

ing problems of women, especially employment of women.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL: Sir, most of the questions that have been put by the hon. Member just now are only repetition because all those questions have been put by other Members also. But I am happy that through this discussion their purpose is served. They wanted to focus the attention on the problem of employment for women; so, that purpose is served. I have also made it very clear that so far as we as Government are concerned, we are very much concerned about the employment opportunities for women. We are taking steps and we never claim at any time that whatever steps we have taken and whatever achievements are there are to our satisfaction. We have to go a long way. I have already made it very clear to the hon. Members and repeatedly hon. Mrs. Dandavate wanted to know whether Government of India is going to constitute a National Commission on Women. I am not in a position to say anything because I am told the concerned Ministry is the Social Welfare Ministry. So, it is for the Social Welfare Ministry to consider this point. I do not know whether that proposal is before their consideration or not. Therefore, since it is not a matter concerning my Ministry, I am not in a position to say anything about that.

Repeatedly, the hon. Member was saying that employment opportunities in public sector are going down but I have replied to that question. I have said that in public sector the women's employment is going up and I have quoted the figures also. I have the statement before me but it is not correct to say that the employment opportunities in public sector are going down.

So far as the employment opportunities for opencast mines are concerned, in opencast mines ladies are allowed to work but only in underground mines ladies are prohibited to work. I do not want to say anything more but I want to emphasise again that if we vigorously implement the 20-Point Programme—there are so many programmes particularly for rural areas and 80 per cent of our people live in rural areas—if we pursue those programmes and take necessary action to implement them in letter and spirit, such as

NREP, IRDP, Self-Employment Programme, Khadi and Village Industries Programme and so many other programmes which are meant for providing employment, then I think to a great extent it will be possible for us to solve this problem. I want to assure the hon. Member that I would take up this matter. So far as creating more employment opportunities for women are concerned; I would take up this matter with the State Governments. I will personally write letters to the State Governments and I will impress upon them to the urgent need of taking necessary steps for dealing with this point.

14.50 Hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to set up a coach Factory at Subedargaij, Allahabad

श्री कृष्णप्रकाश तिवारी (इलाहाबाद) :

उत्तर भारत के जदपद इलाहाबाद में रेल मंत्रालय द्वारा एक कोच फैक्ट्री लगाने हेतु शंकरगढ़ सूबेदार गंज आदि स्थानों का सर्वेक्षण पर-साल हुआ था। शंकरगढ़ में ब्राडगेज लाइन है किंतु मीटर गेज लाइन नहीं है। शंकरगढ़ में हजारों एकड़ पथरीली भूमि आसानी से उपलब्ध हो जाएगी जिस पर खेती भी नहीं होती तथा मूल्य भी नाम मात्र का है, किंतु रेल मंत्रालय ने बाद में सूबेदार गंज इलाहाबाद का स्थान तय किया क्योंकि यहां थोड़े खर्च में मीटर गेज लाइन रामबाग इलाहाबाद में मीटर गेज लाइन से जोड़ी जा सकती है और सूबेदार गंज स्वतः ब्राड गेज लाइन पर है। सूबेदार गंज में जमीन भी उपलब्ध है जो कि सौभाग्य से रेल विभाग की है।

इलाहाबाद में इस कोच के कारखाने के कायम किए जाने की बात सुनकर बड़ी प्रसन्नता हुई किंतु कोच फैक्ट्री की स्थापना में देरी होने से तथा कभी-कभी यह सुनाई पड़ने से कि अब यह कोच फैक्ट्री अन्यत्र स्थापित होगी इलाहाबाद में बड़ी चिंता व्याप्त हो गई है।

मेरा रेल मंत्रालय से निवेदन है कि अल्लुब सूबेदार गंज इलाहाबाद में प्रस्तावित कोच फैक्ट्री को लगाने का निर्णय लेकर के उसे शीघ्र से शीघ्र स्थापित करें।