

are quite correct, that it was directly stated, correctly debated and as per the majority correctly disposed of. But, in the course of the adjournment motion statements were made here, which are incorrect. Those statements become a matter of dispute. This has nothing to do with the subject matter at all. It has to do with the Minister whether he spoke all untruth or not.

12.47 hrs.

RE MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES
RAISED BY MEMBERS

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह (चतरा)

मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान डालमिशानगर में चल रही पन्द्रह हजार मजदूरों की हड़ताल की ओर दिनाता चाहता हूँ। यह हड़ताल 27 तारीख से चल रही है। यह उनकी रोजी रोटी का सवाल है। उनके परिवारों का सवाल है। मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय हस्तक्षेप करें और मजदूरों की हड़ताल तुड़वायें और उनकी तथा उनके बाल बच्चों की जान बचायें। साथ ही वह एक वक्तव्य भी इसके सम्बन्ध में सदन में दें।

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): Sir, I wish to raise the following serious matter and request the concerned Minister to make a statement thereon.

On the 2nd April, 1973, 15,000 workers of the Bhilai steel plant were teargassed and lathi-charged by the police when they were demonstrating, demanding equal treatment of non-operational and operational staff of the steel plant in the matter of bonus and incentive in production.

The workers were going to submit a memorandum to the Minister of Steel and Mines, Shri Kumaramangalam, who was in Bhilai on that day. The demonstration was entirely peaceful.

According to the telegram which I have received from Bhilai, a large number of workers were injured in the indiscriminate lathi charge. The workers have every right to demand redressal of their grievances from the concerned Minister peacefully. The repression let loose on the workers by the police will not be conducive to the functioning of the steel plant. So, I wish to raise this matter at this zero hour today in this House.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): Sir, I have also written to you on this matter. I want also to draw your attention to the fact that there were 15,000 workers in Bhilai who have not only been lathi-charged but brutally teargassed also. They wanted to present a memorandum to the concerned Minister, the hon. Minister of Steel and Mines. The matter is very serious for other reasons also. The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh was also concerned with it. It was a very legitimate demand of the workers, the non-operational workers who want to have the same privilege and benefit as the operational workers there in regard to bonus and other concessions for the workers. They had a legitimate right to appear before the hon. Minister, and there is nothing in the report that appeared in the press to show that these 15,000 workers who met the hon. Minister to place their memorandum before him indulged in any untoward incident, or that they were going to give any trouble. On the refusal of the hon. Minister to accept their memorandum, and the Chief Minister also was there and when they were raising some slogans, and when there was only a peaceful demonstration, and when they were only waiting on the hon. Minister and the Chief Minister, in a mood of apprehension the police started lathi-charge and tear-gassing.

This is a matter which concerns this House, and. I would also like to make a request of the hon. Minister of Steel and Mines, comrade Kumaramangalam the former comrade Kumaramangalam—

AN HON. MEMBER: Ex-comrade.
(Interruptions)

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Yes ex-comrade Kumaramangalam, to make a statement on this matter.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): Yesterday we gave a calling attention notice. It was decided that it would come today. What about the Minister?

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is in the hospital. The Minister suddenly had to be removed to the hospital. I am very sorry about it. Will you make some statement now or later on?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री
(श्री सुखदेव प्रताप) : इस बारे में फैक्ट्स क्लेक्ट किये जा रहे हैं। हम बाद में स्टेटमेंट देंगे।

MR. SPEAKER: He is saying that the information will be given before the House.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I seek your permission. I wrote to you about the jute workers of Kanpur.

MR. SPEAKER: It was already raised in this House.

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी (गाजापुर) : अंजलि महोदय, बम्बई—प्रागरा नेशनल हाईवे पर चम्बल नदी के पुल का एक पायर फंसा जाने के बारे में मंत्री महोदय ने इस सदन में एक वक्तव्य दिया था। आज खबर आई है कि उसके तीन पायर और चार स्तंभ गिर गये हैं। एक चोकोदार भी नदी में गिर गया, जिसको आर्मी ने बचाया। मैं चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय इस बारे में एक वक्तव्य दें और बतायें कि यह घटना क्यों हुई और इसमें किसकी लापरवाही थी।

मोबहल और परिबहल मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इसमें लापरवाही का प्रश्न पैदा नहीं होता। मैंने 1 मार्च, को निवेदन किया था कि इस पुल के 17वें पीयर की बुनियाद दो फीट घंसा जाने की वजह से पुल का 200 फीट डैक नीचे झुक गया और आवागमन को खतरा पैदा हो गया। हमने पुल पर यातायात बन्द कर दिया और दूसरी वाक्स्था की कि जिससे आवागमन जारी रहा। हमें 3 अप्रैल को सुबह यह रिपोर्ट मिली कि उसमें पिछली रात को क्रेकड पोर्जन के दो इवेंटमेंट्स के बीच में चार आर्चें थे, वे गिर गये। यह हादसा रात के तब हुआ और इतिफाक में उन वक्त बरसों कोई नहीं था। उनमें चोकोदार को भी चोट नहीं आयी। चोकोदार वगैरह सब सुरक्षित हैं।

इन बीच में हमने यातायात जारी कर दिया है। एक फेरो चल रही है। हम पानटून इकट्ठे कर रहे हैं। खबर है कि 20 अप्रैल तक यातायात पूरी तरह चालू हो जायेगा। इनके साथ ही मरम्मत का भी इन्तजाम किया जा रहा है। इसको छानबीन करने के लिये हमने जो डाइवर्स भेजे, उन्होंने बताया कि नोबे चट्टान में कैद तब आया। इसके अलावा उन बेल्ट का स्ट्रेमिंग भी कैकड था, जिस पर पायर बने होते हैं। चट्टान के नोबे धुस जाने की वजह से ऐसा हो सकता है। कुल मिलाकर, चट्टान पर बने थे और यह उम्मीद नहीं थी कि चट्टान भी नोबे धुस सकती है।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I raised the question about the strike in the J and K jute mill and only because of this they have started sacking the trade union workers.

MR. SPEAKER: It was raised in this House already; you cannot raise it a second time.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: The Minister did not make a statement that day. When I raised this question last time, you said that you would ask the Minister to make a statement. The strike has been there for the last 66 days in Kanpur and many persons are being sacked. In view of this you should request the hon. Minister to make a statement. Or, let this mill be taken over by the Government.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Hundreds of workers will benefit if you kindly ask the Minister to make the statement.

MR. SPEAKER: We shall now take up the discussion on the next item.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—1973-74—*contd.*

13 hrs.

MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY—*contd.*

MR. SPEAKER: The time allotted for these demands was five hours; and three hours and ten minutes are available. I hope the Parties will stick to their timelimit.

SHRI D. D. DESAI (Kaira): In the past few hours we have discussed the demands for grants of the Ministry of Heavy Industry. This Ministry has been recently created and that very fact clearly establishes the importance that the Government attaches to this sector. The policy in respect of the general development of heavy industries has already been announced and the growth of capacity has been remarkable, both in the public sector and the private sector.

There have been, in few cases, non-utilisation of capacity and carried forward losses. The new Ministry is

charged with a great responsibility of recovering past losses as well as making good the established capacity and to this extent, the Parliament may wish Godspeed. We should not even mind approving the grants which have been requested in the fullest measure. The new capacity which is required to be created is also of a substantial nature because, our country was known more to be related to handicraft and cottage industries during the pre-Christian era and post-Christian era. In fact, according to Parkinson, for nearly a thousand years between 250 B.C. and 850 A.D. India was the largest exporter in the world and all the gold of the world flowed to India in return for the goods supplied by India. This was the Indian artisan's capability.

But, with the industrial revolution, because of slavery—the bondage we lagged behind considerably in this particular field. And now we have to make good this past period by our accelerated progress for which the Ministry is applying its efforts. The goods which are covered by this industry are of a very wide nature. Their importance is so great for they are related to important sectors or vital sectors like fertilisers, refineries, heavy chemical plants, steel plants, metallurgical industries, smelters for non-ferrous metals, rolling mills, power plants railway locomotives, cement plants, sugar plants, paper and pulp plants, equipments for material handling synthetics and textile machinery and a very wide variety of things are involved. The know-how for all these things is yet to be fully established in this country. I am glad that the Ministry has secured advanced know-how for example, for boilers, that of combustion Engineering of U.S.A. and for machine tools from American Tools and so on, many collaborations have been obtained. These would naturally result in a certain amount of upgrading of the products which are already being manufactured within the country.