

13.40 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to increase the grant being given for development of Hill areas in U.P. under the special Central Assistance Scheme.**

[Translation]

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora) : Sir, keeping in view the difficult terrain of the hill areas, the Central Government had started special central economic Assistance for the development works of these areas under various plans after the Fifth Five Year Plan in order to ensure balanced and speedy development of these areas. At the outset a decision was taken to bring the special central Assistance for the hill areas of U.P. to bring the special Central Assistance for the hill areas of U.P. known as 'Uttaranchal' at par with the special central Assistance for Himachal Pradesh because of similarity in their terrain and geographical position as well equality in population. But with the passage of time, the assistance for Himachal Pradesh increased to Rs.300 crores and the assistance for the Uttaranchal area of U.P. remained a paltry Rs.205 crores. As per the 1990 census figures, the population of Uttaranchal is 69 lakhs whereas the population of Himachal Pradesh is 51 lakhs.

The special Central Assistance granted to Uttaranchal for the development of hill areas is relatively for less in spite of equal area and more population. I would, therefore, request the Government to sanction a sum of Rs. 350 crores for Uttaranchal in the form of Special Central Assistance for the development of hill areas.

- (ii) **Need for early commissioning of Barmer and Jaisalmer T.V. Towers**

[English]

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY (Barmer) : A high power TV tower has been constructed at the top of village Chohtan (Barmer) about three years back at an approximate cost of Rs. 30 crore. At this TV tower, all the sophisticated equipment have also arrived. This TV tower is meant to give coverage to backward and border desert district, Barmer.

Similarly, another high power TV tower has been constructed at adjoining district Jaisalmer. The work has been completed at an approximate cost of Rs.25 crore.

Both these TV towers were completed on a war footing in sensitive districts. In spite of agitation by local people and numerous representations to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for early commissioning of these TV towers, nothing has been done so far.

It is believed that the staff has not yet been sanctioned by the Ministry of Finance. Due to non-availability of Staff and non-interaction between the Ministries, two high-power TV tower in backward area have not been commissioned. The expenditure to the tune of Rs.55 crore is being wasted and equipment are allowed to rust just for want of staff.

I request the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to intervene in the matter at the earliest.

13.44 hrs.

(Shri Chitta Basu *in the Chair*)

- (iii) **Need to waive agricultural loan taken up to 1989 by farmers in Bihar**

[Translation]

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur) : Sir, in 1989 a policy was formulated to waive loans below Rs.10,000 in order to provide relief to the farmers reeling under debt. Most of the farmers had benefited from this policy during Janata Dal regime but the farmers of some of the Blocks in Bihar could not benefit from this scheme. The financial institutions realised all the loans with interest thereon and even threatened confiscation of their immovable property. The farmers were forced to borrow from the market even at higher rate of interest in order to escape confiscation.

I would, therefore, request the Government to announce waiving of loans upto Rs.10,000 upto 1989 in the general interest of the farmers.

- (iv) **Need to provide telephone facilities in all the blocks of Banda district, U.P.**

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD (Fatehpur) : Sir, S.T.D. facility has not been provided in Karga, Tindwari, Bhatons, Chilla, Jaspura, Paisani of the Development Block, Vadokhen Khurd under Tindwari Vidhan Sabha constituency which is causing hardship to thousands of people. It is the policy of the Government to link each village panchayat with telephone facility, but it is not available in all the villages of the above mentioned development blocks. I, therefore, request the Central Government to provide telephone facility in every Village and S.T.D. facility in Jaspura, Chilla, Tindwari, Bhatons at the earliest.

- (v) **Need to ensure payment to sugarcane growers and employment to the local people in village Mathura in Orissa.**

[English]

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS (Kalahandi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am going to raise a serious problem of the sugar cane growers of my constituency, that is, Kalahandi.

The Western Sugar Private Limited in village Mathura, in the district of Kalahandi, Orissa is not observing the norms of the Sugar Cane Policy. It has not paid the payments to the farmers. Only 25 to 35 per cent of loan was given and no advances were made available to the farmers. Due to lack of sufficient money, the entire sugar can cultivation got affected badly. The transportation facilities for the sugar cane were not provided to the farmers in time. As a result, the farmers of the district are forced to bear the heavy losses. The people from outside the area were given employment by the Western Sugar Private Limited at Mathura in Kalahandi District but the local unemployed youths were totally neglected. The rehabilitation rules are also not followed properly. The affected workers and the local unemployed are agitating severely. Therefore, I would request the Government of India to intervene in the matter and ensure right payment to the farmers and employment to the local people of Kalahandi.

(vi) Need to provide better communication facilities in Jodhpur, Rajasthan

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT (Jodhpur) : District Jodhpur is a prominent industrial, trading and tourist centre on the western border of Rajasthan. It is essential to improve the telecommunications and postal services in this important city. For this purpose an already sanctioned 25,000 line telephone exchange be set up at the earliest so that the Telephone waiting list in the city is eliminated. The cables should be laid in the entire city to meet in requirements of the telephone exchanges. The telephones should be shifted on request within a week and the fault should be repaired within 24 hours.

The residents of the rural areas are not getting the full benefit of the telecommunication services. In most of the villages, radio telephones P.C.O.S. and P.C.O.S operated by cable telephones are out of order. The telephone traffic is on the increase in tehsil headquarters, tehsils and villages but the present number of lines are insufficient to cope with the traffic, and on top of it they are most of the time out of order. In order to improve the services in the rural areas, it is essential to increase the number of line, and the strength of the staff.

I would, therefore, request the Centre to take necessary steps.

(vii) Need to constitute a Regional Development Board in the Diyara area, Bihar

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR (Begusarai) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, about 20 lakh hectare land in Bihar and U.P. falls in the Diyara area, which creates social, economic and law and order problems there. The people residing in the Diyara area have to face the drought and the floods.

In the Lakhisarai district of Bihar, about 1 lakh population residing in the Diyara area remains cut off from the other parts of the country for four months due to rains and floods. There are neither roads nor bridges in the Diyara area and as such it lacks means of communications.

I, therefore, urge the Government to set up a diyara area development board to undertake development of the diyara area.

13.51 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION (THIRD) ORDINANCE

AND

ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION BILL

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we shall go to item Nos. 20 and 21. The Minister has already replied. Now Shri Guman Mal Lodha is to reply and I hope that he will be very brief today.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : What happened to yesterday's clarification?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yesterday he spoke a lot and, therefore, we had to keep late at night.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Let him clarify that position, Sir.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : I shall clarify the position, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay, The Minister will clarify the position and then I think Lodhaji will withdraw his Statutory Resolution.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANT JENA) : Sir, my only request is that 2.30 P.M. we have fixed for discussion on CTBT. That is why I would request the House that this Bill should be passed immediately because we have spent a lot of time on this. Today morning also, the Law Minister met all the leaders. Therefore, we should pass it without any delay.

SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP : Sir, yesterday we had quite a marathon arguments on the provisions of clause 13, sub-clause (5) and clause 34 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Bill. The whole controversy