

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

12.09 hrs.

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to defamation and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The motion was adopted

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : When the Bill came to me I did not have copies.

[English]

I did not allow it. But when I got it, I got it circulated. According to the norms and conditions, three days have been given. It is now upto you to decide it.

Shri Buta Singh.

12.8½ hrs.

COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY  
(AMENDMENT) BILL\*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(S. BUTA SINGH) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1951.”

The motion was adopted

S. BUTA SINGH : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) Demand for direction to Delhi Administration to accord permission for repairs to old damaged houses in Delhi, specially in the Daryaganj area

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL  
(Chandni Chowk) : I want to draw the attention of this august House towards an important matter under Rule 377.

Daryaganj is one of the oldest colonies of Old Delhi. The houses in this colony are not fit for habitation as they have been constructed a long time ago and have seen a lot of wear and tear. So much so that the lives of people are in danger. There is huge loss of life and property every year during monsoons because cracks appear in the walls and consequently several houses collapse. The residents of the area have time and again requested the Administration to repair the buildings but in vain. With the result that a feeling of fear exists among the people of that area.

Hence, I request the Central Government to direct the Delhi Administration to accord permission for repairs to old houses in Delhi so that the fear among people of that area ceases to exist.

12.10 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the chair*]

[English]

- (ii) Demand for investigation into irregularities in the Smelter Division of National Aluminium Co. located at Angul

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal) : The National Aluminium Company (NALCO) which was commissioned in March, 1981 with a project cost of Rs. 1210 crores is the largest Aluminium Project in Asia. Various time and cost overruns compelled Government to resche-

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dule date of production to 1987 and revise the total cost to Rs. 2400 crores.

The Smelter Division of NALCO located at Augul which uprooted 1300 poor farming families and weaker sections of society is beset with numerous problems, human, financial, administrative and technical.

Firstly, displaced persons have been made unemployed and without any permanent avocation. Secondly, a substandard chimney collapsed resulting in a loss of Rs. 1 crores and how since 19 April 1988 to 8th May, 1988, 64 pots have been damaged which has resulted in a loss of Rs. 64 crores apart from causing delay in dedicating the plant to the nation by the Hon. Prime Minister of India.

All the local labour unions, peoples' representatives have drawn government's attention to institute a high level impartial inquiry and investigation as gross irregularities and corruption has been alleged, as well as a major Indo—French Project is in jeopardy and national wealth mismanaged and misappropriated.

Justice delayed is justice denied. Preventive and punitive action is the need of the hour.

[*Translation*]

(iii) Demand for immediate steps for controlling air pollution in manganese mines and Ferro plants in Orissa

\*SHRI HARIHAR SOREN (Keonjhar): There are 50 manganese mines and 2 Ferro Manganese plants located in Orissa. Neither the Manganese mines nor the Ferro plants set up at Joda in Keonjhar district and Rayaguda in Koraput district of the State has taken any measures to control air pollution. Polluted air and smoke mixed with manganese dust are causing T.B., Pneumonia and other dreaded diseases. Every cubic metre of smoke discharged by a Manganese plant carries 50 to 60 gram manganese dust. Hundreds of tribal workers are facing untimely death every year as they suffer from these diseases. It is regrettable that the State Pollution Control Board or the Central Directorate of Mines Safety

has not taken any action against the plant authorities. The poor and innocent workers are not aware of the pollution of the air and its effect on their bodies.

As such, I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to control pollution in those plants and manganese mines and to direct the plant authorities to provide necessary treatment to the workers suffering from T.B. and other diseases.

[*English*]

(iv) Demand for proper support and assistance to weavers in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA THOTA (Kakinada): Our country mainly depends on agriculture. Population is increasing but the land is not increasing. There is no other alternative to the Government but to encourage setting up of industries. In India, many people depend on cottage industries but the Government is not giving proper assistance to them. In our country, the weavers community is very large. In Andhra Pradesh there are many villages, which are thickly populated by weavers. In these villages silk cloth very superior in quality is woven. If we export this product to foreign countries, definitely, we can earn a lot of foreign exchange. We can also compete in the foreign markets. The Government should provide proper support and assistance to weavers and also ensure marketing facilities to them.

(v) Demand for food processing plants for oranges at Bhawani Mandi and for other perishable crops at Chabra and Kota

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar): The establishment of a separate Ministry of Food Processing in Government of India is a most welcome and practical step.

In a country like ours where population is growing by leaps and bounds and where food production is not increasing in equal proportion, it is very necessary that the wastage of food products is stopped as much as possible and the quality of food is improved by proper processing and proper preservation.

\*The matter was originally raised in Oriya.