

on the Table the Prevention of Corruption Bill, 1987, which has been returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments.

12.05 hrs.

[English]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA** (Bankura) : On Friday, when the entire Opposition walked out, Shri Buta Singh made a statement here and said that by sitting in *dharna*, the West Bengal Ministers are making a misuse of their Constitutional authority. How can he describe the *dharna* by the Council of Ministers of West Bengal as misuse of Constitutional authority ? (Interruptions)

You have not listened to me.  
(Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER** : I listen to relevant questions.  
(Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER** : Calling Attention, we will take later.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT)** : We may have to take this Calling Attention tomorrow because Mr. Rajesh Pilot has to make a statement in Rajya Sabha at 4 o'clock. So he may not be present here after 4 o'clock because he has to reply to lot of submissions over there. So we may have to shift it to tomorrow.

**MR. SPEAKER** : We will take it up tomorrow. It does not matter.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA** : You have not listened to what I have said.

**MR. SPEAKER** : This is your opinion and that is his opinion. Do not bother about these things.

(1) *Need for considering States' demands for acquiring land for coal mining under Land Acquisition Act and amending the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act;*

**SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh)** : The work of land acquisition for various subsidiary coal companies is not progressing satisfactorily because of the non-cooperation of the land owners demanding adequate compensation and jobs. Besides, in some States the State Governments too are not coming forward to give possession of land for coal mining reportedly demanding either payment of due compensation for their land to be acquired under the State Land Acquisition Act or payment of premium on execution of necessary lease deed. As a result, mining operation in some new mines has come to a grinding halt. It is gathered that the States had taken such hard course of action as they did not get any response from the CIL and the Ministry of Energy to their demands in spite of repeated communications. This matter which is pending unresolved since long at the highest level, needs an amicable settlement forthwith in the larger national interest.

Further, the view of some State Governments that acquisition of land for coal mining be made under the Land Acquisition Act instead of the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act of 1957 deserves serious consideration. Acquisition of land under this Act, it is alleged, does not provide adequate compensation to land owners and premium to State for Government land. As such, the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act may be suitably amended or scrapped since job opportunities are being created in new coal mines and the land losers' demand for jobs is quite justified and as such ought to be fulfilled both on moral and humanitarian grounds.