

14.45 hrs.

(At this stage Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and some Hon'ble Members left the House.)

14.45 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (I) Need to take Steps for All-Round Development of Saranath Pilgrimage and Tourist Centre in U.P.**

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA (Chandouli): Sir, Sarnath is an important Pilgrimage Centre in my Parliamentary Constituency. Apart from this it is also glorious historical place of the nation. Lakhs of people from within the country and abroad visit this pilgrimage and historical place every year due to which country earns crores of rupees. There may be some projects for the all round development of Sarnath but for the last ten years no development work has taken place. Though it is very big tourist centre but it is being neglected by Government. One example of this negligence is that there is no stoppages of any long distance train at Samath Station. Therefore, I demand from Government that important pilgrimage and historical tourist centre like Samath should be developed and all pending projects related with this centre should be sanctioned and stoppage should be provided for all long-distance trains at Saranath Station by developing the same.

[English]

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH: Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: what is your point of order? Under what rule?

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH: It is under Rule 376.

Sir, my point of order is very simple. The Zero Hour normally terminates when the House adjourns. Today, the issue raised during the Zero Hour continued even after the re-assembling of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order; you may please sit down.

SHRI KONIJETI ROSAIAH: Sir, we have given notices to raise some other issues. What happened to them?

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: What you have said has been recorded, now you pleased sit down.

- (II) Need to Look into Irregularities in Telecom Bills in Western U.P.**

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this house towards the irregularities to the tune of Rs. 1 crores which are being committed every month in the telecom department in Western Uttar Pradesh. There is possibility that the existing C.G.M. and all telephone General Managers and all members and the Chairman of Telecom Commission who were earlier involved in Telecom Scam, are involved in this irregularity. In my parliamentary constituency Meerut, irregularities in telecom department are so rampant that it is not easy to get single telephone connection. People are in trouble. At the time of 1998 Lok Sabha elections, the General Manager of Telephone Department made a unsuccessful attempt to influence me. While considering the irregularities committed by said General Manager, the Minister of Communications, who is an honest man, has filed transfer order but before it was issued, the General Manager was informed over telephone about his transfer. Therefore, I would like to make these three submissions to Government.

1. The Government should give effect to the transfer order of the General Manager, Telecom of Meerut range immediately which was issued by the Hon'ble Minister of State of Communications.

2. The Government should hold a high level enquiry into the irregularities in the STD, ISD and other telephone bills in which there is apprehension that all high officials are involved.

3. Enquiry should also be conducted by the Chairman telecom Commission into the leakage of confidential orders of transfer that was issued by the Minister of State of Communications.

[*English*]

14.50 hrs.

(*At this state, some slogans from Distinguished visitor's gallery were heard.*)

(*At this stage, some leaflets were thrown into the House from the Distinguished Visitors' Gallery.*)

(iii) Need to Write off Loans Taken from Financial Institutions by Farmers Living Alongside of Narmada River in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khargone): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thousands of farmers of the districts falling alongside rivers Narmada in Madhya Pradesh took loans from the nationalised banks so that they could lay pipe lines for arranging irrigation facilities in this fields and tide over the situation caused by regular draughts and inadequate rain. They took loans from Rs. 1 lakh to 10 lakhs for this purpose. The agricultural officers and specialists of the banks did not give them proper advice, as a result of which a pipeline was laid which was of no use. Prices of Chemical fertilizers, seeds, medicine and wages have doubled. Farmers have to suffer loss every year due to unfavourable weather conditions and infectious diseases. Besides this Bank rate has also been increased from 10 to 15%. Due to all these reasons loan amount has doubled. Farmers are not getting the benefit of loan-waving scheme of Madhya Pradesh Government and Central Government.

Today thousands of farmers are on the verge of ruin. Their economic condition has deteriorated. They are not in a position to repay their loans. Farmers have spent as much money as is required to run a small scale industry and they also employ a labourer.

The agriculture of these farmers should be treated as sick on the lines of a sick industry and their loan be written off, the Government will not suffer loss even after waiving of their loans because the irrigated area which they have increased, not half of that area can be irrigated by Government dams, ponds and irrigation projects. The country has been benefitted in this respect. These banks are recovering their loan strictly. The farmers cannot repay their loan even if their entire land is sold. This is the high time to provide relief to the farmers.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Suresh Chandel.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR (Dumdum): Sir, stern action should taken against that lady. That lady is the wife of the Member of Parliament who was removed from the House yesterday...(*Interruptions*) ...Yes, you should take stern action against her.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The report will come very soon. Shri Suresh Chandel.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JUAL ORAM (Sundargarh): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under what rule do you want to raise your point of order?

SHRI JUAL ORAM: It is under Rule 376. I can quote it, if you permit me. I have got a copy of the rule book with me...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

I simply want to say that the request for visitors pass for the public gallery or V.I.P. Gallery are duly recommended by the members. In that pass there is an undertaking that whosoever go there...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. This is not a point of order. This is not related to Matters under rule 377. Shri Suresh Chandel.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD: He is an ex M.P.

SHRI JUAL ORAM: Only you can speak. Those who are ex M.Ps...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: This cannot be made the subject of Debate. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL (Hingoli): This cannot be the issue of debate. You are insulting the women...(*Interruptions*) this will amount to insulting the women...(*Interruptions*)