

[*Translation*]

- (iii) **Need to procure paddy by Food Corporation of India and other agencies at support price fixed by the Government**

**SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur) :**  
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the following matter under Rule 377 :

There is a bumper paddy crop as a result of good rains in most parts of the country and efficient working of the means of irrigation, but the paddy producers are not getting any benefit of this bumper crop. There is a great concern, restlessness and resentment among the paddy producers due to a very low and unremunerative price of paddy in the market. The F.C.I. has fixed Rs.142 per quintal as the support price of paddy this year. Although, this price is far below the expectation of the paddy producers, yet the F.C.I. has not been able to procure paddy even at this price on a large scale. As a result of this, the farmers have been compelled to sell their paddy at a price as low as Rs. 130 to Rs. 135 per quintal.

I request the Government to make arrangements soon on a war footing to ensure that F.C.I. and other agencies make purchases of paddy at the support price fixed by the Government and see that the paddy is not purchased at a price below Rs. 142 per quintal.

[*English*]

- (iv) **Need to review the policy of constructing big dams in the light of two bursts in the Country and the heavy cost involved**

**SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARY (Sikkim) :** The construction of big dams, apart from being questioned technically also causes colossal inputs which has put into question the scientific basis behind the massive River valley projects such as Narmada and Koel-Karo projects.

We have had experience of 2 dam bursts in the country. There is also sufficient evidence, and warnings from scientists about linkage between dams and earthquakes. A leading Swiss seismologist, Dr. Tiedmann has

recently questioned the wisdom of construction the Narmada project on this ground.

That apart, Narmada originally estimated to cost Rs. 4000-9000 crores is now likely to cost over Rs. 25000 crores. The project's benefits are hardly commensurate with the cost and the human miseries of over 1 million people facing displacement; 3.75 lakh hectares of forests will be submerged and about 80000 hectares of fertile agricultural land and grazing lands will be lost. A total of 219 villages will be submerged. The resettlement plans are tardy and farfetched from the realities of the fate of the oustees. Government must fully rehabilitate the oustees and also provide land for land. What is true of Narmada project applies with equal force to Koel-Karo Hydro-electric project in Bihar. This calls for full review.

- (v) **Need to provide more funds for relief and rehabilitation of the cyclone affected people of West Bengal and Orissa**

**SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) :** The devastating cyclone and floods that swept over West Bengal and Orissa have caused serious damage to lives and property in the entire belt. The districts of Madnapur, 24 Parganas, Howrah and Hooghly in the West Bengal and Balasore and Cuttack in Orissa are worst affected. Several hundreds of men mostly fishermen are dead or even more missing. Crop on lakhs of acres of land had been completely damaged. Thousands of trees are uprooted. Thousands of houses are completely demolished and much more in number damaged. Even in such a situation relief and rehabilitation measures are too inadequate. Central aid is not only late but thoroughly insufficient. Actually, rehabilitation measures should be taken up on a war footing so that the people can cultivate rabi crop and try to come out of the hopeless situation. I request that the Central Government in consultation with the State Ministries of West Bengal and Orissa stand up to the occasion and render massive help for relief and rehabilitation for with.

- (vi) **Need to take proper measures to stop acts of violence by extremist elements .**

**SHRI B.V. DESAI (Raichur) :** There is a great danger on our borders with Pakistan,

Pakistan has been concentrating their troops all along our borders. There have also been a number of border violations for the last two months and these violations are continuing. In addition to this, there have been number of air violations in the J and K sector. There has also been a number of infiltrations from Pakistan into J and K State. Several bomb explosions have taken place in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Unauthorised arms and ammunition have been unearthed in many places in J and K. There is documentary proof to show that Pakistan has been encouraging these saboteurs to create disorder in the State. Increased acts of violence by the extremists have been in evidence in J and K and other States.

The Home Minister had appealed to the State to take immediate measures to prevent such violence. It has become imperative that the Central Government should take necessary steps and help the affected States for checking activities of extremists. These elements are encouraging and assisted by foreign countries for creating disorder in our country.

Hence it is necessary to take proper measures to stop such activities.

- (vii) Need to develop coal resources in the State of Orissa and constitute a coal development authority for effective Coordination in the Production of Coal

**SHRI HARIHAR SOREN (Keonjhar) :** The total coal deposits discovered in Orissa are estimated to be of an order of 2900 million tonnes according to a recent survey. But it will take at least 5800 years if the production of coal continues at the present level. Last year only 51,01,000 tonnes of coal was produced from those coal fields. The huge quantity of thermal grade coal discovered in Orissa can be utilised for power generation through thermal power station for one hundred years. At least 10,000 MW of power can be generated every year by utilising the available coal. The largest quantum of thermal grade coal in the country is available in Talcher and Ib valley coal fields in Orissa.

The coal resources in Orissa are spread over an area of 4500 sq. kms but lease has been given for the drilling of coal in 7367

hectares of area only. The production of coal has not started in all those area. There is a tremendous scope for the exploitation of coal in larger areas of the State. Therefore, I demand that a high level coal development authority should be constituted for maintaining effective coordination in the production of coal. At the same time, I request the Government of India to take necessary steps for the development of coal resources in the State of Orissa.

12.17 hrs.

### UNIT TRUST OF INDIA (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** Now we will take up Item No. 7.

Shri Janardhana Poojary may continue his speech.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :** In continuation of my reply, I state that the Unit Trust of India is a premier institution. If you take the performance of the UTI into consideration, the gross income of the Unit Trust of India was one crore and 53 lakhs of rupees in the year 1965. Now, in the year 1985, the gross income of the UTI has gone upto Rs. 257 crores. In fact, last year the gross income of the Unit Trust of India was Rs. 142.64 crores. This represents an increase of over 80 per cent if you just compare it with the figures of last year.

It would be better, if I highlight the performance of the Unit Trust of India. This institution offers to all the unit holders safety and also liquidity of investment and high returns. In the year 1965, the dividend declared under the main unit scheme was only 6.1 per cent. Last year, the dividend declared under the same scheme was 14.2 per cent. When I say that it gives safety and liquidity for the investment and high returns, I am comparing it with the investment in the private sector where there is no safety and security for the investors because there is an element of risk involved in those investments.