

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed.

MR. SPEAKER: Now matters under Rule 377. Shri Sriballav Panigrahi.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Only statements under Rule 377 will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

11.10 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Demand for establishment of a Subsidiary Coal Company Under the Coal India Ltd., in the coal belt of Orissa

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): The problems of the land oustees whose land is being acquired for expansion of coal fields in Orissa need to be considered sympathetically and urgently. Besides payment of compensation at the highest possible rates, they should be provided with suitable resettlement facilities and jobs on liberal basis preferably in the projects of their choice.

Further, it is an irony that Orissa which is quite rich in mineral resources continues to be economically backward. It has huge coal reserves. But due attention is not being given to its proper exploitation. In fact it is the only major coal producing State in the country today without a subsidiary coal company functioning there. Both the coal areas i.e. Talcher and Ib Valley in Orissa are managed and controlled by the South Eastern Coalfield Limited from its headquarters at Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh. It is not possible to properly look after these two areas from Bilaspur due to logistic factors like distance and communication etc. The pres-

ent production level of about 12 million tonnes will double during the Eighth Five Year Plan according to the Production Programme finalised by the Coal India Ltd. This accounts to about 25 per cent annual growth rate in coming years which is quite a challenging job and cannot be achieved unless work is carried out in right earnest with proper coordination and effective monitoring. For all this together with safeguarding the interests of the local people in the matter of employment, business and overall development of the area, which is required is, the establishment of a subsidiary coal company under the Coal India Limited in the coal belt of Orissa without further delay.

- (ii) Demand for enquiring into hike in prices of certain imported drugs whose landed cost is much low

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi): The Kelkar Committee recommended that drugs having sales turn over of more than Rs. 50 lakhs be brought under price control provided they do not fulfil any other exclusion criteria. However, some drugs whose landed cost of import is between Rs. 57 lakhs to Rs. 214 lakhs are monopoly products and their prices have recorded 50 per cent increase in one year. The reasons for exclusion of these drugs from price control are not known. I request that in the interest of the public, a full fledged enquiry should be held in the matter.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Only Statement under Rule 377 goes on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chatterjee, I must warn you. You can approach the Election Commission and that is the only way-out. I am not going to allow it here.

(Interruptions)