

SHRI RATILAL VARMA (Dhunda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Gujarat is the state where Mahatma Gandhi was born. Prohibition is in force there. I had said in the Ninth Lok Sabha also that 30 people died in Rajkot after consuming spurious liquor. Now again, during elections, the Chief Minister released those who were running illicit liquor vends. As a result 50 human lives have again been lost. It all happened because of the action of the Chief Minister, who released people engaged in illicit liquor trade. Apart from the death of so many people because of spurious liquor, one can find many people in Ahmedabad and all over Gujarat who have been suffering from blindness due to consumption of spurious liquor. Therefore, with a view, to save the people from death and destruction because of spurious liquor, I urge the hon. Prime Minister to direct the State Government to enforce prohibition effectively and provide financial assistance to the next of kin of the deceased and those who have gone blind.

[English]

AN HON. MEMBER: I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order at this time.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahmedabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a circular has been issued under the signatures of a Deputy Secretary to Government of India recently, disclosing that there will be 50 per cent cut in the supply of coal. Sir, the entire textile industry in South-West region of the country which comprises of some parts of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh is facing closure. Some textile mills have already closed down in Gujarat and the rest of them are on the verge of closure because of shortage of coal. I would like to quote from the order issued on 29th May, 1991. It says—

[English]

"In a telex message No: 23022/15/91, dated May 29, 1991, the Deputy Secretary, Department of Coal ordered the Chairman & Managing Director, SECL, Bhilaspur to apply the cuts to other industries, if the minimum loading targets could not be achieved for the core sector. In a separate telex message No. 23022/15/91, CPD, dated May 31, 1991 to CIL, Calcutta, he ordered that no offer would be given for other consumers by rail unless the targets for the loco, steel, power and cement were achieved."

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, because of this about 400 small-scale units of Ceramic Industry in Gujarat are on the verge of closure. The textile mills in Gujarat are also facing closure because they are not getting sufficient coal. More than 3 lakh workers would be rendered jobless because of short supply of coal. Therefore, I would urge the hon. Prime Minister to intervene in the matter so that there is no cut in the supply of coal to South West region of the country which may lead to closure of small scale industries rendering lakhs of workers jobless. In order that cement, fertilizer and export oriented industries do not have to face crisis, I request that adequate supply of coal may be made to the states of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES (Udupi): Severe sea erosion is taking place in coastal Karnataka in areas like Hoode-Hangarkatta, Kapu, South Canara and North Canara Districts etc. Immediate steps should be taken by the Government to erect sea-wall. It endangers life and property; already severe loss has taken place due to this erosion and the same should be arrested immediately. So, I request the Government of India to take immediate steps to prevent large scale sea erosion.