

(Shrimati Mchhina Kidwai)

ted by these promoters and builders of multi-storeyed palatial buildings. Huge amounts have been shown as 'conversion charges' paid to an office under works, and Housing Ministry, whereas many plans for conversion were got cleared without paying a single paise as required by law, but the underhand deals and connivance between the corrupt officials and the concerned people made the exchequer poorer by crores of rupees. I would like the Minister to take the House into confidence and tell us as to the number and names of the suspects and also the amount of money they have not paid to the Government, and the name and number of firms whose cases have been asked to be reopened by the Finance Ministry. I would like to know from the Minister as to what action has been taken against the guilty whether during investigation many a 'benami' sales have come to light and it has also been revealed that a coterie of financiers, promoters and brokers have corrupted the officials and have an iron-handed control over them. I would urge upon the Government to suspend those officials in Works and Housing Ministry, D.D.A. and New Delhi Municipal Committee, along with some bank managers against whom *prima facie* cases have been established. It is a very serious matter involving crores of rupees and a large number of Government officials. So, the Minister should make a statement in the House.

(iii) KUDREMUKH IRON ORE PROJECT IN KARNATAKA.

SHRI B. RACHAIAH (Chamarajanagar): Under Rule 377, I wish to raise the following matter of urgent public importance.

With the revolutionary upheaval in Iran, the Indo-Iran joint ventures have almost come to stand still. In particular, I would refer to the stoppage of oil from Iran, which has led to unprecedented problems in our country. We are in the process of introducing rationing of petroleum product,

for personal consumption in the interest of nation's industrial development. Some of the States have already introduced rationing of petroleum products.

In view of massive increase in the cost of imports of crude oil from other Arab nations to the tune of Rs. 500/- crores annually, there is also a proposal to increase the price of petrol.

In this background, Sir, I would refer to the Kudremukh Iron Ore project, which is entirely dependent on financial commitment of Iran. This is a prestigious project of not only Karnataka but of the whole country. We are on the horns of dilemma. We have to supply iron ore only to Iran, as per the terms of the bilateral agreement. For the completion of the project, we have to depend on Iran. Now, besides the unsettled conditions in Iran, there is a slump in the international iron ore market, which is bound to have serious repercussion on Indo-Iran deal. Secondly, it is apprehended that, on account of non-availability of shipping, the only mode of transporting iron ore, we may default in our supplies. Thirdly, in view of the reported monetary bankruptcy of Iran, Iran may not be able to fulfil its commitment of aid to Kudremukh project, in which case, the fate of the project would hang in suspended animation. There is an air of uncertainty enveloping the entire project.

The Janata Government's handling of Indo-Iran relationship does not redound to its credit. It is also inexplicable as to what is Government of India's approach to bilateral trade agreement with the former Government of Iran.

(iv) SUPPLY OF FOODGRAINS TO 'FOOD FOR WORK SCHEMES'

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Chittoor): The F.G.I. is supplying foodgrains to food for work schemes in the various States of the country. *But it is not supplying them in time