

displaced persons have not got their compensation so far nor any rehabilitation guide or jobs. The dam has deprived them of schools, roads and hospitals which are yet to be provided to them. I have raised this problem in this House several times but to no avail, causing a resentment among the people in the process.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government of India to complete the work of the project early and solve all the aforesaid problems.

(iii) Need to prepare a pilot project to protect Chilika lake on Orissa from depletion

[English]

SHRI K P SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal) : I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the growing depletion of Chilika, the biggest inland lake in India and Ansupa, the largest fresh water lake in the State of Orissa. The 5000 years old Chilika lake which connects the Bay of Bengal in a narrow mouth was spread over 2200 kms in the beginning has now shrunk to about 915 sq. kms. due to various reasons like heavy siltation, spreading of weeds, over fishing and increasing release of toxic metals from the chloride plant, Chhatrapur. Thousands of migratory birds visit Chilika lake during winter every year and take shelter in the Nalabara bird sanctuary. Apart from the migrating birds the Honeymoon Island and the Breakfast Island draw a large number of tourists. With its bounteous gift of fish, the lake provides succour to thousands of families of fishermen.

Ansupa lake no longer attracts migratory birds or tourists. Heavy exploitation of vegetation around Ansupa accompanied by siltation and increased growth of hyacinth and algae is turning the lake into a swamp.

Unless immediate steps are taken to stop further shrinking of these two lakes they will lose all charms for the tourists. Besides, the people who earn their daily bread from these lakes will suffer untold misery.

I request the Union Government to prepare a pilot project for Ansupa and a similar separate project on the pattern of Ganga Action Plan for Chilika lake with a view to stop any further depletion.

(iv) Need to provide financial assistance for the schemes submitted by the Government of Kerala for undertaking anti-sea erosion works.

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (Kasargoda) : Since 1992, the Government of India has not been providing any Central assistance to States for anti-sea erosion works. While flood control activities are financed by the Central Government, the programme for anti-sea erosion works which is extremely important to States like Kerala with fragile coastlines does not receive the Centre's attention and priority that it really deserves. Government of Kerala with its meagre resources is unable to provide its own funds to finance this massive programme. Government

of Kerala have submitted to the Planning Commission certain schemes for Rs. 27 crores for undertaking anti-sea erosion works as an interim measure. These schemes which are intended for emergency measures will ensure only partial coverage. What is really required is a comprehensive scheme to cover the entire coast lines in the State which remain to be protected and to make improvements to the sea walls already constructed. Such a scheme would be possible of implementation only with the adequate financial support from the Government of India.

I would, therefore, request the Government of India to take immediate action and sanction the amount of Rs. 27 crores for the scheme demanded by the Government of Kerala for undertaking anti-sea erosion works as an interim measures.

(v) Need to clear the proposal for construction of dams on river Subansiri of Assam

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (Lakhimpur) : Sir, a project for construction of Dam on of River Subansiri of Assam, prepared by the Brahmaputra Board for generation of 4800 MW of electricity with an outlay of Rs. 3000 crores was submitted to Government of India during 1984 for approval. Due to opposition from Arunachal Pradesh Government, citing Submergence of few village in the catchment area, the clearance has been delayed. However, on a revised proposal to built 3 smaller dams instead of one big dam for reducing the submergence, the Arunachal Pradesh Government had given its consent. The present cost of the project would be around Rs. 12000 crores with installed capacity of 7500 MW of electricity. Implementation of this project even with associating foreign investment would not only bring revolutionary socio-economic change in the N.E. Region but also would be able to meet the power shortage in West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, U.P. and M.P. The hydro power generated by this project would be the cheapest in the country. Besides, it will reduce perennial flood menace by about 15 percent apart from irrigation facilities and erosion control. Moreover, this project will not involve bilateral understanding with China as may be needed for other projects prepared by Brahmaputra Board.

I would therefore urge upon the Ministry of Power, Ministry of Water Resources and the commission recently formed by the Planning Commission on the basis of Prime Minister's declaration to include this project in the agenda for offering basic minimum services through development of infrastructure facilities in the North East Region.

(vi) Need to provide Central assistance for tourism development in the Eastern Hilly areas of Kottayam district in Kerala.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : The eastern hilly areas of Kottayam district in Kerala in Meenachil

Taluk are of great beauty and attraction, worth development as a tourist area. The poetic scenery, constant cool breeze, unique site of natural landscape, rocks, mountains, water falls, greenery and valley makes the area second to none in the world in attraction. Eleveezhe-Poonchira, Illicka-Kallu, Ayyan Para, Erumapra, Mechal, Nellappara, Kolani, Ambalam Mancombu, Kurisumala etc. are places in these areas which should be taken up specially for tourism development. The first and foremost is to give infrastructural development like roads, water supply, communications etc. Erumapra is a ward in Moonnilavu Panchayat which is almost fully occupied by tribals. These hilly areas of Moonnilevu and Melukavu Panchayats have a lot of tribal population. These are the areas which were inhabited hundreds of years back, but without proper roads, water supply and electricity. They require early and imminent attention as tribal areas and as places of tremendous tourist potential.

I urge upon the Government of India to send a special team to visit these areas, draw out a plan of action for development and provide Central assistance therefor.

(vii) Need to provide STD facility in important towns of Jhansi and Lalitpur districts in U.P.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Under rule 377 I want to give information that the historic town of Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh has an important place, being a main commercial centre. It has important towns namely Mauranipur, Katera, Todi, Fatehpur, Sakrar, Baruasagar Baragaon, Chirgaon, Paricha, Raksa, BHEL Colony along with the towns of Lalitpur namely Talbehat, Mehrauni, Jakhira, Badawda and Bini which require immediate installation of STD facility. As per the information provided to me by the department, this facility is yet to come off due to shortage of certain instruments. While the Ministry has informed me that all necessary arrangements in this regard are already completed, the zonal office of the Jhansi Telecommunication department on the other hand says even after lapse of one year that they have not yet received the instruments. These instruments had been allotted for Jhansi and Lalitpur but have been installed at some other place instead.

I demand of the Minister to please issue necessary instructions in this regard.

(viii) Need for expeditious implementation of Economic Package in respect of J & K

[English]

SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA (Jammu) : In regard to the Economic Package Programme in respect of

J and K State announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in the last session in the House, practically no implementation is taking place. As a result, the people of J and K are disturbed.

I request the Union Government to declare latest position in the matter and steps being taken for speedy implementation of the Economic Package that is :

1. Establishment of Agriculture University for Jammu region already recommended by the State Government.
2. Raising the status of Jammu to B class city already recommended by State Government.
3. Early completion of Hydro Electric Projects underway in J and K State and also to take up new projects in hand especially restarting work on Dool Hast project in Kestwar, Jammu and completion of Uri project in Kashmir.
4. Accelerating the pace of railway line to Udhampur and its extension to the valley.
5. Transfer of Mugal road for State PWD to B. Road Organisation, Government of India.
6. Inclusion of Dogri language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India already recommended by the State Government.
7. Permanent settlement of displaced persons of 1947, 1965 and 1971.

[Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS (Sitapur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. We do not get any information about the action taken by the Government in respect of the notices given by us under rule 377. I want you to issue such orders that we should get proper reply in respect of our notices given under rule 377, so that we may know about the action taken in the matters raised by us. If we do not get any reply then how we will come to know whether the Government is taking some steps in those matters or not?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have got your point. During zero hour any member can raise any matter but the matters raised under rule 377 are first approved and then listed, therefore these should be replied to.

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Sometimes we get reply but not in every matter. I want you to once again issue orders to this effect so that we may get reply as to what action is being taken by the Government in respect of the matters raised by us.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You will certainly get your replies.