

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-

[Shri Jagannath Patnaik]

tial independent democracy with much of advancement in field of science and technology we cannot afford to ignore the struggle of fellow beings who are fighting for their basic human needs who are not only lacking in calorie contents but also other basic needs. Our entire planned approach should be aimed at ameliorating their condition so as to bring them above the poverty line within a period of ten years, when we will observe the 50th anniversary of our Independence.

(iv) Need to amend the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes order

SHRI K. KUNJAMBU (Adoor): There have been persistent demands for amending the Scheduled Castes and Tribes order. This is overdue. The present list has created many anomalies. While many ineligible communities have found a place in the list, many deserving communities are still left out. Since reservation and other facilities are the main instrument of their uplift, the communities which are left out live in poverty, due to lack employment opportunities etc. This situation calls for an urgent review of the list.

I, therefore, request the Government to bring suitable amendment to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes order during this Session itself.

(v) Need to replace Godawari Express with two trains— one from Waltair to Hyderabad and the other from Kakinada to Hyderabad

SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA THOTA (Kakinada): Godawari Express starts from Waltair to Hyderabad at 4.00 P.M. with 36 bogies and two engines. The timing of this train is not suitable to the people of this area which is developing very fast into an industrial area. It is, therefore, requested that instead of one train with 36 bogies and two engines, two trains with one engine

and 18 bogies each may be introduced— one from Waltair to Hyderabad and the other from Kakinada to Hyderabad.

I request the Railway Minister to consider the suggestion favourably. This will solve many of the problems of the people of this area.

(vi) Need to establish STD facility at Vakathanam Telephone Exchange in Kerala

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Vakathanam Telephone Exchange was established more than twenty years back, linking it with Kottayam Exchange. There has been practically no improvement in this Exchange during this period. Despite assurances for its expansion in the last four years nothing has been done. In this connection it may be mentioned that there are hundreds of families residing in this Exchange area whose members are working outside India in Gulf countries, USA, Canada, etc. They are earning lot of foreign exchange which is being used for the development of the country. For quick communication with these people in different countries STD facility at Vakathanam Exchange is very essential. As this Exchange is directly connected to a major exchange viz., Kottayam, it will be easier to establish STD facility. I, therefore, request the concerned authorities to take necessary steps to establish STD facility at Vakathanam Exchange.

[Translation]

(vii) Need to include certain projects in Eighth Five Year Plan to provide drinking water to Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur from Indira Gandhi Canal

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a matter of urgent public importance.

The drinking water problem in the desert