

[श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री]

निश्चित विश्वास दिलाता हूँ कि जब तक सम्पूर्ण देश में गोवध पर प्रतिबन्ध नहीं लगाया जायेगा, शान्दोलन दरअसल बढ़ता जायेगा और परिस्थिति विषम से विषमतर होती जायेगी ।

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती (झज्जर) : मैं श्री नन्दा से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो गोवंश दूध देने के प्रयोग्य हो जाये, बूढ़े हो जायें श्रयवा बैल, उन के वध पर भी यह लागू होगा या नहीं ।

श्री नन्दा : मैंने बतला दिया है कि कांस्टिट्यूशन में जो कुछ लिखा है उसके मताधिकार बँन होगा । जहाँ पर ऐसा नहीं है वहाँ लिखा गया है कि उन्हें कर देना चाहिये ।

श्री बड़ै : इस से कोई समाधान नहीं होगा ।

श्री नन्दा : यूनियन टेरिटरीज में कानून बनाया जायेगा ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य जानना चाहते हैं कि क्या यूजलेस कैटल पर भी बँन है ।

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती : बैलों पर भी ।

श्री नन्दा : जैसा कांस्टिट्यूशन में लिखा है वैसा किया जायेगा ।

18.11 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. LOCATION OF STEEL PLANT

The Minister of Iron and Steel (Shri T. N. Singh): Government's thinking in regard to the pattern of steel production during the Fourth Plan is firstly an expansion of the existing plants and the putting up of one integrated steel plant going up to 1.7 million tonnes production at Bokaro

with a possibility of its expansion later. A provision has been made for preliminary work on new sites to form the nuclei of facilities which will be developed into full-fledged steel plants later.

Government's basic objectives are the best utilisation of available resources in the national interest, dispersal of industry for the greatest possible development of all regions and the spreading of employment opportunities throughout the country. The Government of India are aware of the widespread desire among and the aspirations of the people of Andhra Pradesh, Mysore and Madras to have steel plants located suitably in their areas to utilize iron ore deposits found in these areas or nearby. In a democratic set-up such as we have in India it is obvious that the wishes of the people will be fully taken into account in making decisions. The Prime Minister has already said so in Hyderabad when questioned on the location of future steel plants in India,

It must be realised that a decision on the location of future steel plants is a very complex matter involving a number of economic, technical and other considerations. I would appeal to Members of the House and to the public in general to have patience and to give an opportunity to Government to consider all the factors involved in a dispassionate and objective but, nevertheless, sympathetic way. The leaders of the people and the party to which I have the privilege of belonging will not deny justice to any part of the country while acting completely in the national interest.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): I would like to know whether the Government had any idea of implementing the recommendations made by the technical consortium in addition to satisfying the demands of other areas as also in Madras and Mysore in regard to the steel plants because I do not know whether I have heard him aright. He does not seem to have made any kind of offer to assure the Andhras.

Mr. Speaker: Their wishes will be sympathetically considered.

Shri Ranga: "Sympathetically considered." What does that mean? I do not understand. (*Interruption*) Let lay people also have some chance of understanding the mind of this Government. For the past eight to nine months, they have been dilly-dallying and shilly-shallying about this matter in the face of the technical commission's report. I would like to know whether the Government would like to keep faith with their own Chief Minister in Andhra Pradesh, with that satyagrahi who has been fortunately good enough to break his fast and with the people when they express their wish in such a forceful manner; whether they would like to keep faith with them and give them definite assurance that according to the recommendation of the technical consortium they would like to try their best to act in an honourable manner or not.

Shri T. N. Singh: I do not think there is any question of faith, etc., involved in this. I do not wish to add anything to what I have already stated.

Shri Ranga: What does that mean? (*Interruption*). My point is, if he does not wish to add anything more to what he has said, then, it makes the procedure of this House entirely infructuous, because we have got to ask them for elucidation and he is not prepared to elucidate.

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed that question, but if he cannot give any further assurance....

Shri Ranga: What assurance has he given? Would he put it in ordinary King's English?

Shri T. N. Singh: It is my English; it may not be King's English or Queen's English.

Shri Ranga: It is your own Banaras English! (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: This much might be said: that Government is prepared to

give no further assurance at this moment.

Shri T. N. Singh: I have already given the necessary assurance.

Mr. Speaker: The question was whether this Government would keep faith with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and with the person or the leader who had just been observing that fast—(*Interruption*).

Shri T. N. Singh: I have already said that there is no question of faith here. Where is the question of faith, etc., at all arising here? There is no such question at all. We have of course very good relationship with the State and we are all discussing. (*Interruption*).

Shri Ranga: The Prime Minister should dismiss this man.

Several hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: I will come one by one. Order, order. I should not be done in this manner.

Shri Thirumala Rao (Kakinada): Members coming from Andhra Pradesh are in a very difficult and delicate situation, and the statement just now made does not go anywhere, nor does it give any idea what the intentions of the Government are. I want to know—

Mr. Speaker: One thing I must say—(*Interruption*)—order, order.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want a clarification.

Mr. Speaker: There ought not to be any argument as to why the Government is not just progressing further and so on, or why the Government is not doing that.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want to have one clarification.

Mr. Speaker: They may ask about the statement and what it denotes; what would be its repercussions.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Just allow me to complete my question. Yesterday

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the fast of Amrit Rao was called off at the instance of the Chief Minister who was present and made him withdraw under certain understandings which the Government of India have given to them. That is our understanding. Therefore . . . (*Interruption*).

An hon. Member: No undertaking.

Shri Thirumala Rao: I am not calling it as undertaking. I said 'understanding.' Please watch my words.

An hon. Member: Watch what?

Shri Thirumala Rao: I want to say that a very critical situation is put an end to in Andhra Pradesh. Is it the intention of the Government to take refuge under vague ideas, couched in this beautiful language which does not lead anywhere? I am afraid—I am not helping or encouraging any discontent in Andhra Pradesh and we are wholeheartedly condemning any violence and all such things—that this statement will not clarify the position; it will not improve the condition in Andhra Desa and there will be widespread disappointment at the statement.

Mr. Speaker: He has not asked for any clarification. He has given his own opinion.

Shri Hanumanthaiya (Bangalore City): Is it the policy of the Government to be guided by economic considerations in locating steel plants or it is by the pressure that particular political people or leaders bring to bear on the Government?

Shri T. N. Singh: Sir, there is no question of any pressure. We are objectively considering all the aspects (*Interruption*).

Shri Kolla Venkatah (Tenali): Sir, the report of the consortium was presented to the Government in 1965 June. Later, repeatedly we asked the Government to finalise a decision. They refused to do that. Now about 17 people were killed in police firing and more than 40 have been wounded.

Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara): 25 railway stations were burnt.

Shri Umanath (Pudukkottai): Your creation.

Shri Kolla Venkaiah: While paying homage to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives, I ask the Government, are they not satisfied with the heavy toll they have taken up to now from Andhra?

Mr. Speaker: What answer can he give?

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy (Kurnool): Sir, at the outset, I not only condemn but I do feel ashamed that we Andhras should have gone to that extent of damaging property. But, Sir, I must also say that it is not only the Andhras who are to be blamed. The Centre has also to take the responsibility for it. I would like to ask the hon. Minister one thing. He said, answering Shri Hanumanthaiya, that he will not take pressure into consideration, he will take technical advice. Am I to understand that the advice or recommendation given by the Anglo-American Consortium was not technical advice? Secondly, when the Central Government, under the Ministership of Shri Sanjiva Reddy took up this and made their recommendation, did they take into account other things than technical considerations?

Shri Ranga: He was sleeping over it (*Interruptions*).

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: Thirdly, are we to take it that this Government will take about a year more to decide this way or that way? There is no hope of a decision this way or that early. Sometimes disappointments do not matter, but suspension without knowing a decision is proving disastrous to Andhra. This statement, if it had not been given it would have been better. But I must say that we are sorry for what has happened.

Shri T. N. Singh: I have never said that technical considerations will not

be taken into account. There are various other things which have also to be taken into consideration.

Shri Ranga: What do you mean by various other things—political, personal, parochial and not technical?

Mr. Speaker: The question was how long more the Government would take to take a decision?

Shri T. N. Singh: I think the House is fully aware of the various financial and economic difficulties through which we have been passing recently. All these aspects have to be taken into account. They will be taken into consideration. That is why we have to take a decision after fully weighing all these things.

Shri Rajaram (Krishnagiri): For the past 15 years we have been asking for a steel plant in Salem, the only place where the iron ore there has been tested by all people all over the world. The iron ore there has been tested by America, then East Germany, then Sweden, then Japan and then by these people here. The Dastur Committee was appointed and they gave their report. The hon. Minister, Shri Subramaniam, when he was the Steel Minister promised me in the Consultative Committee that he was going to lay the foundation for it in the Third Five Year Plan. This gentleman is not giving any assurance...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is not the way to address each other. Hon. Members should have some regard for one another.

Shri Rajaram: I am sorry, Sir, I correct myself. The problem now is, Andhra is on fire. I want to know whether the Minister wants Madras and Mysore States also to do the same thing like Andhra?

Shri T. N. Singh: I would appeal to all sections of the House to avoid going into details and various other aspects. I think the statement that has been made is good enough for the present, we should rest there and not complicate matters.

श्री बागड़ी (हिसार) : छः दिन पहले भारत के प्रधान मंत्री ने जो बयान दिया था उसको देखा जाए और आज के मंत्री महोदय के बयान को देखा जाए तो उस में जो अन्तर है उसका कारण क्या हो सकता है ? ये शायद सिद्धान्त की बात को लायेंगे और दबाव की बात को नहीं। क्या मंत्री महोदय बोलाने की छूपा करेंगे कि हर वह बात जो पहले सिद्धान्त की नहीं होती है बाद में दबाव के कारण सिद्धान्त की नहीं हो जाती है ? इस नीति को देश में चला कर इस तरह की प्रवृत्तियों को क्या वह खुद बढ़ावा नहीं दे रहे हैं ?

श्री श्री० ना० सिंह : माननीय सदस्य के दृष्टि के अन्तर की कोई दवा नहीं है।

श्री बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न का क्या यह जवाब है ?

The Minister of Transport, Aviation, Shipping and Tourism (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): Sir, just one word of personal explanation, because just now Shri Ranga said that I was sleeping over the whole thing and he made some remarks about me. The Consortium gave the report in June 1965 when I was in charge of the subject. In July it went to the Cabinet. The Cabinet considered it for some time and postponed consideration because it wanted a little more information... (Interruptions). Kindly hear me. Would you not give me one minute to explain my position? Whenever you get even the slightest opportunity, you attack me... (Interruptions).

Shri Ranga: I have never said anything against him at all till now... (Interruptions).

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: I only want to clarify the position.

Mr. Speaker: If hon. Members want that some more questions should be allowed, then they should have patience. I will call them one after the

[Mr. Speaker]

other. But they should listen to others also. If they begin to speak simultaneously, then I would be obliged to stop the discussion.

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: I only want to narrate the facts. In June the report was submitted to the Government. In July it went before the Cabinet, after it was considered and processed for one month. The Cabinet considered it only for a day. Then it wanted a little more information. So, the consideration was postponed so that the Planning Commission also could give information. At that time I was in charge of steel. The recommendation is in writing. It is not a secret document. The report is before the Government. In the mean while, the Pakistani war came. While the war was going on, the decision could not be taken, not only on this but also on other subjects which involve financial commitment. Now, from January onwards, I am in charge of only Transport. I do not know where I slept . . . (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: I will not call those Members who speak before I identify them.

Shri Joachim Alva: Whilst fully appreciating the stand of the Government of India that it will not submit to any blackmail or hunger strike at any time in any place in India, while also appreciating the difficulties of our esteemed friends Shri Sanjiva Reddy, Shri Ranga, Shri Sanjivayya and Shri Gopala Reddi, I want to know whether the Government of India is having an open mind on the vast mineral resources of Goa, Mysore, Madras and Orissa.

Mr. Speaker: Shri M. N. Swamy:

Shri M. N. Swamy (Ongole): Sir, yesterday at your request the Minister was obliged to make a statement today. I feel that actually nothing has been said in his statement. We are not satisfied with that statement. On more than one occasion, the late lamented Prime Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, whenever he went to Andhra, has made the statement

that on the recommendations of the Anglo-American Consortium the steel plant will be conceded and it will be located at Vizag. Similarly, the present Prime Minister of India has made statements to that effect. More than once, the Chief Minister of Andhra has stated . . .

Shri A P. Sharma (Buxer): What is the question?

Shri M. N. Swamy: I am coming to that. Have patience. The Chief Minister of the State has been talking, on the floor of the Assembly and outside, about the steel plant and its location in Vizag for the last two or three years and it is this Government which is responsible for this. Therefore, may I know whether this Government has got any respect for the statements made by the late Prime Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, and the present Prime Minister and has the Government got any respect for the recommendations made by the Aid India Consortium and is going to take a decision on that basis?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shrimati Indira Gandhi): Shastriji is not here to answer for himself but I can answer for what I said. It is more or less on the lines of what the Minister said. I still stand to that position. We have the greatest respect for the wishes of the people of all the areas who are asking for various things. We believe in the diversification of industry, but as the Minister has said, we are passing through an extremely difficult economic period and at this moment we do not have the resources to start a fifth steel plant anywhere.

Shri Ranga: But when you do . . .

Shrimati Indira Gandhi: As to if and when, of course, the matter will be considered; we are now considering it. When we took it up earlier, I was told that we must have a draft of the Plan first and see how it fits in. In the Plan some token amount was put aside but now we are having to look at the Plan again.

Shri Ranga: The token amount also goes.

Shrimati Indra Gandhi: We do not know. It may not go; it may go. But we cannot be committed positively to a steel plant at the moment. This is the only question. Certainly we are taking into regard all the wishes which have been expressed by the different States and we do agree that all the States should have some important industry which will help them to develop.

Shri P. Venkatasubbalah (Adoni): At the outset I would say that we are very sorry and feel shameful for the disturbances and violence that have been committed in this regard. I do not also say that the Government should act under pressure. Whatever it is, it is the just cause of the Andhras. The economic committee has also recommended all these things. In the course of this agitation grave baseless allegations have been made by responsible leaders, like Shri Trivedi and Shri Kripalani, that the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh also has got a hand in encouraging the disturbances and all these matters.

Mr. Speaker: He may ask the question.

Shri P. Venkatasubbalah: May I know whether, instead of postponing this matter for a long time, Government will make a quick decision so that the just aspirations of the Andhras to have a steel mill at Visakhapatnam may be fulfilled at an early date?

Mr. Speaker: What further answer can be give? Shri Basappa.

Shri Basappa (Tiptur): Since the claims of Hospet in Mysore are much better than of other areas, since the Dastur Committee and all other subsequent committees, including even the Anglo-American Consortium, have decided in favour of Hospet in Mysore and if there are differences in the opinion of the various committees, will an impartial tribunal be established to see which place should get it?

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Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta Central): I would like to know from Government something which should satisfy all the parts of the House. There is trouble in Andhra, a gentleman went on fast and there was a tremendous movement resulting in the loss of many lives. Does Government tell us that they have made sure that they are securing peace in Andhra and that they have already, having been in touch with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, got assurances that the kind of trouble which has been happening in Andhra would not continue in view of the Government's attempt at meeting whatever aspirations are there?

Shri T. N. Singh: The Andhra Chief Minister himself is very keen to see that there are peaceful conditions. He came here and we had discussions with him. I can assure the House that he is doing everything possible to see that these things do not recur.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): May I propose, Sir, that we adjourn now?

Shri Sivamurthi Swamy (Koppal): Though I appreciate the statement of the Central Government in word, I have got serious doubts that there may be an inner promise or something to end the agitation, whatever it may be. I want to know from the Central Government whether in the whole world, the richest iron ore area in India is Hospet or not and, secondly, whether this Consortium also, for the international consumption of steel, has recommended that Hospet is a better place than any other place. I want to know whether this is correct or not.

Shri T. N. Singh: So far as the total extent of ore resources are concerned, that is a matter of geological survey. They have got very good sources. (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: The questions that are being asked are very stray questions.

Shri S. Kandappan (Tiruchengode): The plea advanced by the Govern-

[Shri S. Kandappan]

ment that they want more time to decide the issue because it is a highly technical matter is not acceptable since the reports of the Committees have been submitted long ago. Leaving that apart, the statement made by the Minister is going to create a grave problem in Tamilnad . . .

Mr. Speaker: It is only on opportunity to ask a clarification on the statement made. (*Interruption*).

Shri S. Kandappan: I am putting a pertinent question.

The day before yesterday, in the Madras Assembly, when there was an adjournment move by one of our Members, the Chief Minister of Madras made a categorical statement on the floor of the House that the Salem plant is a certainty and sometime back the President of the A.I.C.C. also made a similar statement. It is now an undecided issue. I would like to know from the Government, when they have not decided it, why their spokesman in the State and also a responsible person like Mr. Kamaraj are going on repeating that it is a certainty? Where will our people be? It will unnecessarily create chaos in the State. I would like to know, on the face of it . . .

Mr. Speaker: This is not within the special knowledge of this Minister.

Shri S. Kandappan: It is a constitutional issue. When the Centre has not decided it, how can the State Chief Minister say that it is a certainty?

Mr. Speaker: That cannot be decided here . . .

Shri S. Kandappan: In the interest of order and peace in the country, may I know whether the Centre is prepared to . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That can be asked from the Chief Minister in that Assembly. I am not allowing it here.

Shri S. Kandappan: He should not go on telling that it is a certainty till they decide the issue . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Shri Bakar Ali Mirza.

Shri Bakar Ali Mirza (Warrangal): In view of the statement made by Mr. Sanjiva Reddy that all the processes, technical and financial, were complete and that the matter was ripe for the decision of the Cabinet and, after that, nearly a year has passed, what is the difficulty for the Government to make the decision in principle subject to the resources being available?

Mr. Speaker: All those difficulties have been narrated. No new thing is being asked. I adjourn the House to meet again on Monday at 11 A.M.

18.39 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, November 7, 1966/Kartika 16, 1888 (Saka.)