

[श्री सिंहासन सिंह]

जुवेलरी कहां बिकेगी और कौन उस को खरीदेगा। राजे महाराजे तो निकल गये लेकिन जुवेलर्स ने उन के स्थान पर अधिकारियों को पाया। उन्होंने चिट्ठी लिखी कि फंजाबाद के जुवेलर्स कहते हैं कि जो पी० डब्ल्यू० डी० के इंजीनियर्स और दूसरे विभाग के लोग हैं वे और जो ठेकेदार हैं वे इतनी जुवेलरी खरीदते हैं जिस का ठिकाना नहीं है। राजे महाराजे तो गाढ़े बगाड़े खरीदते थे लेकिन यह लोग तो रोजाना खरीदते हैं और हमारे ग्राहक बहुत बढ़ गये हैं। यह हमारे भ्रष्टाचार का नमूना है। इस लिये हम को चाहिये कि हम सर्वांगीण कार्य करें। जहां भी कोई किसी तरह से सरकारी क्षेत्र में भ्रष्टाचार है, जिसका राज सत्ता से सम्बन्ध हो, उस की कदम कदम पर जांच हो। उस जांच में वह बतलाये कि हम ने यह धन कमाया, चाहे ईमानदारी के जरिये से हो चाहे किसी और तरह से हो।

आखीर में एक बात कह कर मैं समाप्त करना चाहता हूं। युधिष्ठिर से बहुत प्राचीन काल में नारद जी ने एक प्रश्न किया कि धन कैसे होता है। युधिष्ठिर ने बतलाया कि चोरी से। जिस को जितना बड़ा धनी देखो उसे उतना ही बड़ा चोर समझो। मगर यह देश के प्राचीन इतिहास की बात है। लेकिन आज भी उसी तरह से हो रहा है। इस लिये मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करते हुए श्री कामत से कहूंगा कि वे इस बात पर दुबारा विचार करें और एक ऐसा बिल लावे जो सब के लिये हो। हम सब लोग पवित्र हैं जिस में जब हम निकालें तो जनता हम को समझे और हम भी खुश हों। कोई भी हम पर उंगली न उठाये कि यह आदमी जा रहा है जो कि एम० पी० है और एम० एल० ए० है, जैसे कि आज हम को मुफ्ती पैसेन्जर कहा जाता है वैसे न हो।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं कामत साहब से कहूंगा कि वे इस मेरी बात पर विचार करें।

Mr. Speaker: We will continue the discussion on the this Bill next time.

16.45 hrs.

RE: CALLING ATTENTION TO
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE

Mr. Speaker: Shri P. G. Sen, The Minister is not here. It is very unfortunate. I had informed him in the morning that I will take it up at 16.45 hrs. I had informed the House. Just at this moment the Minister is not here. That situation should not arise in future.

Shri Hari Vshnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): The Deputy-Speaker, I think, later on extended the time of the Government Bill by one hour, and this Bill of mine would have gone on till 17.45 hrs.

Mr. Speaker: This was definitely put down at 16.45 hours.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hajarnavis): The time was extended.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: The Minister is not here.....

Mr. Speaker: In the meantime we are taking up another item.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: (Calcutta Central) Even as a matter of precedent, what is the kind of thing the House ought to do? I do not think this has ever happened before.

Mr. Speaker: I will just think over it. He might also think over it and suggest it to me.

16.46 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO
MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE

REPORTED INEFFICIENT WORKING OF CENTRAL EMPLOYEES CONSUMER CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

Shri Yashpal Singh (Kairana): I call the attention of the Minister of Home

Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

The reported inefficient working of the Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society and short supply of essential commodities even to its members.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shrimati Chandrasekhar) In pursuance of the Pay Commission's recommendation, the Staff Welfare Organisation in the Ministry of Home Affairs have set up the Central Government Employees Consumer Co-operative Society Ltd. The Society aims at selling goods of quality at competitive reasonable and fair prices at the stores set up by it. The prices of some essential commodities like wheat and rice are definitely lower than those prevailing in the market. As regards the non-availability of essential commodities like wheat and sugar and the alleged inefficient working of the above Society, the factual position is as follows.

(1) *Wheat*

Before the commencement of business on the 1st July, 1963, the Society had procured about 4000 maunds of indigenous wheat from Moga and Karnal. Between the 1st July and October further stocks of wheat were added. Till the end of October, the total stocks purchased were 6787 maunds. The sale of wheat upto 6th November, 1963 was 3535 maunds, that is, an average of 831 maunds per month. At this rate, the Society would have been able to meet the demand for wheat till the end of February 1964. Between 6th November 1963 and 5th December 1963 the sale was 2407 maunds, i.e. three times the normal monthly consumption. This was due to the fact that whereas the Society was selling wheat at the rate of Rs. 18.50 per maund, the same quality of wheat was selling in the market at prices ranging between

Rs. 23 and Rs. 24 per maund. This led to sudden rush on the Stores which could not have been anticipated. All the same, the Stores continued to sell wheat at the original rate though in view of the limited stocks, the sales had to be restricted to members only and that too at the scale of 20 kilograms per member. To meet the increasing demand, the Society made immediate arrangements to effect further purchases of wheat in the Punjab. But since these fresh purchases had to be made at a higher cost, wheat is now being sold at Rs. 22 per maund.

(2) *Sugar*

The quantity of sugar sold from the 1st July to the 30th November, 1963 was in the region of 2100 bags. Thus, the average off take was about 419 bags a month. However, during the month of December there has been a very heavy demand for sugar. The offtake from the 1st to the 18th December has been 1208 bags. On certain days the number of employees who purchased sugar from the Stores was as high as 1000. The sale of sugar had also to be restricted to members and at the scale of 10 kilograms per month. It may also be mentioned that during the festival days of Dusserah and Diwali when sugar was not practically available in the market, the Society continued to sell sugar not only to members but to non-members also.

The Society is pressing into service all available staff to ensure that the customers are served with the least possible delay. Some times extra hands are also employed. As sugar was not easily available and the price of wheat had steeply risen in the market, there was tremendous and unprecedented rush on the Stores. In spite of this, the Society, with its limited means and finances, made all possible efforts to serve its customers as best as possible in the circumstances.

[Shrimati Chandrasekhar]

(3) Sales

The sales figures at the Stores from the 1st July till 18th December, 1963 are:—

Month	Total sales
In July ..Rs. 95,740.16	
In August it went upto....	Rs. 1,91,006.88
In September it went upto....	Rs. 2,50,098.97
In October it went upto	Rs. 2,82,173.66
In November it went upto	Rs. 4,18,987.74
In December (1st to 18th) it went upto....	Rs. 3,61,757.41

These figures indicate the growing popularity of the Stores.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या यह सही है कि प्राइस लाइन में टैन नहीं की जा सकी है और एसेशियल कमोडिटीज बाजार के भाव से भी ज्यादा तेज बेंची गई हैं और पांच, पांच घंटे लोग खड़े रह कर वापिस भी हो गये हैं ?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: My answer was very clear. The price is comparatively very cheap at the stores, as compared to the market price.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : पांच, पांच घंटे खड़े होकर जो लोग वापिस चले गये हैं उस के लिए मंत्री महोदया को क्या कहना है ?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I would also supplement that the reason for the long queue was that people were rushing to get the essential commodities from the stores, and the number increased, and the extent of sales which had taken place during the last month, in particular, is an evidence of the popularity of the stores and the reason why people have been rushing to the stores. So, it is not that things were costly.

Shri Dinan Bhattacharyya (Serampore): In view of the fact that there

has been a very heavy rush at this consumer stores, may I know whether Government have any scheme to open new depots where the employees could get the supply of these commodities easily without standing in the queue for a long time? If there be any difficulty for accommodation, may I know whether Government have approached the NDMC or the DMC for accommodation?

Mr. Speaker: He should not ask so many questions.

Shri Nambar: He has put a composite question.

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: We have already opened one at Yojana, Bhavan, two stores in Sarojinagar, one at Ramakrishnapuram, Sector IV, and on the 12th December, in A block, south of South Block, another store has been opened.

Shri Warrior (Trichur): May I know whether it is true that some of the officials of these co-operative stores were chargesheeted for corruption and inefficiency and they are still continuing in the service of the stores?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: This seems to be news to me. I have been dealing with it from day to day, but I have not heard any such report so far.

Dr. Ranen Sen (Calcutta East): The hon. Deputy Minister has said that bulk purchases are being made. What is the method of making bulk purchases of these goods? For, we find that there are many items other than wheat and sugar which are dearer than in the market. Who makes the bulk purchases?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: The bulk purchases are made from the source of supply.

Dr. Ranen Sen: That is always the case. But what is the agency?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: The agency is the society. There is a chief

welfare officer, there is a manager and there is an officer on special duty who does all this.

Dr. Ranen Sen: The latter part of my question has not been answered. May I know why the other articles are priced higher than in the market?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: No article is costlier than in the market, and most of the articles which are not available in the market are available here at nominal prices; for example, Colgate tooth-paste which is not available in the market is available in the stores at nominal price.

Shri Tyagi: It is difficult to ruffle the Deputy Minister. She comes after study.

SITUATION ARISING OUT OF SUPREME COURT JUDGEMENT ABOUT RAILWAY SERVICE OF SHRI PRIYA GUPTA, M.P.

Shri P. G. Sen (Purnea): I call the attention of the Minister of Law to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

The situation arising out of the judgement of the Supreme Court dated the 5th December, 1963, about the Railway Service of Shri Priya Gupta, M.P.

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): At the very outset, I express my apology that I was not here earlier, but it was due to a very curious reason. I got a telephone call saying that the other matter would go on until five O'clock and so, I should make the statement on this at quarter past five of the clock. So, I think that the message must have gone.....

Mr. Speaker: Has it been traced as to who telephoned to him?

Shri A. K. Sen: After I go back, I shall try to do so.

Shri Tyagi: It is not our fault or the fault of the House.

17 hrs.

Shri A. K. Sen: Shri Priya Gupta was a permanent employee of the North Eastern Railway. His services were terminated by the General Manager of the said Railway with effect from the 8th August 1956, after giving him one month's pay in lieu of notice. Shri Priya Gupta thereupon moved the High Court at Allahabad by a writ petition praying that the order terminating his service may be quashed and that he may be treated as in service on his post. The writ petition was dismissed both by the Single Judge who heard it in the first instance and by the Division Bench which heard the special appeal filed by Shri Priya Gupta. Shri Priya Gupta thereupon appealed to the Supreme Court by special leave.

The appeal of Shri Priya Gupta was heard by a Bench of seven Judges of the Supreme Court along with several other appeals, as all of them raised a common question of law, namely, whether rule 148(3) and its successor, rule (149)(3), of the Railway Establishment Code, under which the services of the various persons involved in these appeals were terminated was constitutionally valid. The aforesaid rules were held to be invalid by a majority of six Judges to one and, in accordance with the majority view, the Supreme Court on the 5th December 1963, granted the writ petitions of all the persons involved in the appeals and directed orders to be issued in terms of the prayers made by them.

Accordingly, in terms of the prayer made by Shri Priya Gupta, the orders terminating his services stood quashed and he was to be treated as in service on his post.

Meanwhile, on the 2nd March 1962, Shri Priya Gupta was declared elected to the Lok Sabha from the Katihar constituency in Bihar.

The effect of the decision of the Supreme Court is that Shri Priya Gupta was a permanent employee of