

13.31 hrs.

**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

*[English]*

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** The House shall now take up matters under rule 377. Shri Udaysingrao Gaikwad.

- (I) **Need to issue directions to apex cooperative Organisations of Maharashtra and other financial institutions to come to the aid of farmers of Western Maharashtra who produce jagree**

**SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD** (Kolhapur): The western Maharashtra comprising Kolhapur, Sangli, Satara districts is famous for jagree production both in India and abroad. Jagree is exported to Gulf countries in abundance to fetch millions of dollars to ease foreign exchange crisis. With the Gulf war, importing countries are not lifting goods; whereas jagree season is in full swing since long.

The markets of Kolhapur, Satara and Sangli are overflooded with jagree. Resultantly, cultivators are unable to pay dues of cooperatives and other agencies. Meetings with marketing committees, federations and State Governments have taken place.

Though the Maharashtra Government is trying to solve crisis with limited financial resources, the problem remains unresolved, as marketing federations have not come out either to purchase jagree or advance loans to farmers. The Union Agriculture Ministry must issue directions to the apex Cooperative Organisations of Maharashtra and other Financial Institutions to finance farmers by granting loans upto 70 per cent of goods

through approved warehouses, to ease the situation.

I am afraid that if action is not taken forthwith, the farmers may start agitation, creating law and order problem in the State, thereby affecting future agricultural operations adversely.

- (II) **Need to expand Kodungallur Telephone Exchange in Kerala**

**PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN** (Mukundapuram): Kodungallur has a place of eminence in the history of Kerala. It is at Kodungallur that St. Thomas first landed in India. The first mosque in India was built by Cheraman Perumal at Kodungallur. Two of the famous Hindu temples of South India, 'Kurumba Bhagavathi' and 'Thiruvamehikkulam' are at Kodungallur. This place attracts thousands of tourists and pilgrims every year. Kodungallur has got a large number of non-resident Indians and hence the area is progressing. With the highest density of population, with high literacy Kodungallur has one of the largest commercial and trade centres in Kerala called 'Kottappuram'. But yet, Kodungallur Telephone Exchange is not expanded for the past several years. Even though some land was purchased by the department a few years back, there is no progress in constructing a building. So, I humbly request the hon. Minister for Telecommunications to issue necessary orders for the expansion of Kodungallur Telephone exchange.

- (III) **Need to connect Kakinada by air**

**SHRIM. M. PALLAM RAJU** (Kakinada): East Godavari district, the largest district in Andhra Pradesh with a population of nearly 50 lakhs is yet to find a prominent place in the civil aviation map of the country. A district that is predominantly agriculture based, industrialisation is taking off in the district in

[Sh. M.M. Pallam Raju]

a big way, with the utilization of the gas reserves in the region.

The fastest pace is noticed at Kakinada, the district headquarters, where two large fertilizer plants have come up and where an NTPC power plant and a Naval Amphibious Warfare Training School are coming up. Various other private sector enterprises also have proposals of setting up plants due to the proximity of the gas reserves. The port too is being developed into a deep water port with an ADB loan of Rs. 134 crores.

With all this activity taking place and with Kakinada poised to become a major industrial centre, it deserves to be on the Indian aviation map. There is urgent need to link Kakinada by air, as soon as possible. It is hoped that the civil aviation Ministry would take note and include this in the budget session and the Eighth Five Year Plan.

- (iv) **Need to divert National Highway No. 24 outside the densely populated town of Faridpur (District Bareilly) in U.P. to prevent accidents**

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Faridpur (District Bareilly) is a densely populated town frequented by students, traders and general public. The National Highway No. 24 passes through the densely populated area of this town. Due to acute traffic congestion, accidents have become a thing of daily occurrence with leads to blockade of traffic resulting in a lot of inconvenience to the people of all walks of life.

I would request the hon. Minister of Surface Transport to build a bypass outside

the densely populated town so as to ease traffic congestion on the National Highway No. 24 and to prevent road accidents.

[*English*]

- (v) **Need to provide latest equipment to the Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute, Ahmedabad**

SHRI KHEMCHANDBHAI SOMABHAI CHAVDA (Patan): The Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute, Ahmedabad provides comprehensive cancer treatment services regarding prevention, early diagnosis and multimodal treatment by procedures like surgical radiotherapy, Chemotherapy, hormone and immune therapy etc.

The Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute was recognised in 1980 by the Government of India as a regional Cancer Research Centre. During the years 1988-89 there were 39636 cases registered in the GCRI of whom 14174 cases were found to be suffering from cancer as confirmed by clinical radiological and pathological examinations and were given appropriate cancer treatment at the GCRI. It was observed that about 50 per cent of cancer cases admitted at the cancer hospitals were from the lower income groups with monthly income of Rs. 500 or less.

The Indian Council of Medical Research has selected the GCRI hospital's Pain Relief Centre for undertaking the research in this regard. Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute requires more items like Gamma Camera, Ultra-sound equipment, portable mammography equipment, CT Scan so that the institute could work more efficiently.

I urge upon the Government to provide the required equipment immediately.