

Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 1987, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th November, 1987.

EQUAL REMUNERATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

As passed by Rajya Sabha

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the Equal Remuneration (Amendment) Bill, 1987, as passed by the Rajya Sabha

12-1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

Forty-Fourth Report

SHRI M THAMBI DURAI (Dharmapuri) I beg to present the Forty-Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions

12.13 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

(i) Need to set up a high powered Committee to make constructive and practical suggestions regarding child labour

SHRI GANGA RAM (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to draw the attention

of the House towards the following matter of urgent public importance under rule 377:-

We are all concerned about the people living below the poverty line in our country and all possible efforts are being made to raise their living standard without loss of time. It is an irony that in this context we have not been able to achieve the desired success in the case of our poor workers. In this connection the burning problem of the child labour is posing a challenge to the Government. Whether it is the question of building the personality of future citizens of our country in the midst of burning furnaces in Firozabad or the question of the flower like children working in the iron foundries in Agra, or the serious problem of child labour engaged in Bidi industry, they all are being affected by the deadly disease of T.B Today, the problem of child labour has assumed serious proportions and is a challenge before us. To deal with this delicate human problem, the Ministry of Labour of the Government of India should set up a high level committee which should go into all the aspects of the problem and give some concrete and positive suggestions so that this painful problem is solved.

(ii) Need to fix the price of Aminophyllin and Theophyllin medicines and to recover extra money charged by the Companies

DR CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to an urgent matter of public importance under rule 377.

With a view to providing relief to the patients suffering from Asthma and other breath diseases, government had kept the import of Aminophyllin and Theophyllin under O.G.L Both these medicines were covered under Drug Prices Control Orders, 1979 and 1987 The Department of Chemicals brought the import under O.G.L. Scheme in the restricted list and imposed a ban on the import of these drugs for the future. As these drugs are covered under Drug Prices Con-

[Dr. Chandra Shekhar Tripathi]

trol Order, the VPCL, an expert body had recommended to fix the prices of these drugs around Rs. 200 per Kg. but as the prices of these drugs have not been fixed by the Government so far, the drug manufacturers are selling these drugs at more than Rs. 500 per Kg. As a result, the drug manufacturers have got an opportunity to earn a profit of crores of rupees and the crores of consumers are being fleeced as they have to pay exorbitant prices for these drugs.

I would, therefore, urge the hon. Industry Minister that keeping in view the interests of crores of consumers, the prices of these drugs be fixed immediately and the high profit earned by all these companies through the sale of these drugs at excessive prices be deposited in the D.E.A. account.

[English]

(iii) Need for the Central Government to meet the entire cost of dredging in Paradip Port

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK (Jagdishpur): I request the Government of India to take the following measures for the development of Paradeep Port. The handling of cargo has been increasing in Paradip Port since 1985-86 and the growth rate is increasing every year. The increase has been mostly in respect of Cargo other than iron ore. Therefore, there is an urgent need for increasing the capacity of the port by constructing at least two additional general cargo berths. As the construction takes about three years, investment decision should be taken immediately.

The gross income of the port has increased since 1985-86 and the gross expenditure has also increased from that year. While the rise in gross income is quite appreciable over the years yet the port is running in deficit because of high interest burden which has been increasing every year. I would suggest to the Government

that such of the ports as are still developing should be given interest subsidy otherwise they cannot compete with old established ports which are developed when the cost of investment was much lower.

The port has been spending huge amount on dredging as littoral drift which is a natural phenomenon moves a lot of sand from the South into the channel of the port. For such dredging activity, Calcutta Port gets subsidy. I would request the Government to bear the entire cost of dredging in Paradip Port.

12.14 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

(iv) Demand for opening a Central School at BHEL, Bhopal

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal): Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to raise the following matter of urgent public importance under rule 377.

The scheme of Central Schools was formulated in 1962 and came into effect in 1963. At present there are more than 600 Central Schools in the country. The popularity of the Central Schools is responsible for their such a rapid growth as these schools have provided great relief especially to the employees of the Central Government, Defence forces and the public sector undertakings.

There are about 20,000 workers in BHEL, Bhopal and there is an urgent need for opening a Central School. There are Central Schools in most of the units of BHEL. There are two Central Schools in Haridwar Unit of BHEL. In Jagdishpur, one Central School has been opened recently. For the last 15 or 20 years, there has been a demand for a Central School in BHEL, Bhopal. I hope, the hon. Minister for Human Resource Develop-