

back, and it will take some time to verify the facts and then the necessary things will be done.

श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद वर्मा : मैंने कारपोरेशन बनाने के बारे में पूछा था। कारपोरेशन बनाकर एक ही रेट पर दिल्ली के वास्ते विद्युत की आपूर्ति करने का क्या आप विचार रखते हैं ?

DR. K. L. RAO : In regard to DESU reorganisation, proposals are under way, but it has not been decided as to what final shape it will take.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Puri) : When news appeared in the papers that the Bhakra Nangal Board has given notice to DESU to cut off electricity, we were quite sure that the Central Government would not permit it. We are glad to have this assurance from the Minister that power will not be cut off. But it definitely speaks ill of the administration that one public undertaking should be quarrelling with another for realisation of dues. It is not only a question between these two departments, but between many other departments, we hear of such differences being aired in public. For example, we hear that the telephone department cut off the telephone connection of another department because of accumulation of dues; this kind of thing puts both the public and the government machinery to great inconvenience. Are Government going to devise a machinery for solving such problems so that in future such public airing of such difference does not take place, and if there is a problem, it is automatically referred to a board which will resolve it by due process and there is no public fuss over it ?

Secondly, what would be the effect of the removal of disparity in power supply rates in various parts of Delhi ? If the Minister has not the information with him ready at hand, could he give it to us later ?

Thirdly, are there cases of this nature in other parts of the country where one public undertaking owes dues to another ? Also, are Government contemplating constitution of suitable machinery to resolve such problems ?

DR. K. L. RAO : There is no necessity to constitute a special machinery to dealing with such cases. There is sufficient provision

in the Act for the purpose. Government have enough powers under the Act. The Bhakra Management Board will deal with it in terms of the Act. There is no necessity to create a special machinery.

As to the question whether there are similar differences in other parts of the country, there are bound to be. Every State Electricity Board supplying power has a claim on certain agencies. The Government of India have given a direction as to how these rates must be calculated and so on. In spite of that, there is always difference arising. For example, between MP and Orissa, there is a difference about the rates to be charged for the Hirakud power. I am trying to do my best with the Chief Ministers of both States. These are settled amicably without creating difficulty by way of cutting off power and so on.

As for the question of uniformity of rates all over Delhi, we have not taken up that subject because there are two agencies here, the NDMC and DESU. One or two hon. members have mentioned this to me. I will take it up and see whether any kind of readjustment is required.

12 24 hrs.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

EXPLANATION FROM EDITOR OF THE *Financial Express*, BOMBAY

MR. SPEAKER : Shri N K. Sanghi, M P, in his letter dated the 2nd April, 1972, had complained to me that the *Financial Express*, Bombay, in its issue dated the 1st April, 1972, had published two news items attributing them to the "Financial Express Bureau," although they were based on the information contained in answers to certain questions in the House. Shri Sanghi had contended that the said newspaper should have made a reference to the relevant Lok Sabha proceedings as the source of those news items.

The Editor of the *Financial Express*, Bombay, who was asked, under my direction, to state what he had to say in the matter, has

[Mr. Speaker]

in his reply, stated *inter alia* as follows : —

"We admit that the said news items were based on the written replies to questions raised in Parliament. Since we were not reporting the supplementaries or the discussion on the question, we did not think it necessary to bring in the forum of Parliament. On many occasions, we supplement the written replies with information collected from other sources...

Whenever the *Financial Express* reports discussions or supplementaries to questions we make it a point to identify the source, namely, Parliament. I would like to assure you that it is far from our intention to belittle the importance of Parliament...

The *Financial Express* has no intention of committing any breach of privilege of Parliament."

I would only say that it would have been better if, in this case, the newspaper had also given a reference to the relevant proceedings of Lok Sabha instead of claiming it as emanating from its own Bureau. I hope that the Press will take note of it. The matter is now closed.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI (Jalore) : Sir, give me a chance to say something.

MR. SPEAKER : No observations please.

12.27 hrs.

RE : CALL ATTENTION NOTICE

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Sir, I want to make a very small submission. You are aware that we have also tabled a Calling Attention notice regarding the provident fund of the employees from throughout the country, —

MR. SPEAKER : I told you that it was referred to in the Business Advisory Committee and there is some note from Shri Vajpayee also.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : This was not there. Sir, the employees have come here because whatever representation was given has been thrown overboard; they have not been

accepted by the Government. The employees are staging a dharna before the house of Shri Khadilkar and the Shram Shakti Bhavan. Mr. Swami and myself who are the Presidents of the concerned/zonal committees were in contact with the Labour Minister. We would request the Labour Minister to make a statement, because nothing has been done so far. The Labour Minister says that the Finance Ministry does not agree to anything. The organisation of the Employees Provident Fund Commissioner is an autonomous one, and the money is not paid out of the Consolidated Fund of India. The prestige of the Government comes in the way.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (गुवाहाटी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, प्राविडेंट फंड आर्गनाइजेशन में जो लोग काम कर रहे हैं उनका स्टेट्स क्या हैं, यह अभी तक तय नहीं हुआ है। पहले माना गया था कि वह इंडस्ट्री है और वे बारगेज कर सकते हैं। अब उनका स्टेट्स क्या है यह अभी तक तय नहीं हुआ है। उनके पे स्केल्स के बारे में कोई फैसला नहीं हुआ है। वे घरना दे रहे हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि श्रम मंत्री उनकी स्थिति पर प्रकाश डालें। वह सदन को विश्वास में लें। उनके घर के मामले कोई घरना दे यह उचित नहीं लगता है। अगर वह अपना मौन नहीं तोड़ेंगे तो घरने में हमको भी शामिल होना पड़ेगा।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : The people come here and represent things to us. It is our duty to bring them before the House, so that those people might know what the attitude of Government is.

श्री जी० बेकटस्वामी (मिर्जापुर) : प्राविडेंट फंड एम्प्लॉयज की फंडेशन का प्रेजिडेंट होने की हैसियत से मैं यह जानता हूँ कि इस का बल ही फैसला हुआ है। बोर्ड आफ ट्रस्टीज ने कहा है कि एच आर ए इनका बढ़ा दिया जाए। लेकिन गवर्नमेंट रिजेक्ट कर रही है.....

अध्यक्ष महोदय : घरने पर वे लोग बैठे हैं। उनका यहाँ बयान आना चाहिए।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The Deputy Minister of Labour is here.