

Kangra and Chamba districts of Himachal Pradesh. In remote hilly areas, where there is no electricity, people live in the dark. I, therefore, request the Government to make arrangements to provide kerosene to the districts of Chamba and Kangra in Himachal Pradesh.

[English]

SHRI K. P. REDDAIAH (Machhliapatnam): Sir, as on today, the Government of India is passing through a very critical financial crisis. Singareni Colliery Limited has mooted a tender for open mines at the cost of Rs. 600 crores. Two tenders have been received from West Germany and the cost of West Germany tenders proved to be higher by Rs. 200 crores. Singareni Colliery Limited constituted a Committee comprising technicians and financial advisors. It went to Neyveli Lignite Project wherein similar types of open cast mines have been executed by the top Indian firms. They recommended that we should not accept this Company's tender wherein Rs. 200 crores by way of foreign currency has to be paid in excess.

Therefore, Sir, if the Government is serious enough, if the Coal Ministry is serious in this matter, they should immediately send a signal that these tenders should not be accepted and only the local expertise should be utilised in the coal mines.

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Chimur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a serious matter through you. Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra is a backward district and predominantly a tribal area. About 100 tribals have died in the district because of an outbreak of a serious epidemic during the last one month. The Government came to know about these deaths through a newspaper report. You may be aware that it is the responsibility of the Government to provide medical facilities but there is no such facility in this area. Reason being that the district is in the grip

of naxalites. Crores of rupees are being spent on the Action Plan which is meant to deal with the naxalites. If there is increase in these incidents the Government ignores it as a mere law and order problem. But now when about 100 tribals have died of an epidemic nothing has been done. My question relates to both the Health Ministry and the Home Ministry. I would urge the Government through you, to check such incidents there. Many people have died there recently and they have not been identified. I therefore, request the Government to pay attention in this direction.

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay-North): There has been a very serious Railway accident in my constituency-Bombay-North between Borivli and Dahisar. It took place this morning in the crowded peak hours.

The point is that I have been informed that the overhead wires which are live and which supply electricity to local train motors, were cut off. I have been also informed that some persons have died. I do not know what is the number. I only demand that the Railway Minister while replying to the Railway Budget, today, should make a statement and give the facts.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JAFFER SHARIEF): Only one person has died. About 20 people are injured. The General Manager is there on the spot. Everything is being taken care of. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now my hon. friend, Shri Manoranjan Bhakta made a submission about the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. A news item has appeared in Indian Express as well as in a local daily that apart from the Andamans the LTTE detenus are being shifted to Lakshdweep also. I feel that this attitude on the part of the Govern-

ment of India is not good. You will be astonished to know that one of the Eelam leaders was kept in Lakshadweep for several months. Our fishermen could not venture into the sea even for fishing due to this reason. This situation prevailed for four months. Nobody knows about it. It was kept secret. When such a situation is prevailing in these islands, officers with bad service record are being posted either to Andaman and Nicobar Islands or to Lakshadweep. This attitude is not good. The statement of the Minister of Home Affairs that appeared in the newspapers has created much confusion among the people. The Minister of Home Affairs is here. He should refute the statement that these people are being taken to the Andaman-Nicobar Islands. He must make a statement in this regard.....(Interruptions)...

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: He should make a statement.

.....(Interruptions).....

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Both the representatives from the Islands are here. They should be taken seriously (Interruptions)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Sir, both the hon. Ministers are sitting (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not allowing that point regarding transfer of officers. I am not going to allow the transfer of officers in a bank to be raised on the floor of the House. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You are a senior Member. You should listen to what I am saying. It should not be so.

12.54½ hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR

Re. Discussion on Shanmugam's Case

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There were so many Members who wanted to discuss Shanmugam's case yesterday. I have received some notices. I was thinking as to when it can be fixed for discussion.

We are going to discuss the Railway Budget today and tomorrow happens to be the day for Private Members Business. We are working on Saturday. We will take it up at 4 o'clock on Saturday.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): When?

MR. SPEAKER: Saturday.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: I have been asked by the Lok Sabha Secretariat to give a lecture to new Members of U.P. Assembly. So, I will not be here. But I have given a notice.

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot adjust like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you not want the Railway Budget to be discussed today? Do you also not want that the Private Members' Business should be discussed tomorrow?

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Can we not discuss the Railway Budget tomorrow?

MR. SPEAKER: I have decided. I would request the hon. Members that, if they have any point to be discussed with regard to admission matters and other things, they can come to my Chamber and we will discuss about them. But if you go on discussing such matters on the Floor of this House, then it will become an unending affair.