(ii) PURCHASE OF BLANKETS FOR ARMED FORCES FROM ORDNANCE CLOTHING FACTORIES, SHAHJANPUR.

SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM (Shahjahanpur): Under rule 377 I want to make a statement. Shahjehanpur is one of the backward districts of Uttar Pradesh. With a large population and its backwardness this district is in the serious grip of poverty, unemployment and beggary and lack of facilities like medicines, water, housing, schools, etc. This district has played a vital role in the freedom struggle. In spite of all this, no importance has been given for its development. There is only one ordnance clothing factory at Shahjehanpur.

The Defence Ministry requires eight lakh blankets every year to meet the needs of the Armed Forces and all these are purchased from contractors. Recently DGOF has installed a new plant to manufacture blankets and a small order of 20,000 blankets has been placed with Ordnance clothing factory at Shahjanpur. It is therefore requested that in case the Defence Ministry takes a decision to stop purchase of blankets from contractors and decides to manufacture the same in Shahjehanpur, more employment can be given to the people here.

(iii) REPORTED BRUTED TREATMENT OF STUDENTS AGITATING AGAINST D.T.C. BY DELHI POLICE.

SHRI BHAGAT RAM (Phillaur): It is a matter of great concern that during the agitation against bus fare hike by the Delhi Transport Corporation, students were brutally beaten up by the Delhi Police. On February 17, 1979, when the Students Federation of India organised a demonstration against fare hike, the police were let loose on the students and indiscriminately lathi charged and fired tear gas shells. Many students were injured. Even the girl students were not spared. The policemen sat on some girls and beat them up mercilessly. The girls were singled out for tear-gassing, lathi charges and humiliation. Many demonstrators were arrested. The police brutality on student demonstrators and women is widely condemned. The students of Jawaharlal Nehru University went on strike on 19th February, 1979 to protest against polict brutalities. The students, teachers and employees unions and political parties have condemned this brutal and inhuman action of the police. They are justified to demand a judicial inquiry against brutal police repression, withdrawal of all cases and immediate released of all those arrested during anti-fare hike agitation. This demand should be accepted. I request the Minister to make a statement on this incident.

(iv) REPORTED STOPPAGE OF MINING OPERATIONS IN MICA MINES OF BIHAR FOR WANT OF EXPLOSIVES

श्री रीत लाल प्रसाद वर्मा (कोडरमा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नियम 377 के अधीन एक लोक महत्व के विषय पर निम्नलिखित वक्तव्य दे रहा हूं—

"एक्सप्लोसिव के अभाव के कारण बिहार प्रान्त के समस्त अभ्रक खानों में खनन कार्य प्राय: ठप्प हो गया है तथा पचास हजार अभ्रक मजदूर खानों एवं फेक्ट्रियों से बाहर आ गये हैं।

अभ्रक खनन कार्य के लिए प्रति माह 1500 केसेज विस्फोटक पदार्थ की अत्यावश्यकता होती है जब कि गोमिया एक्सप्लोसिव लिमिटेड मात्र 400 केसेज एक्सप्लोसिव आपूर्ति कर रहा है। अभ्रक-निर्यात अनुबंध के अनुसार 1979 में लगभग 30 करोड़ रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा की प्राप्ति रुक जाने की संभावना है।

पूरे देश में 80 हजार टन एक्सप्लोसिव प्रति माह आवश्यक है जबकि देश में करीब 60–65 हजार टन का उत्पादन होता है। 15 हजार टन कमी की पूर्ति के लिए वर्तमान सक्षम एक्सप्लोसिव फेक्टरी का विस्तार करा कर विदेशों से तीन गुने दाम पर आयात करने की नीति पर गम्भीरतापूर्वक विचार करने की आवश्यकता है। कोयला, लोहा, कोपर आदि सभी खानों में व्यवहारार्थ पर्याप्त मात्रा में विस्फोटक पदार्थ का सृजन कराने के लिए कारगर कदम उठाना अत्यावश्यक है। उद्योग मंत्री का ध्यान आकर्षित करते हुए मैं आग्रह करना चाहता हूं कि गिरिडीह (बिहार) जिले के अन्दर गोमिया एक्सप्लोसिव फेक्टरी होते हुए स्थानीय खनिज अभ्रक का उत्पादन रुक जाए तथा हजारों मजदूर सड़क पर आ जायें, यह चिंतनीय विषय है। अत: उद्योग मंत्री एक वक्तव्य देकर सदन को जानकारी दें कि अभ्रक खानों के लिए तुरन्त क्या व्यवस्था करने जा रहे हैं।