

परिणामस्वरूप 349 मिलें बंद हो चुकी हैं। साढ़े तीन लाख लोग अनाथ/बेकार हुए। हथकरघा और यंत्रमात्र के वर्चस्व के कारण 70 प्रतिशत से 4 प्रतिशत तक उत्पादन में कमी आई। मल्टी फाइबर एग्रीमेंट 2005 में समाप्त होने वाला है, तब आयात-निर्यात पर कोई पाबंदी रहेगी नहीं। इसके कारण हम और भी पिछड़ जाने वाले हैं। इस क्षेत्र में प्रगति के लिए हमें 10 वर्ष की काला वधि दी गई थी। इसमें से 5 वर्ष निकल चुके हैं तो भी हमने कुछ किया नहीं। देश के प्रति यह बहुत ही गंभीर और आर्थिक दृष्टि से नुकसानदेही बात है।

महोदय, इसलिए मैं सरकार से अपेक्षा करता हूँ कि निम्न प्रश्नों के बारे में वह क्या करने जा रही है, बताए।

- मिल को अपनी ज़मीन बेचने की इजाज़त देने के बाद मिल को नए सिरे से आधुनिकीकरण के लिए क्या कोई कानून और कालबद्ध प्रोग्राम बनाया गया है?
- क्या केन्द्र और राज्य में तालमेल के लिए कोई यंत्रणा है?
- मजदूर नेता का सहभाग कैसे लिया जाता है?
- बंद मिलों में से स्कूटिनी करके मुंबई शहर के बाहर ले जाकर चलाने का क्या कोई विचार है?

महोदय, मैं करों का संसूत्रीकरण, प्रोसेसिंग, वीविंग को अग्रक्रम देना, सुविधा, परदेशस्थ इनवेस्टमेंट के लिए कोई योजना आदि के बारे में अग्रक्रम देकर गंभीरता से सोचकर इस इंडस्ट्री को बढ़ावा देने का आग्रह करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

#### **Paralympics - 2000, at Sydney, Australia**

SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR (Karnataka): Madam, I would like to say something about the Paralympic Games held in Sydney, Australia, in October, 2000. I had an opportunity to attend the Games along with Smt. IV't-mma, hon. Minister for Women and Child Welfare. Government of Karnataka, who is also looking after the portfolio of the Physically Handicapped. Sir, There is a voluntary organisation devoted to the promotion of sports for the disabled. It is affiliated to the International Paralympic Committee, Germany. In the previous two Paralympics held in Atlanta and Barcelona, the participating members were given financial help, which included air tickets, pocket money, dress, etc.. by the Congress-led Government. But I am sorry to state that this time the Government, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, rejected their request for financial assistance; as compared to the expenses incurred for the Olympic games, these expenses are very meagre. The Athletes' Team were then forced to go at their own expense. Now I urge upon the Government to give more encouragement to such voluntary organisations for the physically handicapped.

[20 December, 2000] RAJYA SABHA

I would further inform the House that one Mr. Yaduvendra Vashista participated in the shot put game, after he was qualified for F-42 by the Classifiers, and he created a new world record by securing the highest points. But, after the event was over, he was disqualified by the Classifiers saying that he has lesser disability and that he should have played in F-44 category; but the game for this was by then already over. And he lost the gold medal because of somebody's mistake. The team then appealed to the Chief Classifier and they also filed an appeal before the Court of Appeals at Sydney. Then, they appealed to the Board of Arbitration Committee. But both the places did not uphold the appeal. Now, they have requested the Indian Consulate to move the case in the international court to seek justice. Now, I request the Government to help the team in this case as it is a question of a gold medal to our country. And, I also request the Government to give more encouragement to the physically handicapped sportspersons by giving them coaching, food, and various other facilities like promotion in their services, etc. Thank you, Sir.

#### **Misleading Statement on the Status of Rourkela Steel Plant**

MISS FRIDA TOPNO (Orissa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government has issued notices to the employees of the Rourkela Steel Plant citing possibilities for non-payment and curtailment of salaries. The Government, however, has denied this fact. Before taking such a drastic step like curtailment of salaries, the Government should take the Parliament into confidence and issue a white paper on the status of the Rourkela Steel Plant.

I would like to invite the attention of the Government to a circular dated 13.10.2000, issued by the Managing Director of the Rourkela Steel Plant, wherein he has mentioned the possibility of curtailment of the salaries of the employees. I want the Government to come forward with the correct picture and take remedial measures urgently. I would also like to know whether the Government is thinking of bringing a Voluntary Retirement Scheme for the employees of the Rourkela Steel Plant and whether the gratuity to the retiring employees would be paid in time.

#### **Recent Tremors in Kerala**

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (Kerala): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through this Special Mention, I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India to the recent tremors that took place in Kerala.