

[Shri Ram Ratan Ram]

- (iii) Thirty-sixth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs—Banking Division)—Reservations for, and employment of, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Bank of Baroda and credit facilities provided by the Bank to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

12.08½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID
ON THE TABLE

[English]

(i) Eighteenth Report

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh) : I beg to present the Eighteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table.

(ii) Minutes of the Sitting

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : I also beg to lay on the Table Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the sittings of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table relating to their Eighteenth Report.

MR. SPEAKER : Matters under Rule 377. Shri Soren. Not here. Shri Jena.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Only Mr. Jena goes on record.

12.09 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

(i) Demand for fixing the procurement
price of Paddy

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) :
Nationalisation of the rate of paddy fixed

by the Government all over the country became a curse for the paddy growers in several areas, for the fact that the production cost of paddy varies from place to place.

A detailed survey conducted by the eminent economists, experts in Agriculture Technology and Heads of Department of various Universities in their detailed study report, stated that, the production costs of paddy in tribal districts and hilly regions like Fulbani, Kalahandi, Karaput, Bolangir is more than rupees twenty per quintal than that of plains and coastal districts of Puri, Ganjam, Cuttack and Balasore of Orissa State, which is just an example. This shows that, the paddy growers of those districts, who are mostly poor tribals and backward, are sustaining heavy losses every year. The study report further stated that due to such state of affair the paddy growers are either gradually reducing their paddy areas year to year or going for "Jhum" cultivation, which is encouraging deforestations and creating serious environmental problem.

I would, therefore, request the Hon. Minister of Agriculture to give a serious thought to this very vital issue and announce the procurement rate of paddy after taking into consideration the production cost demarcating the zones areas-wise according to geographical location so that at least paddy growers of each such region may get the support price for their produce, if not the remunerative prices. (Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Sir, I myself initiated a general discussion on Electoral Reforms with special reference to Garhwal.....

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Professor, It was raised yesterday also. I cannot do anything in this regard.

[English]

This I cannot take up.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : My dear friend, I have allowed it. Now it is for the Business Advisory Committee. I have admitted it.

(Interruptions)