

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Rule 4(1)(e) of the Coir Industry Rules, 1954, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Coir Board, subject to other provisions of the said Rules".

The motion was adopted.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Basu Deb Achariaji, please take your seat. I am trying to protect the interest of those Members who are silently sitting and not raising anything on the floor of the House.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): But this is very important. A number of times we have raised it.

MR. SPEAKER: Please, let me complete. You have a limited time: either you discuss the demands or you discuss the items which are not listed on the agenda. A matter like the demands relating to the Industry, with two or three new industrial policies having come up, is very important. I would rather like to make more time available for the discussion of this issue. If eight hours are available for this, I don't know whether eight hours will be sufficient. We would rather like to make more time available for the discussion of this issue.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: We sit beyond six O'clock.

MR. SPEAKER: You sit beyond six, you forego your lunch break. If necessary, I promise on the floor of

the House, more time will be made available to you for discussing this. But at the same time please appreciate that if you don't discuss Industry Ministry's demands, you are not discussing the important policy matter. I don't want to say that what you are saying is not important. But probably we have to fix the priorities. We have to take up the first item first and the second later. So if anything is important, I will allow you to raise it tomorrow: but not today.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Hundreds of them are on fast-unto-death from today Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: We will take it up tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now Matters under Rule 377.

12.23 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) Need to increase the quota of wheat etc. for distribution to Scheduled Tribes through Public Distribution System in Rajasthan.

[Translation]

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA (Salumbar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, now-a-days, two kilograms of wheat per unit is being made available every month to the rural people in Scheduled Tribes areas through Public Distribution System in Rajasthan. Keeping in view the steep rise in the prices, quota of wheat to backward Adivasi area is very meagre. Besides, there is also an acute shortage of edible oil, cheap cloths in Adivasi area under Public Distribution System. The income of the people of Scheduled Tribes is too

[Sh. Bheru Lal Meena]

low to buy ration, edible oil and cloths in the market. I urge upon the Government of India to provide additional quota of foodgrains to the State Government for the purpose of adequate supply of foodgrains to the people of Adivasi area so that the people of famine affected area could be saved from starvation.

(ii) Need for overall development of Talcher in Orissa

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): I would like to raise the following matter under Rule 377.

Talcher in Orissa, situated on the bank of river Brahmani, with huge coal reserves in and around has an ever increasing role to play in the economic development of the country.

Some coal mines are now working and a few coal based industries like Thermal Power Plant, Fertiliser Plant, Heavy Water Project have been set up at Talcher and a Super Thermal Power Plant is under construction at Kaniha. A large number of people of Talcher Sub-division have lost their land for these projects. But due attention is not being paid for proper rehabilitation and employment of the displaced people and also for the overall development of this area especially with regard to the problems of the unemployment, education, health, road communication, water supply and ecology as well as environment. As a result, resentment among the people of this area is rapidly on the increase.

I would therefore request the Government of India to take appropriate action to fulfil the following genuine demands of the people:—

1. Establishment of a coal division at Talcher;
2. Establishment of technical schools and vocational training institutes in this area;

3. Employment of people affected by Coal Mines, Super Thermal and NALCO etc.

4. Construction of necessary buildings etc. in Talcher College and other educational institutions of this area by the SECL and the NTPC.

5. Construction of a nodal railway station at Chainpal along the new Talcher Sambalpur rail line.

(iii) Need to review the proposal to drop the income tax exemption on wagering/horse-races

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Berhampur): Sir, I would like to raise the following matter of urgent public importance, under Rule 377.

I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to the report appearing in several newspapers and particularly, 'The Hindu', dated August 10, 1991 regarding Government, proposal to drop exemption enjoyed on wagering.

The Chairman of the Turf Authorities of India has very clearly explained the impact that the proposal to drop the exemption of Rs. 5,000 now being enjoyed by persons wagering on horse races under section 10(3) and 194 BB of the Income Tax Act.

If implemented this will lead to closing of Turf Clubs in the country and also cripple the Breeding Industry as a result of which lakhs of people belonging to the poorer sections of society will be rendered jobless.

I, therefore, appeal to the hon Finance Minister to have the entire matter examined *de novo* in depth and drop the proposal.

12.27 hrs. [MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]