

tial Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981 for a further period."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT : I introduce the Bill.

12.18 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (I) **Need to educate people in fire fighting methods and to introduce latest fire fighting devices.**

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad) : The recent fire tragedies in multi-storeyed buildings in Delhi, focus attention on the total lack of any fire protection measures in most offices whether located in multi-storeyed buildings or elsewhere. There also does not exist any fire drill that would help save many lives in case of fire. The fire fighting service comes into operation only when there is fire. This concept must change. Government must instruct fire fighting service to undertake regular fire drills in offices, particularly those in multi-storeyed buildings. These drills would help instruct people trapped in fire how to plan their escape instead of simply jumping out of windows and getting killed in the process, as happened in a recent fire in Delhi. There are also new devices that are being marketed in the USA which are quite cheap but which could be of immense help in keeping smoke and fire out of harm to human lives. Government must investigate these devices and if found suitable call for their manufacture here and compulsory use in offices so that in case of fire, the employees have these devices available for escape from being asphyxiated.

12.19 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

- (II) **Need to ensure implementation of Sections, 51, 52 and 53 of Factories Act in BHEL, Bhopal**

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the BHEL, Bhopal is a public undertaking where 6 to 7 thousand workers are compelled to work overtime from December to March every year besides fixed hours of duty in order to achieve the production target. In this way every worker is put to work in the factory 250 to 300 hours extra.

Sections 51, 52 and 53 of the factory Act and the Standing Order applicable to this factory stipulate that if a worker is put to work more than 9 hours in a day or more than 48 hours in a week, such worker should be paid double of the wages for the extra work done by him but in this factory about 6,000 workers are put to work 250 to 300 hours extra without any extra payment in violation of the Factory Act and the Standing Order. The management compel the worker to take extra leave in lieu of overtime of which there is no provision in the Factory Act and the Standing Order. Violation of the Factory Act and the Standing Order is a punishable offence but the management of this undertaking is violating them openly and in this way the workers are deprived of their dues, which come to about Rs. 2 crore in a year. This has given rise to discontentment among the workers.

Therefore, the hon. Labour Minister should look into the matter and take stringent action against such Officers who are responsible for violating the Act.

[English]

- (III) **Demand for a planned approach towards eradication of poverty**

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTHAIK (Kalahandi): Sir, while celebrating 40th anniversary of the Independence during which India has emerged as a self-reliant poten-