

restructure it or give special subsidy, the only ship making company in Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, will be closed and 20,000 workers will be become unemployed. In the world it will create a bad image of the country. I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Surface Transport to take immediate action for its restructuring and also give subsidy so as to give it a new life. The Government should see to it that these 20,000 workers are not deprived of employment.

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH R. JADHAV (Parbhani) : Mr. Speaker Sir, the various political parties of the United Front had pledged in their respective manifestoes to mitigate the cruelty and excesses perpetrated on children. They had also stated to legislate in this matter so that the injustice and cruelty could be checked. Besides, it had also been announced to make available free and compulsory education to children upto the age of 14 years.

Recently the Govt. have announced that 6% of G.D.P. would be spent on education and the 50% of this increased allocation would be spent on primary education.

In our country more than 6 crore children are either child labour or bonded labour. These unfortunate and helpless children are leading a life of slavery in carpet, glass and other industries.

Will the Minister of Human Resource Development be pleased to State the policy adopted by the Government to free these 5.5 crore helpless and mute child labours and to check the excesses and cruelty being perpetrated on them and the provisions made for them in the current financial year and also in the forthcoming five year plan? How much money out of the fifty percent increased allocation meant to be spent on primary education, has been earmarked in the current budget to liberate, rehabilitate and educate the child labourers and also the children who are working as bonded labourers. What is the policy of the Government regarding the enacting stringent laws to eradicate that child labour and bonded labour system prevalent in the country.

[English]

SRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Sir, I am on a point of information. You have kindly said that the Statement is being delayed as it is being typed and it will take some time. I would like to know whether the Prime Minister will also be present in the House at that time or not. It is desirable that the Prime Minister is there in the House because that Statement is very important and if the Prime Minister is here, he can reply to some of the important issues which may come out of that statement. So, it will be better if the Prime Minister is present in the House. The Prime Minister should be requested to be present in the House at that time.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : The Prime Minister will be in the other House. The Home Minister will be making the Statement here and at that time the Prime Minister will be in Rajya Sabha.

SHRI RAM NAIK : It is an important issue. He can be asked to be present here.

MR. SPEAKER : If by that time he finishes there, he can come here.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : There is no problem in that. If he finishes there, he can come here.

[Translation]

SHRI RUP CHAND MURMU (Jhadugram) : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the santhali language. The santhali language is one of the rich languages of India. More than 60 lakhs people of India speak and interact in Santhali language. Not only the people of Santhal community but also those of other communities speak this language. This language holds second place in West Bengal and third in Orissa. In Bihar it comes after Hindi Maithili and Bhojpuri. It holds eighteenth position in India. Sir, Santhali language is not only a national language but also a international language. Santhali language is spoken and understood even in Nepal, Bhootan and Bangladesh. This language has its own script which is a scientifically developed script and is called ALCHIKI. The people of Santhal community have unanimously adopted this language.

Sir, Government of West Bengal have accepted this ALCHIKI script in 1979. In Bihar it is being taught for certificate course up to the level of post graduation in Ranchi and Bhagalpur Universities. Every year more than 75 books on various subjects and more than 150 journals/magazines are published in this language. More than 300 writers, poets and dramatists are engaged in this work. But it is a matter of great concern that it has not been accorded any place in Sahitya Academy. It has also not been recognise by the Constitution. I urge the Government that to include Santhali language in 8th Schedule of Constitution of India immediately.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Today's notices will be valid for tomorrow also. Those members who could not speak today will get their chance tomorrow. They do not have to give a separate notice. I have got a list and as per that list whoever could not speak today will get this chance tomorrow.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Speaker Sir, Please give a chance to those who will be absent tomorrow. Mr. Speaker Sir, it is very important.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Once the Speaker gives a ruling, you should not rise like that. It is not correct.

14.15 hrs.

[English]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

MR. SPEAKER : We shall now take up matters under Rule 377.

[Translation]

(i) Need to take effective Steps to check increasing espionage activities in Border Areas of Bihar.

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (Motihari) : The foreign espionage activities have been continuing for the last few years from border areas of Bihar adjoining Bangladesh and Nepal stretching from Champaran district to Kishanganj. This area has become the haven of spies operating there. During the last few years four Chinese spies has been apprehended at a place called Kakarmeth. In these very areas a French spy Muszu Raja and a Sri Lankan resident Sudhiya Delirga were held on charges of spying. Some Pakistani and Bangladeshi spies have been apprehended in Sondha Phulwari on Indo-Bangladesh border and Raxaul Meenamore Vergania Bahera, Baher etc. on Indo-Nepal border. Large amount of foreign exchange has been recovered from many spies and smugglers in these areas.

Sir, I request the Government to take stringent measures to check activities of foreign spies in the border areas of Bihar adjoining Nepal and Bangladesh. So that it may not become haven for them.

(ii) Need to drop the proposed merger of Guntakal Division with Bangalore as Headquarters in South West Zone

[English]

SHRI VENKATARAMI REDDY ANANTHA (Anantapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Guntakal Division was in the Southern Railways till 1977. After 1977, the Guntakal Division has been attached to the South Central Railways. This Division has been greatly instrumental for the progress of Rayalaseema region. Guntakal Division must be continued in South Central Railways in the interests of linguistic advantage, administration, topography and the larger interests of the people of Rayalaseema. The large interests of

Telugu people require the continuance of Guntakal Division in the South Central Railways. Apart from it, Dharmavaram-Hindupur section which is now under Bangalore Zone should be made part and parcel of Guntakal Division.

I urge upon the Government to drop the proposal of merger of Guntakal Division with Bangalore as Headquarters in the South West Zone to protect the interests of the people of this region.

[Translation]

(iii) Need to release adequate funds to Government of Uttar Pradesh for construction of Roads in dacoit infested areas of Banda district.

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (Banda) : The Government of India had implemented a scheme of "the construction of roads in Special problem areas" for the construction of roads in the dacoit infested areas of Uttar Pradesh. This scheme had facilitated the construction of roads in some districts and helped in solving the dacoit problem. But the adequate amount was not allocated for the construction of roads in Banda district therefore roads were not constructed, as a result of which the dacoit problem continues to be grim in Banda district and the life of the common man is still facing the problems. During 1995-96 no fund was allocated by the centre and U.P. Government for the purpose and the construction work has come to a standstill.

The construction of roads is very essential in order to solve the dacoit problem of Banda district so that the police force may reach the remote villages, forest and hilly areas immediately and take action effectively. Therefore, this scheme should be implemented at the earliest.

The Central Government is requested to ask for revised proposals of roads from U.P. Government and after giving sanction it is also requested to release adequate fund. The State Government should be asked to sanction/allot its fifty percent share so that the construction work of roads may be geared up.

(iv) Need to amend Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 with a view to increase the loading capacity of heavy vehicles.

[Translation]

PROF PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Speaker Sir, whereas the percentage of the transportation of goods by roads in transportation sector has increased four folds during the last five decades the percentage of the transportation of goods by railways has decreased rapidly. But the development and expansion of roads have not taken place as per the needs of the country. That is why the juggernaut of