

SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : That matter has come in the 377.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Cannot you give a separate notice for it? Please conclude.

SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Through you, I would like the Government to instruct those industries to abide by the conditions of the agreement.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir through you I want to mention a sorrowful incident.

Today morning, when I was coming to Lok Sabha at that moment I received a phone call from my constituency according to which many persons died in an accident due to a collision between two vehicles in Darywan situated in my constituency. According to the information received at least sixty bodies have been recovered so far. It is a very tragic incident. I want to mention it is the House and want to express our condolences towards the bereaved families.

I would urge upon the Government to provide some sort of relief in this case of the victims of this road accident by deviating from the existing rules. Since that road is very narrow it may be a possible reason for this accident. So this road should be broadened. This is very important road, there used to be a rail line in Fatuha Islampur. Now there are no rail lines only a road is there but this is a narrow road that is why this accident took place there.

I would urge upon the Government to take notice of it and every possible attempt should be made to provide relief to the affected families.

13.33 hrs.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the House stands adjourned for lunch till Thirty Minutes past Fourteen of the clock

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Thirty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

14.37 hrs.

*The House re-assembled after Lunch at Thirty Seven Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

[Translation]

(Shri Nitish Kumar in the Chair)

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to evolve an Action Plan to check soil erosion being caused by Chambal.**

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH (Bhind) : Thousands of hectares of cultivable land on both the sides of the Chambal river flowing through Madhya Pradesh,

Rajasthan and UP is being converted into ravines due to soil erosion caused by the river. As per the survey conducted by the scientists, if this soil erosion is not checked, then during the next 100 years Bhind and Muraina districts of MP would disappear from the map and the entire area would convert into ravines. Government have been making funds available to control this soil erosion. But as per an official report these funds have been largely misused or remained under-utilised. If this land on both sides of the Chambal river is to be made cultivable, it should be given on lease to the landless persons or unemployed youth while giving loans at normal rate of interests and action plan should be formulated for the purpose.

- (ii) **Need for Early Implementation of Package of Concessions declared in 1995 for the benefit of telephone subscribers in rural areas.**

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : In December 1995 the then Minister of Communications had announced a Rural Package for the telephone subscribers in the rural areas. It was expected to be implemented on 1 1 1996. Under this package, there was a provision to charge half the registration fee, concession in local rent and calls and expansion of group dialing area but this package has not been implemented as yet. On the other side telephone are being installed in the rural areas under another scheme named MARR. The telephones installed under the scheme have become a matter of dispute and these telephones are also not in use. The Government is spending lakhs of rupees on each telephone. One telephone is being provided in each village under this scheme. Besides, the items given under this scheme are being misused. Therefore, I urge upon the Minister of Communications to announce the implementation of the said package to fulfil the requirement of communication facilities in the rural areas.

[English]

- (iii) **Need to Include 'Right to Works' as a Fundamental Right**

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, unemployment is one of the burning issues before the nation and the Government. We are proud that next year our country is going to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our freedom movement. We are enjoying our political freedom, but our economic freedom is far behind as a result of which the number of unemployed youth is increasing day by day. The number of jobs in public sector, private sector and the other Governmental Services is going down day by day. Retrenchment of workers, closure of factories and voluntary retirements have become the order of the day. Job opportunities for women, minorities and Other Backward Classes are very much less and, besides, their bread and shelter

are being taken away without giving them any alternative help by those who are working in Government and other agencies. The need of the hour today is to strengthen the economic freedom. Government must accept the 'right to work' as a fundamental right and prepare a comprehensive plan of action in this regard for the unemployed youth. The message should go to the nation that the new generation is the hope and aspiration of the country's future. Let them strive to achieve the goal of New India.

[Translation]

**(iv) Need to Protect the Interests of Working Class in Private Sector**

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA (Salumber) : Since the time the private companies have been permitted to operate in various industrial sectors, there has been wide spread discontentment among the workers working in the private sector because the industrialists pay no attention towards the genuine demands and problems of the workers in order to earn maximum profit. If somewhat attention is paid somewhere, cases are kept pending and the working class is held guilty. If the labourers resort to the path the peaceful movement they are threatened of lockouts. Due to unemployment in the country, the labour class becomes weak in such circumstances. There are long lines at the gates of industries. Therefore, industrialists don't pay any attention towards the problems of labourers. Government have control over the public undertakings and it exerts its pressure on them. But there is no control over the industries in private sector in respect of labour problems or reservation issue. Therefore, the Government should monitor the private industries with view to obviate the genuine problem of the workers and to ensure the reservation for backward classes as is being done in the case of public undertakings.

In my parliamentary constituency and surrounding areas, the factories like Sawai Madhopur Cement Factory do not pay any need towards the genuine demands of the workers but instead given a threat of lock-out.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to take necessary steps to obviate the genuine problems of the working class.

**(v) Need to allot funds to State Government of Bihar for repair and maintenance of roads in Sitamarhi district.**

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : The condition of roads in Sitamarhi district of Bihar is very poor as a result of which the industrial and economic development of the district is being hampered. Sitamarhi is a flood prone district as a result of which main highway and rural roads get damaged every year. The condition of all main roads of the district has become so much dilapidated that it has become difficult to ply buses,

trucks and tractors on them. Due to paucity of funds the repair work is not done in time. Not even a single main highway and rural road is safe as a result of which people face great difficulty in travelling from one place to another. Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to allocate funds for the widening and metalling of roads in Sitamarhi district.

[English]

**(vi) Need to Augment Television facilities in and around Agartala**

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN (Tripura East) : Sir, Television has now become a part and parcel of public life. We cannot ignore its importance in our day to day life. There is a Doordarshan Centre at Agartala, the State capital of Tripura but it cannot run independently except for one hour. It is relaying the programmes of Delhi Doordarshan all the time. One-third of the population of the State of Tripura is tribal and they have their own language and culture. Almost all the people of the State are Bengali-speaking. As the time is very much limited, there is no scope of making programmes on different aspects of the socio-culture of the State, particularly on that of tribal people. Hence the time for telecasting of programme of the State should be enhanced from one hour and the Government should also see that the people of Tripura may enjoy Calcutta Doordarshan's programme. The range of transmission should also be increased. Two more relay centres at Belonia and Dharmanagar should come up early.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to increase the State's timing, start relaying Calcutta Doordarshan's programme and set up two more relay centres at Belonia and Dharmanagar and increase the range of Agartala Doordarshan.

[Translation]

**(vii) Need to provide compensation to the victims of train accident of Birahuli railway crossing in Satna district, M.P.**

SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA (Satna) : In Satna district of Madhya Pradesh, a tractor collided with a goods train at Birahuli railway crossing on the night of 29.11.96 as a result of which four persons died on the spot and four are battling for life in the hospital. This accident occurred because the railway crossing gate was open. The Government should take appropriate steps to check the recurrence of such accidents. In this regard my suggestion is, that the Ministry of Railway should give a compensation of 5 lakh each to the family of those who have been killed and 2 lakhs to the persons rendered handicapped due to this accident and one member of each family should be given employment because those who have been killed were Government employees.