units producing salt at Kharagoda. The matter is very serious. This situation has been brought about by the very short wagon supply for salt this year to Kharagoda as compared to last year and the year before. Unless the wagon supply improves and clearance takes place, there will be great hardship caused to producers working both in the private sector as well as in the co-operative sector.

The monsoon is fast approaching and it is feared that if wagon supply is not improved, sizeable stocks of salt are likely to be washed away causing considerable loss and inconvenience to the industry and the people.

If I may give some figures, between January and April, 1971 as many as 5,282 wagons were supplied to this area. Last year the number of wagons supplied was 4,113. This year, between January and April, at Kharagoda only 2,144 wagons were supplied. Therefore, there has been a shortfall in the supply of wagons to the extent of 1,969. The point is that if adequate wagons are not supplied within a week, all the salt will be washed away, 4 lakh tonnes of salt will be washed away and damage to the extent of Rs. 30 lakhs or more will be caused.

My last point. This area is the Little Rann of Kutch in the border area. As many as 150,000 people are working there. This is a drought-affected area. Yesterday the Finance Minister was saying that drought-affected areas were given more opportunities, whereas here the people have come out of employment. I want the Railway Minister, therefore, to see to it that wagons are supplied immediately so that the workers do not suffer and the drought-affected areas are not put to further hardship.

The Gujarat Government has also been informed of this matter. Since the Government of Gujarat and the Government of India are of one and the same party, why is it that the State Government's insistence has not been accepted by the Government of India in the Ministry of Railways and action taken to improve situation.

श्री रामाबतार शास्त्री (पटना) :

अध्यक्ष, जी, मैंने दो विषयों पर नियम 377 के अधीन सरकार का ध्यान खींचने का नोटिस दिया था लेकिन उसमें से स्टेशन मास्टर्स और असिस्टेंट स्टेशन मास्टर्स के मामले में आपने मुझे इजाजत नहीं दी, और एक मसला उठाने की ही इजाजत आपने दी है। मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर आप दोनों मसले उठाने की इजाजत दें, जैसे कि दूसरों को आपने इजाजत दी है तो अच्छा होता।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं दो मिनट आपको देता हूँ उसमें एक उठा लीजिये या दो उठा लीजिये।

श्री रामाबतार शास्त्री : दूसरे की भी इजाजत दे दें क्योंकि वह भी महत्व का विषय है।

मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार के अखबारों में और यहां के अखबारों में भी जो खबरें आ रही हैं वे बहुत ही हृदय-विदारक और रोमांचकारी हैं। आज के अखबारों में जो खबर आयी है मैं उस के कुछ उद्धरण आपके सामने पढ़ कर सुनाना चाहता हूँ जिससे विषय की गम्भीरता का अंदाजा आपको लग जायेगा। पटना शहर और बिहार के दूसरे जिलों में इस बात से आतंक है उसी की तरफ मैं आपके द्वारा सरकार का ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूँ यू० एन० आई० की यह खबर इस प्रकार है :

"PATNA. May 15:- Frenzied mobs clinched at least 11 persons and burnt alive three others, including two "awad-