

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: The way a very disappointing reply has been given by the Government...

MR. SPEAKER: The House should pass a Resolution which may be able to generate some hope.

SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY: With the same hope, I have cut short my statement.

[English]

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: I cannot but say that we are not satisfied with the reply. Many of the points have not been touched by the Minister.

22.00 hrs.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): We want to end this discussion with a harmonious note. All of us are equally concerned to what is happening in the country and therefore, I understand...*(Interruptions)*. I am trying to bring to a cordial note, not a discordial note. There is almost a consensus on a Resolution, which is a positive Resolution and which has an operative part also. Hon. Shri Jaswant Singh has shown me that Resolution, which hon. Speaker has also agreed. This idea has been noted and I understand that there is agreement from all sides of the House. From our side, there is full agreement and it will be a good thing that if we unanimously pass that Resolution.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): Let us pass it before we disperse.

RESOLUTION

Commitment to the ideal of A Democratic Secular State

MR. SPEAKER: "This House reiterates its commitment to the ideal of a democratic secular state; to harmony in our society and to amity

between all sections of our people. Rising above all other considerations, it is our commitment to harmony and to accord in the Nation, that persuades us to unanimously appeal to the people of our country not to dilute this tenet enshrined in our Constitution. Any and all issues that have a potential for divisive and communal discord amongst our citizens can be resolved through discussion and discourse and not by forcible means or by offending the sentiments of any community."

I hope the House agrees.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, yes.

The resolution was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The statements under Rule 377 of all the Hon. Members who have been permitted to make the statements will be treated as read.

22.02 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) Need to give clearance to the irrigation projects of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra.

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE (Chandrapur): Irrigation projects of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra, specially that of Chandrapur and Gadchiroli districts are awaiting environmental clearance from the Union Government.

This is due to non-settlement of Zudpi Jungle issue which is in fact a revenue land, used for grazing purposes in Vidarbha. I urge upon the Government of India, Ministry of Environment to clear these projects on the issue of Zudpi Jungle being treated as revenue land to be used for the afforestation programme of Ministry of Environment at the earliest.