

under the conveyor system, or an electrical short circuit and the entire conveyor systems could have crashed. Just prior to the accident, the Plant had been producing power to its fullest capacity of 210 MW with its huge coal stock. It was also being said that now, after the accident, it would take, at least, a month to make the Plant operational. Such repeated accidents have really raised doubts among the general public that it might be to invoke global tenders for importing coal for this Plant.

Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to order a detailed CBI inquiry into the functioning of this Plant, into the tenders for importing coal, the extent of damage of coal and the cause for there peated fire accidents in this Plant, and instruct the State Government to ensure that such accidents do not happen in future.

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the relevant facts on the subject must be taken note of before it goes on record.

**Need to take steps to check ill-treatment and violence
against women in the country**

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, in India, where almost half of the population is women, they always are ill-treated and deprived of their right to life and personal liberty as provided under our Constitution. Women have been considered as physically and emotionally weaker whereas now they are proving themselves in almost every field of life affirming that they are no less than men. Women being tortured, beaten and killed, is happening invariably. It is crossing all social classes, racial lines and age groups. More saddening is it becoming a legacy. Offences against women reflect the pathetic reality that women are not safe and secure anywhere. According to a latest report of India's National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a crime is recorded against women in every three minutes in India. Every 60 minutes, two women are raped in this country. Every six hours, a young married woman is beaten to death, burnt or driven to suicide.

The statistics of women subjected to violence attacks, that is, foeticide, infanticide, medical neglect, child marriages, bride burning, forced marriages, rapes, prostitution and sexual harassment, are shocking.

In recent days, several rapes have been reported in the NCR region. The lack of responsibility, both moral and administrative on the part of the police, has

[SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA]

resulted in the common occurrence of such a horrendous crime frequently and this is a matter of national shame.

The Government must seriously consider of enforcing some immediate steps like ensuring patrolling of police at night, establishing more women police stations on this issue to tackle this serious menace.

SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN): Shri Nandi Yellaiah, not present; Shri Tapan Kumar Sen, not present. Shri Ambeth Rajan.

Need to bring a legislation for proper implementation of special component plan for SCs and Tribal sub-plan for STs

SHRI AMBETH RAJAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, it is shocking to find that the Central Government, even after 33 years of the policy, has not implemented fully the policy of 'Scheduled Caste Special-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan.

In spite of Government's repeated promises, over the years, utilization of SCP and TSP funds, to the extent of 15 per cent and 7.5 per cent from the budgeted allocation, is not taking place. This is upsetting the millions of SCs and STs today.

Now, it is reported that of about 75 Departments in around 54 Ministries, only 25 Ministries are implementing these two Plans. Maybe other Departments are not having heart to implement these.

In the 11th Five Year Plan from 2007-2008 to 2011-2012, the Central Government should have allocated Rs. 1,92,307.8 crore for this scheme. But