

13.12 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

**Fourteenth
and
Fifteenth Reports**

[English]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Island): Sir, I beg to present the following reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee.

- (1) Fourteenth Report on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifteenth Report of the Estimates Committee (Ninth Lok Sabha) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs)—Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.
- (2) Fifteenth Report on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourteenth Report of the Estimates Committee (Ninth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Environment and Forests — Forest Research Institute, Dehradun.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAWS, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, in 1936, the State of Orissa was formed. May I take this opportunity to propose that this House send its greetings to the people of Orissa today on being their Orissa Day.

13.13 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to connect Pambai with Tambarabaram and Vaigai rivers Tamilnadu to overcome the drinking water problem.**

[English]

SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN (Tiruchendur): Sir, Tiruchandur, Sathenkulam, Hanganeri, Radhapuram are the worst affected Talukas and lakhs of people have been finding it extremely difficult to get water even for drinking purposes. Ground water in these areas is scarce and also saltish.

Every year about six hundred TMC of water flows westwards through Achankoil and Pambai rivers in the border district of Kerala and ultimately join the Arabian sea and is wasted. From the river Pambai, out of 110 TMC surplus water, at least about 25 TMC water could be diverted by connecting it with Tambarabaram and Vaigai rivers which will not only provide drinking water to Sethankulam, Tiruchendur, Nanganeri and Radhapuram but also the districts of Chidambarnar, Kanyakumari and Ramnad in Southern part of the country.

Some time ago, the Central Water Commission constituted a committee of prominent persons to undertake survey and preliminary work for the provision of potable water to the people of the area which could not do much. I would, therefore, request the Central Government to look into this matter immediately and take immediate steps for diverting the surplus water in Pambai river so that people in my constituency may be able to get drinking water.