

while the factories at Shahjahanpur, Kanpur and OCF, Avadi were good in completing in time. This has resulted in great apprehension in the minds of workers in all the factories at Shahjahanpur, Kanpur and Avadi, Madras. Hence I request the Central Government to intervene immediately to stop giving private contracts and also remove the ban on recruitments for at least on 'ongoing projects', so that the vest project at OCF Avadi, Madras can be implemented by proper sanctioning of the adequate staff.

- (ix) Demand for opening of Bank of Maharashtra Branches in Orissa during the current financial year.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the bank of Maharashtra is one of the nineteen major nationalised commercial banks. Soon after nationalization, all the major commercial banks undertook expansion programme and opened their branches in different States. In Orissa, all the nineteen nationalised banks except the Bank of Maharashtra have opened their branches.

There are nearly 150 officers from Orissa serving in this Bank and they are deprived of their posting their entire service period in their home State where they can serve the Bank in a much better way. Besides, Orissa is a backward and under-banked State where this Bank should have representation in the developmental work maintain its nationalized status.

Further, customers of this Bank having business links with Orissa are facing problems for remittance of funds and other banking services as a result of which their business is hampered. This also adversely affects customers service and also profitability of this Bank, Opening of few branches at least in State capital Bhubaneswar and other cities like Cuttak, Puri, Rourkela, Sambalpur, Berhampur would certainly extend the next work of the bank at national level and improve the level of ancillary customer service of the Bank. As the Bank has already one Divisional Office in Calutta, there will be no problem as such for controlling the branches to be opened in Orissa.

As such, I urge upon the Government of India to open the branches of the Bank of Maharashtra in Orissa during the current financial year.

13.47 hrs.

**MINES AND MINERALS (REGULATION AND DEVELOPMENT)
AMENDMENT BILL 1986
CONTD.**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up further consideration of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation) and Development) Amendment Bill.

Shri E. Ayyapu Reddy to continue.

SHRI E. AYYPU REDDY (Kurnool) : Sir, the growing importance of mineral development, national and international, is not reflected properly in the allocations made in the Seventh Plan. Minerals and development of minerals is basic for the development of industries. The total allocation made in the Seventh Plan under the heading of Industry and Minerals is 3785.88 crores. However, it is not known how much of this amount is going to be allocated for mineral development.

We had introduced the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act in 1957. The Act has been in force for a number of years and in the implementation and working of this Act, certain difficulties and certain lacunae were noticed. We expected that the present amending Bill would clear all those controversies and lacunae which were noticed in the implementation of this Act.

The most important controversy which has arisen recently is that the States which are rich in minerals have been asking for more revenues to be derived from the minerals in the States. It is but a natural demand that they should aspire to get more resources from the minerals.