

(ii) DEMANDS OF THE EMPLOYEES OF
NEW MANGALORE PORT

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): Under rule 377 I am mentioning the following matter of urgent public importance before this august House. The New Mangalore Port, employees earnestly desire that the wage revision committee recommendations implemented in the other eight major ports with effect from 1-1-74 be made applicable to the employees of the New Mangalore Port having regard to the services and duties performed by them on par with other major ports.

The government have not considered the employees of the New Mangalore Port for payment of ex-gratia in lieu of bonus made to the employees of other major ports. The New Mangalore port fulfils all the requirements of an industry as a major port and therefore the provisions of grant of ex-gratia to other ports should also be made applicable to New Mangalore Port.

This port being the 9th major port of India is governed by the Indian Ports Act 1908 while other major ports are covered by the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963. It is four years since the New Mangalore Port joined the family of major ports. It is reliably learnt that the tenth major port, i.e., the port of Tuticorin will form the port trust within a few months, while the port of New Mangalore has yet to constitute the board although these two ports have been declared as major ports simultaneously. Therefore, it is justifiable to consider the formation of the port trust in Mangalore port at an early date. In spite of the representation and hunger strike of the workers no action has been taken so far. Therefore it is earnestly requested that the just demands of the port workers may be taken into consideration and their demands may be settled earlier to avoid any direct action by the workers.

(iii) LOCK-OUT IN SOME UNITS OF KULTI
WORKS, INDIAN IRON AND STEEL
COMPANY IN WEST BENGAL

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): Under rule 377 I want to mention the following matter of urgent public importance. I am greatly shocked at the lock out at space pipe No. 1 and 2 units of Kulti Works, IISCO, in West Bengal by the management from 19-11-1978. The management of IISCO, now under the public sector, has violated all norms of labour management relationship. The left Front government of West Bengal was also not informed of the intention of the management. A few hundred workmen have been temporarily unemployed as a result of this lockout.

The A. B. K. Metal and Engineering Works' Union (CITU) was negotiating with the management so as to reach an amicable settlement of the disputes for the last few months. The declaration of lockout by the management aims at negating the efforts of the Union. I strongly condemn this act of the IISCO management and demand that the lock-out be lifted immediately. I also condemn the retrenchment in Bokaro and putting one section of the workers against the retrenched workers which led to the death of one retrenched worker and injuries to many. I demand firm steps by the government for reinstatement of the retrenched workers and action against the culprits.

(iv) REPORTED CONTINUED CLOSURE OF
MESSRS J. K. MANUFACTURERS
LTD., KANPUR

श्री रामजी लाल सुभन (फिरोजाबाद) :
सभापति महोदय, मैं नियम 377 के अधीन
मैमर्स जे० के० मैन्युफैक्चरर्स लि०
कानपुर की ओर इस माननीय सदन का ध्यान
आकर्षित करता हूँ जिसे 1 अक्टूबर,
1976 के सरकारी आदेशों को ठुकराकर
प्रबन्धकों ने बन्द कर दिया है। इससे स्थिति
अत्यन्त शोचनीय हो गई है। इससे लगभग
2500 श्रमिक परिवार पीड़ित हैं। इसके
सम्बन्ध में तमाम माननीय सदस्यों ने तथा

मैंने स्वयं भी कई बार सम्बद्ध मंत्री को लिखा है। इस सदन और सम्बद्ध मंत्री से मेरी प्रार्थना है कि इन हालात को सुधारने के लिए सरकार तुरन्त उममिल को चालू करे जिससे वहाँ के लोगों को राजगार उपलब्ध हो सके।

14.30 hrs.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN
(AMENDMENT) BILL—*contd.*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we take up further consideration of the Employment of Children (Amendment) Bill. Prof. Mavalankar, you were already on your feet and you had already taken five minutes.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): While I was on my legs on Wednesday towards the later part of the day, I was telling the House and the Minister that there was no need to send this Bill to the Select Committee. I would have certainly like it to go to the Select Committee if it were a larger comprehensive Bill with a number of provisions. But since it is a very minor Bill it need not go to the Select Committee. I want him to take this opportunity on the eve of the start next year of the International Children Year to do something more concrete and massive, in terms of catering to the needs of the children who in millions are not only exploited but harassed not only in India but in many parts of the world. I was also saying that the problem is aggravated by the fact that many of these children are, as it were, self-employed because they work in their own families, in their own farms. Even the children of landless labourers have also to work along with their parents. The problem is further aggravated by the unfortunate fact that in our country poverty necessitates the family elders to draft into work the younger ones not only below 15, but even of lesser age than ten, seven or eight. That is the difficulty. The whole pro-

blem is, therefore, both open and hidden, both on the surface and in the underground, and the difficulty is that many countries and Governments are not giving proper and adequate information to the I.L.O. and other bodies because they are sensitive to the problem. They do not want to reveal to the outside world what is happening in terms of the unfortunate state of affairs in their respective countries. Therefore, the data is also not dependable or reliable. But I hope Government will take concrete steps to ensure that the available data becomes more reliable and dependable. Only on that basis then Government can go ahead in terms of necessary legislation.

The question of a number of illegally employed underage children is really perplexing because that total is enormous. It is much more than 52 million children who are under 15 still employed as per the I.L.O. survey. I.L.O. talks about 52 million, but if you take the children who are illegally employed and are underage, the number goes up much more. Even here, right in Delhi, under our own nose, and in other larger cities like Bombay and Ahmedabad, we have a situation where children below fifteen or even below ten are employed in hotels, restaurants and in all sorts of shop establishments. Not only that, they have to work for ten, twelve, thirteen, fourteen hours a day, but they have no rest, no holiday. It is all very horrible. Therefore, I would like him to look to all these aspects also when the question of consideration of child legislation takes place.

In the remaining few minutes, I want to speak about two or three points in a broad way. Legislation on children, particularly on removing the exploitation of children and seeing to it that the children are not employed until they are fifteen years of age—such a kind of legislation is always very difficult to implement. Even if you have made a legislation, what is important is that you go on constantly educating public opinion