

[Secretary-General]

the Table the Cine-Workers and Cinema Theatre Workers (Regulation of Employment) Amendment Bill, 1987, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

12.11 hrs.

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

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*English*]

- (I) **Need to clear the proposal of Government of Maharashtra for nationalisation of Shreenivas Cotton Mills, Bombay**

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): The textile undertaking belonging to the Shreenivas Cotton Mills, Bombay, employing about 4558 employees closed down on 23rd March, 1984 as a result of the alleged differences between the managing partners. Subsequently the company went into liquidation and the property of the company is in the possession of the official liquidator attached to the High Court, of Bombay.

The proposal for nationalisation of the mill has been accepted by the Maharashtra Government to safeguard the interests of employees and for utilising the existing idle workable capacity by reorganising and rehabilitating the Mill. A draft ordinance in respect of the Mill has been submitted on 12th August, 1987. The Planning Commission has also been requested on 23rd March, 1987 to grant an advance plan assistance to the extent of Rs. 32.54 crores so as to enable the State Government to pay compensation to the owners of the Mill and also for payment of past dues of workers, retrenchment compensation and gratuity to workers not to be

employed, payment of dues of financial institutions and banks, start up expenses and operating cost, etc.

The proposal relating to nationalisation of the Mill and grant of advance plan assistance are still under consideration of the Government of India.

I request the Government to clear the proposals expeditiously.

[*Translation*]

- (II) **Demand for a Railway line between Sahajanwan and Utrala in Uttar Pradesh in the Eighth Five Year Plan**

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the eastern part of Uttar Pradesh, where Basti is located is a quite backward area from the development point of view.

In Basti district, world's famous goods are produced but due to the lack of the means of transport it is a tough job to send these goods outside. Since the goods produced there cannot be sent outside, it is but natural that it has a great impact on their demand. For example in Amardoma powerloom cloth is produced, in Bakhira unique bronze utensils are manufactured and in Bansi the rice known as Kalanamak is produced in a large quantity. If means of transport had been there, these goods would have surely been sent to far-off places and their demand too would have increased day by day.

Due to these very reasons ever since independence the social workers, the representatives of people and the respectable persons of this district have been demanding construction of a railway line from Sahajanwan to Utrala but this demand has remained unheard till date, with the conse-

quence that even today this area remains backward from every point of view.

Therefore I submit to the hon. Minister of Railways that in order to ensure development of this area and promotion of goods manufactured here, the construction work in respect of a railway-line from Sahajanwan to Utraula may kindly be included in the Eighth Five Year Plan so that the inhabitants of that area are able to send their manufactured goods out of town, lead a comfortable life by getting fair price in return and the development of the above mentioned backward area is ensured.

- (iii) **Demand for removing the pumps installed in Sarhind feeder canal to enable Rajasthan to get its full share of Water**

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, by installing pumps in Sarhind feeder canal the water of Bhakra Canal is being supplied to Punjab which is reducing the percentage of Rajasthan's share and thus harming its interest.

The water of Bhakra Canal which flows into Rajasthan through the Sarhind feeder running through the territory of Punjab is being supplied to landlords for quite a long time by installing pumping sets in the canal at different places. Thus approximately 400 quesecs of water is being supplied to the landlords of Punjab without any official records, whereas no such provision for supply of water from the Sarhind feeder exists in the agreement relating to supply of water to Rajasthan. Due to this pilferage of water, Rajasthan is getting less water which is causing a loss of lakhs of rupees every year to both the landlords, in the area being irrigated by Bhakra waters, and the Government of Rajasthan.

Therefore, the pump sets installed at

various places should be removed immediately or else, in place of the water being pilfered, the percentage of Rajasthan's share may be increased.

[English]

- (iv) **Demand for fixing responsibility for decision to decontrol the price of Vitamin bulk drugs which lead to steep increase in the prices of multivitamin formulations .**

SHRIMANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): Vitamin bulk drugs are mostly the monopolised production of one or two drug companies. These bulk drugs have been price de-controlled. Single ingredient vitamin formulations have also been price de-controlled when their annual sales turn-over runs into many hundred crores. The same criterion has not been applied in case of other bulk drugs production and single drug branded formulations. There appears to be no justification for such a favourable treatment. How the consumer's interest will be safeguarded with 40% increase in MAPE over the ex-factory cost of multi-vitamin formulations accompanies by de-control on prices of bulk vitamins. All these actions would lead to steep increases in multi-vitamin formulation prices, profiteering by drug companies, bringing untold misery to poor patients suffering from diseases like T.B. and mal-nutrition. I request the Government to get the matter investigated thoroughly and fix responsibility.

- (v) **Demand for allotting work of SYL Canal to a Central Agency to complete the project within a reasonable time**

SHRI RAM NARAIN SINGH (Bhiwani): The portion of SYL canal falling within the State of Haryana was completed some 10 years back but, unfortunately, the Govern-