

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: It cannot be like that. Will you please listen to me. I want a clarification.....(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: However, the points raised by you will be examined by the Speaker. (Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: We are going to protest. We want to register our protest..... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The points raised by you will be examined.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: What will be examined? I want to ask one simple question.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Have you not seen the last sentence?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: Last sentence has no meaning. It will come into effect from 1st January and the Supplementary Budget will come later.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is placing for the information of the House. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMAVIAR SHASTRI: (Patna): When is Supplementary Budget going to come? (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It will be examined by us. Yes, it will be examined by us.

[Shri Chandrajit Yadav, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and some other Hon. Members then left the House].

13.32 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at thirty-eight minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair].

MAITERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF FIREWORKS ON THE OCCASION OF DIWALI AND OTHER FESTIVALS.

SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN (Chandni Chowk): Several hundred tonnes of fire-works go up in smoke and crores of rupees are spent on crackers, etc., during our festivals, especially Dewali. It not only results in scores of avoidable fires and accidents but the air also becomes heavy with toxic fumes leading to allergic, respiratory and eye diseases. It is feudal in character. Children are particularly vulnerable to accidents and at times it becomes the cause for communal harmony. It is, therefore, urged that the Government should take positive steps towards avoiding this colossal waste and stop the use of fire works or enforce stricter regulations on the licensing, sale and use of crackers and other fire works.

(ii) MODERNISATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES FOR THE COAL FIELDS IN ORISSA.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack): Orissa accounts for 2.7 per cent of the total production of coal in the country. The reserves of coal in Talcher and Ib valley coal fields which together constitute the largest non-cocking coal in the country have been estimated to be of the order of 35,000 million tonnes. Unfortunately, the development of coal in Orissa has not been given due attention by the Government.

Talcher Coal field is under the administrative control of Central Coal-fields Ltd., Ranchi and Ib Valley are under the administrative control of

[Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik]

Western Coal fields, Nagpur. As they are not under the administrative control of one company the progress of those coal fields becomes extremely difficult. The large quarriable reserves of coal in the Ib Valley Coal field can sustain establishment of a Super Thermal Power Station in the area which can meet the growing needs of power in the industrial belt of Orissa during the Seventh Plan period.

The Government of India has a proposal to undertake the development and modernisation programme of some coal fields of the country. In view of this, I suggest that the coal fields of Orissa should be included under the above modernisation and development programmes proposed to be undertaken by the Government during the Sixth Plan period. At the same time, I demand that these two coal fields should be brought under the administrative control of a separate subsidiary company of Coal India Ltd., with headquarters at Bhubaneswar or any other place as may be convenient.

(iii) PROBLEMS OF SILK-WEAVERS OF KARNATAKA.

SHRI T. R. SHAMANNA :
(Bangalore South) : Under rule 377,
I make the following statement.

India is one of the countries in the world which has silk industry from time immemorial. Karnataka is the leading State in production of raw silk and having large number of handlooms and powerlooms to manufacture quality sarees. Districts of Mysore, Mandy, Kolar and Bangalore are important for the production of raw silk.

Karnataka is supplying silk yarn required by weavers in Kashmir (J & K), Banaras (U.P.) Kanchi (Tamilnadu) and Dharmavar (Andhra Pradesh) which are important centres for silk textiles.

Last year on account of a disease to the mulberry, there was a serious set-back to production of cocoons (both quality and quantity).

Government of Karnataka did not make proper efforts to regulate the silk industry and trade and the production and sale went into the hands of certain vested interests. The middleman at different stages is exploiting the situation for his advantage. Action taken by the Government of Karnataka to establish silk exchange, imposition of sales tax etc. affected the silk trade.

I appeal to the Government of India to take up this matter with all seriousness and regulate the working of this important industry on a sound basis. Karnataka has all the advantages to develop this industry, which gives employment to many and build up the economy of the country. This industry can be started in other States also.

It is quite possible to make India a major silk exporting country.

I suggest that an expert committee be constituted immediately to make a thorough examination of all aspects of silk industry and trade and prepare a comprehensive plan, so that the grower can get proper returns for his efforts, the weaver gets adequate wages and the consumer can get silk cloth at a reasonable cost.

A statutory body like that of Coffee Board may be formed to regulate the industry and trade of silk with the assistance of cooperative societies formed to help growers and weavers.

The Government of India is contemplating to import large quantity of silk yarn from China which may adversely affect our silk production within the country, particularly Karnataka. The present abnormal rate of silk has to be brought down.