

[Sh. Manubhai Kotadia]

[English]

formation which I would give them later on. I thank all the hon. Members.

- (ii) **Need to impress upon Rural Electrification corporation or power Finance Corporation to provide cent per cent loan for System improvement works at lower rate of interest**

13.20 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) **Need to take steps to protect people from tigers in areas adjacent to Corbet Park**

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, due to increase in the number of tigers in the Corbet National Park in Uttar Pradesh and due to non-availability of adequate food for them the tigers come in the areas adjacent to this park and it creates a terror in the neighbouring villages.

In my constituency about 200 people have been either killed or injured by tigers during the last three years. There is terror in the villages on that account. At present also, three man-eaters are active in this area. Sillour and Sult villages are gripped in terror.

Therefore, I would like to request the Government to take measures to control these tigers. For that purpose more and more wild life Guards should be appointed and steps should be taken to provide barbed wire fencing on all sides of these sanctuaries steps should also be taken up to give compensation to the families of the persons killed or injured by these tigers on the same pattern as it is being paid to the persons killed or injured in rail or air accidents.

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Berhampur): At present, System Improvement Works, including Extra High Tension line-works are being funded by either Power Finance Corporation or Rural Electrification Corporation. These Institutions sanction loans upto only 50 per cent of the estimated cost of schemes. State Electricity Boards do not generate surplus funds to contribute the balance 50 per cent of the schemes' requirements. Hence, the progress and completion of System Improvement and Extra High Tension works get delayed.

It is, therefore, necessary that Power Finance Corporation and rural Electrification Corporation should sanction loans upto 100 per cent of the schemes' cost. Adequate provision should be made for the price escalation factor as well, for the necessary equipment.

The rate of interest charged for loans from the said financial institutions is 11.5 per cent to 12.5 per cent. Sometimes, even 3 per cent consultation charges are added. The rate of interest should be kept lower than that for other loans. Further, consultation fees must be completely waived, as State Electricity Boards do not require consultancy services.

I urge upon the Government of India to take a favourable decision in the matter, to enable successful bridging of acute power shortage, so vitally necessary for improving our rural economy.