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Title: Regarding postponement of the Oil Refinery Project at Paradeep.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (SAMBALPUR): Sir, I am rising to draw the attention of the House as well as the Government regarding a major decision taken by the oil major. ...(*Interruptions*) This is regarding a major decision taken by the oil major, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, which is going to affect the economy of the oil industry in this country. Not only that, it is also going to affect the economy of the poor State of Orissa. Not only that, it is also indirectly inflicting an insult on the hon. Prime Minister of this country.

* Not Recorded

Two years back, in June, 2002, the hon. Prime Minister of the country was taken to Paradip, Orissa, in spite of his illness. He laid the foundation-stone for the Rs.12,000 crore oil refinery project at Paradip. This is one of the major projects in the country which is going to come up. The Government of Orissa has given more than 3,500 acres of land for this project. The Government of Orissa has also been prepared to forego Rs.20,000 crore for allowing sales tax holidays for 11 years. But, surprisingly, on some pretexts, the IOCL has decided to defer this project to the Eleventh Five Year Plan. This is going to affect the economy of Orissa. This is going to affect the oil industries of the country.

A report has come in the Press that this decision has been taken under duress, under influence by a multinational company, that is, Reliance Group which is going to expand their refinery project in a large scale. It is going to affect Orissa. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I know, I have received your Calling Attention notice.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA : Therefore, the Ministry of Petroleum should prevail upon the IOCL not to defer this project at Paradip, and the Ministry should prevail upon the IOCL to start the work immediately and complete it within the stipulated period....(*Interruptions*)