

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

tional companies, the Government should refrain from taking such a retrograde step.

The Government should take all steps to revive the Bharatiya Coking Coal Limited, which has been referred to the BIFR, to strengthen the Coal India Limited and all its subsidiaries so that unscientific mining does not take place in the coal industry.

I urge upon the Government not to take such a retrograde step of allowing private mining in the coal industry...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow all of you. I am here to take care of if.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The names of the members from both sides will be called out alternately. After a member from this side has spoken, the member from the other side would be given a chance.

[English]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I appeal to the entire House, particularly the leaders, to please support the demand that I am making...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have to take care of all the sides of the House.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, I am referring to an Act that was enacted by both the Houses unanimously. The Act is related to Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities) Protection of Rights and Full Participation Act, 1995. It was the Act of 1996. It was the first Act. Under the Act, a number of promises were made by the Government. It was promised that the Central Coordination Council will be established and that various benefits will be given to the disabled men and women. Now, for one whole year, unfortunately, the Government did not act on this.

Just last Friday, as an after thought, they constituted a Central Coordination Committee. Sir, today the disabled are holding a *dharna* in the capital. They will also be seeking to court arrest. I appeal to the Government and all sections that the minimum demands of the disabled which are not objectionable, like the contents of the National Trust for Persons with Mental Retardation and Cerebral Policy Bill be made public for consultation, should be accepted.

Secondly, the notification regarding the constitution of

the Central Coordination Committee which the Government announced last Friday must be withdrawn. I do not want to go into the details of the Bill. But it is in violation of the Bill itself. The Central Coordination Committee must be reconstituted.

Thirdly, a Chief Commissioner should be appointed. The allowances and allocations to the Welfare Ministry for the disabled of the country must be increased from a paltry sum of Rs. 28 crore. Only Rs. 28 crore has been allocated for the disabled, but the Prime Minister made a promise to allocate Rs. 100 crore. At least that should be done. Some benefits could be given to them in the railways. This is really for the disabled of the country. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me a chance to speak on this issue...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, I support his demand...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI (Belgaum) : Sir, I would like to raise an important matter...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Surely, I will give you a chance.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI : I have tried many times. But I was not getting a chance. I request you to give a chance to the new Members also...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur) : Hon'ble Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I extend my support to the raised by Shri Jaswant Singh earlier in his speech and I believe that we should consider this matter sensitively.

The entire nation was stunned after reading the news published in yesterday's and today's newspapers that even after fifty years of Independence, approximately 15 lakh baby girls are killed in Bihar every year. This fact has come to light through a survey and it has been reported in the newspapers on the third consecutive day. This news reached Rajasthan, part of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh first but this news is not related to a particular party or a particular state. It is a matter of concern for the House as to why such a large number of female babies are being killed even after 50 years of Independence.

Three facts have come out in the report. Earlier the killing of female babies was restricted to a particular upper caste community. Later on, other upper caste and rich people also started killing their girl children. But now this tendency is being noticed in those scheduled caste, scheduled tribes and dalit areas which have registered