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Title: Need to spend the amount meant for Corporate Social Responsibility Fund in Paradip, Odisha.

DR. KULMANI SAMAL (JAGATSINGHPUR): Madam Speaker, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to raise an important issue concerning my Parliamentary Constituency, Jagatsinghpur, Odisha.

The Companies Bill in its revised guidelines in 2012 specified that public sector undertakings earning profit up to Rs.100 crore, Rs.100 crore to Rs.500 crore and more than Rs.500 crore would spend 5 per cent, 2-3 per cent and 0.5-2 per cent respectively towards corporate social responsibility by emphasizing upon capacity building, empowerment of communities, environment protection, inclusive socio-economic growth, promotion of green and energy efficient technologies, development of backward regions, and upliftment of the marginalized section of the region.

In this connection, I would like to state that the public sector undertakings or privately owned companies established in Paradip, Odisha, are not appropriately utilizing the funds earmarked for corporate social responsibility, though they are so claiming. As there is no such specific mechanism to assess execution of CSR funds as well as absence of involvement of district administration and people's representative in the process, it becomes very difficult to know about the percentage of funds being aimed at various socio-economic welfare projects meant for local people or developmental activities of the region.

So, I urge upon the concerned Ministers to direct different industrial setups in Paradip to spend appropriate amount in regard to corporate social responsibility and disclose the expenditure to the public by involving the peoples' representatives.