

procurement of iron ore by M.M.T.C. from these areas. The export of iron ore through Paradeep Port has also declined. These things are having adverse impact on the mining industry of the State as a whole and the iron ore mines are on the verge of closure. The loading and transporting activities have come to a standstill. If this situation continues any further, thousands of workers engaged in this industry, most of whom are tribals, will be thrown out of employment.

As such, I urge upon the Government of India to take necessary steps to increase the export of iron-ore and also to direct M.M.T.C. to increase the procurement of iron ore from Banspani-Barbil-Barjamda Sector and Mayurbhanj District so that the crisis being faced by the iron ore industry is averted.

[English]

(iii) **Demand for reviewing India's Nuclear Policy In Order to meet the Threat Posed by Pakistan**

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur). With China's help, Pakistan has joined the rank of countries which have tested surface-to surface missiles as reported in the American magazines. Sir, earlier this year, Islamabad had tested King Hawk missile with China's assistance. According to the U.S. news and world report, Israel, Egypt, Syria, Iran, Iraq and Libya are among the countries who have already developed missiles. It is also reported that Pakistan has denied earlier reports that it conducted such a test but the magazine listed it among a score the Middle-East countries muscling their way into the once exclusive missile club. This shows that Pakistan in addition to these four has completed bombs which can be carried out for delivering by its U.S. supplied F. 16's. There is no doubt that Pakistan's nuclear policy has created a great unrest in India. It is therefore, neces-

sary that India changes its policy to meet this threat.

(iv) **Demand for Constituting an Equal Opportunities Commission to ensure implementation of recommendations of National Commission on Self-Employed Women.**

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali): The report of the National Commission on Self-employed Women and women in the informal sector is a document of great value. The Government must seriously consider its recommendations as well as findings. It is significant that the Commission has pointed out that unless the vulnerability of women who form half the labour force, to exploitation was removed through appropriate legislations and monitoring of their implementation, the poverty alleviation programmes of the Government would come to naught. It is not uncommon to find that even where Government distributes nutritional supplements to pregnant women, tradition and social inhibitions prevent them from coming to the hospital to obtain such supplements. The practice of paying lower wages to women for work as compared to men doing the same work is also widespread. A major recommendation of the Commission is for creating credit facilities exclusively for working women. Legislative measures are also needed to ensure that there was no exploitation of women labour. The Government should examine the constitution of an Equal Opportunities Commission to oversee implementation of such measures.

[Translation]

(v) **Demand for increasing the procurement price of agricultural produce**

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise the issue of