

(iv) REPORTED RELAY HUNGER STRIKE
BY WORKERS OF HUTTI GOLD MINES
IN KARNATAKA

**SHRI RAJSHEKHAR KOLUR (Rai-
char):** Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I am
thankful to you for allowing me to
raise a point under Rule 371 on the
relay hunger strike by workers of
Hutti gold mines in pursuance of their
demands. The Hutti Gold Mines
Workers Union submitted a memoran-
dum on 17-4-1978 to the Government
of Karnataka listing the demands of
their workers which included revision
of pay scales, provision of promotional
avenues and removal of stagnation in
service. There was a wide disparity in
the pay scales between the workers of
Hutti Gold Mines and those of Kolar
Gold Fields. While the workers of a
particular category are getting Rs. 370
in Kolar Gold Fields, their counter-
parts in Hutti Gold Mines are getting
only Rs. 223. The main demand of
the Hutti Gold Mines is for maintain-
ing parity with Kolar Gold Fields in
the pay scales.

The demands of the workers of
Hutti Mines for enhanced pay scales
etc. are estimated to cost an addi-
tional amount of Rs. 64 lakhs. Nego-
tiations with the State Labour Minis-
ter on 23rd June, 1978 had not been
fruitful. During the discussions with
the management on 5th July, 1978,
the Union had come down in respec-
t of its demands to Rs. 32 lakhs.
The management agreed to this and
made a favourable recommendations
in the matter, but the proposal has
not yet been approved by the State
Government.

The Company has been able to turn
out profits with the hard work and
cooperation of its workers and dur-
ing 1978-79, it is estimated to earn
a profit of Rs. 45 lakhs. About 1247
workers are on its rolls with service
ranging from five to fifteen years.
Most of them have reached the ma-
ximum of their salary scales and have
been stagnating without increments
and promotion.

To press for the acceptance of
their reasonable demands, the work-
ers went on a one-day strike which
was a total success with hundred per
cent participation. Since 23rd June,
1978 a relay hunger strike with ten
workers per day has been going on.

The demands of the workers of
Hutti Gold Mines are reasonable and
the Labour Minister's intervention is
urgently requested. The workers de-
monstrations have all along been
peaceful but they are feeling restive
and the situation may go out of hand
if negotiations are not urgently start-
ed for the satisfaction of the reason-
able demands of the workers of Hutti
Gold Mines.

14.37 hrs.

**MOTION RE. RESOLUTION PASSED
AT CONFERENCE OF CHIEF MI-
NISTERS OF SOUTHERN STATES
REGARDING LANGUAGE POLICY**

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The
House will now take up the motion
on language policy by Shri Vasant
Sathe.

Shri Vasant Sathe

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola).
Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I beg to
move.

"That this House takes note of
the resolution passed at the Confer-
ence of the Chief Ministers of the
Southern States regarding the lan-
guage policy".

While speaking on this motion re-
lating to the anxiety which the con-
ference of the Chief Ministers of
Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pra-
desh, Kerala and Pondicherry re-
cently expressed on the question of
language policy, the manner it is be-
ing implemented, I would like to
submit, at the outset, that this whole
issue of Hindi has to be looked at in