MR. SPEAKER: Now matters under rule 377. Shri Sriballav Panigrahi.

13.49 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(I) Need to take steps for early completion of Power Projects in Orissa

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Sir, Orissa which is a deficit State in power urgently needs some more power plants to be set up to tide over its power crisis and enable this backward State to march along the path of progress and prosperity. In this regard, in the minimum, the first phase of both Ib Thermal power plant and the Talcher super thermal power plant under construction should be completed and the construction of their second phase be started as early as possible. Besides, the proposal of the NTPC to construct a Super thermal power plant at Hirma near Jharsuguda and the third phase of the Hirakud Power generation system over the river Mahanadi should be implemented on priority basis.

> (ii) Need to set up a T.V. relay station at Manaluspetal in South Arcot district of Tamil Nadu

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHEE TINDIVANAM (Tindivanam): Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the repeated demands of the people of Tirukkovilur-Tiruvannamalai region in my Constituency, for a TV relay station at Mannalurpetai in Tamil Nadu. About three lakhs of people of over 250 villages in Manelurpetaibelt area are deprived of viewing the National programmes of Doc darshan owing to the absence of a TV relay station.

Green revelution is being carried out in full swing in South Arcot district. It is necessary that the people of this region should have access to the various programmes of Doordarshan in order to be educated about the latest trends in agriculture as also the government policies.

Various places of the region attract a large number of tourists throughout the year. A TV relay station can provide some useful entertainment and information to them.

Mannalurpetai in Tirukkovilur Taluk is an ideal site for the TV relay station on high grounds in the hilly track. Television relay station when installed at Mannalurpetai will also cater to the needs of adjoining two parliamentary constituencies namely, Rasipuram and Wandavasi.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government too set up a TV relay station at Mannalurpetai at the earliest.

(iii) Need to provide funds to Madhya Pradesh for setting up a milk plant at Badol village, M.P.

[Translation]

KUMARI VIMLA VERMA (Seoni): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the percapita income of Madhya Pradesh is lower than the national average. It is a tribal-dominated area. Therefore, due to the paucity of funds even cattle rearing is not properly done here. There is a chilling plant of a milk cooperative in village Badol of district Seoni, Madhya Pradesh. There is no dearth of milch cattle in the nearby areas. Therefore, with proper rearing of cattle the yield of milk can be increased and a milk powder industry on the pattern of Anand Dairy, can be set up thereby benefiting the farmers and children who would get nutrious food in the form of milk. I therefore, urge the Government to provide funds for converting the chilling milk plant at Badol village into a project like Anand Dairy so that the farmers of this predominantly tribal area are benefited.

> (iv) Need to withdraw ban on recruitment in army and other para-military forces in Punjab

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot): Mr. Speaker, Sir, unemployment among the youth is on the increase in Punjab giving rise to new problems every day. The State Government had requested the Central Government and I would urge upon the Centre that in order to reduce unemployment in Punjab, besides implementing schemes meant for providing employment opportunities, ban on recruitment in army and para-military forces should be withdrawn. Before these instructions were issued, the percentage of Punjabi youth in these

[Sh. Jagmeet Singhbrar]

Departments was nearly 30 per cent which has been reduced to only one percent today. Therefore, I request the Government to withdraw the ban on recruitment and provide more opportunities to the youth of Punjab to serve the country.

(v) Need to confer citizenship rights on Bengali refugees settled in Pilibhit, U.P.

DR. P. R. GANGWAR (Pilibhit): Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the time of partition of India some Bengali refugees came to India and settled in my constituency, Pilibhit in 1950. Some of them have been conferred citizenship rights but some have yet to get it. About 60-70 thousand people who have not been conferred citizenship rights are therefore facing a Lot of harship. Therefore, I request the Government to issue orders to complete the formalities regarding conferring citizenship rights by sending the concerned officials/staff to the colonies of those Bengali refugees and on the spot action may be taken. Some of their colonies have been hit by erosion due to swift current of the river Sharda. Lands also should be allotted to them so that they could take out their livelihood.

(vi) Need for laying Dohari Ghat-Sahjanwan and Khalilabad-Balrampur broad gauge railway lines in U.P.

SHRI ASTBHWA PRASAD SHUKLA (Khalilabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a survey was conducted in 1977 to lay 67.52 kilometers Dohari Ghat-Sahjanwan broad gauge railway line at an estimated cost of Rs. 13.26 crore. Similarly, another survey was conducted in 1979 to lay 145.23 kilometers Khalilabad-Balrampur broad gauge railway line at an estimated cost of Rs. 16.17 crore. But unfortunately, it is more than 15 years since the aforesaid survey was conducted but none of the above two railway lines has been laid so far. Khalilabad is an international handloomcentre. Besides, sugar mills, paper mills, spinning mills as well as other industrial units are located on the proposed railway tracks.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to provide adequate funds for the construction of these two railway lines.

(vii) Need for setting up a modern Training and Research Centre on mining and geology at Keonjhargarh, Orissa

SHRI GOVIND CHANDRA MUNDA (Keonihar): Sir. Orissa is the largest mineralreserves State in India. Mainly Iron-ore, manganese, bauxite, coal, dolomite and limestone mines are located in that State. Besides, lead and mica mines are also available in Orissa. Now very precious stones are available in Bolangir, Kalahandi and Phulbani districts of Orissa. Once upon a time diamonds were available on the beeds of river Mahanadi in Hirakud area of Orissa. That is why that area was known as Hirakhand. A large number of people were earning their livelihood by collecting gold from the river-beds of Subarnarekha. Gold reserves located in Telkoi area of Keonihar district are well-known. But it is surprising that due to lack of staff and shortage of welleducated and trained engineers, the mineral resources of Orissa are not properly exploited. There is only one mining college established at Dhanbad in Bihar. No such college is established in any part of Orissa.

For the development of the mines and mineral resources of the State, it is essential to provide study and training facilities for the talented students of Orissa. Therefore, it is necessary to upgrade the existing mining school at Keonjhar-garh to a Degree College of Mining in the Central sector since the State Government cannot bear the cost. I also deemed that modern training and research centre with latest laboratory facilities on mining and geology be set up at Keonjhargarh.

(viii) Need to introduce Rajdhani Express between Delhi -Trivandrum and Mangalore

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI (Kasargod): It takes almost three days to reach Delhi by train from Kerala. There is a general feeling among the people of Kerala that the State is being neglected with regard to railway development. Even though the work on the Konkan Railway is in progress, no work as part of Konkan Railway has been started in Kerala State. It worries the people.

It is absolutely necessary to introduce