

The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at twenty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we shall take up Matters under Rule 377.

Shri Era Anbarasu—absent. Shri G. S. Basavaraj

(i) Need to supply adequate quantity of Coal to Cement factories in Karnataka to save them from Closure

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJ (Tumkur): Sir, the cement factories in Karanataka State face shortage of coal from January, 1990. Cement plants cannot run satisfactorily with meagre linkage. The position from May, 1990 onwards has worsened so much that all Cement factories in Karnataka are on the verge of closure. Western Coalfields Limited, Nagpur are having instructions that coal should be supplied to power plants only. In case there is a further delay in supply of coal to cement plants in Karnataka, all of the cement plants will be closed and the shortage of cement will occur and the prices of cement will go up. I, therefore, appeal to the Hon'ble Minister to direct the authorities concerned to supply adequate quantity of coal to the cement factories in Karnataka to save them from the closure.

[*Translation*]

(ii) Need to take steps to save Northern Bihar from the fury of recurring floods.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the serious problems faced by 4 crore people of 17 districts of Northern Bihar caused by furious floods of Kosi, Kamala, Bhutahi, Adhwara, Gandak, Bagmati and other rivers. Every year life of four and a half crore people of Bihar living near Indo-Nepal border

is entirely disrupted. Every year, numerous people are drowned, rendered homeless and crops worth crores of rupees destroyed. Besides, people face acute problems of drinking water, shelter, eatables and road communication. The development works also get halted. Every year, crores of rupees are spent in the name of flood control measures, strengthening of embankment and flood relief works. But no step has been taken by the Government to ensure the permanent solution of this menance. This year also great havoc has been caused by flood.

I would, therefore, request the Government to constitute a high powered water commission to negotiate with the Government of Nepal in order to sign an agreement with them to construct a multipurpose dam in the catchment areas of Nepal so that there is a permanent solution to the problem of four and a half crore people of Bihar.

(iii) Need to take steps to check the growing menace of rats and monkeys

[*English*]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jajpur): Sir, rats and monkeys in groups are moving freely, eating considerable quantity of foodgrains and vegetables and causing damage to foodgrains, vegetables and other standing crops. Rural people are fed up due to this menace of the rats and monkeys.

It is suggested that the monkeys be captured and left in the jungles and the menace of rats also tackled suitably. This is necessary to provide some relief to the rural people who are fed up. It is also necessary to avoid national loss to our foodgrains, vegetables and standing crops.

(iv) Need to increase the speed of trains running between Delhi and Udaipur and reschedule their timings.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA (Udaipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Udaipur which holds a prominent position on the tourist Map of India and the World, is tribal dominated

[Sh. Gulab Chand Kataria]

area. Though, it has got a lot of mineral wealth, it lacks railway facility. Situated at a distance of 736 kms. from Delhi, Udaipur is a single place in Rajasthan which is connected with Delhi by a train viz. 'Chetak Express' which takes twenty hours to cover this distance. As a result traders and tourists and others have to waste two days. The train reaches Udaipur at 9.15 P.M. after leaving Jaipur at 6 P.M. As a result thereof the benefit of three trains becomes equal to that of 2 trains. Therefore, if the running time is reduced then, time, staff as well as a train would also be saved. This would save railway's expenditure as well. I have raised this question in the House on various occasions in various forms, but no action has been taken in this regard by the Ministry of Railway so far. Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Railways towards this matter.

(v) Need for special grants for carrying out proper repairs and preservation of ancient monuments in Orissa.

[English]

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatisinghpur): It is a matter of great concern that about 2328 monuments in the State of Orissa are in a very dilapidated condition. Most of these are likely to collapse if necessary repair measures are not taken immediately. A stone slab recently fell from Lord Jagannath temple, Puri which has not been refixed so far. Stone slabs are also falling from Sun temple, Konark. Adequate repair and protection measures are not being taken on the Lord Lingaraj temple at Bhubaneswar. Though a separate archaeological circle has been created exclusively for Orissa, it has failed to rise to the occasion. Due to negligence of the archaeological circle as many as 711 ancient temples and monuments in Puri district, 261 in Cuttack 187 in Sambalpur, 26 in Kalahandi, 90 in Balangol, 195 in Koraput, 585 in Ganjam, 48 in Sundargarh, 138 in Balasore, 41 in Phulbani and 45 in Mayurbhanj district are in a bad shape and may collapse any moment.

The Government of India is laying emphasis on the proper preservation of ancient monuments. Orissa is rightly called the State of temples. But it is regrettable that the ancient temples and monuments in the State will only be there as ancient remains if conservation measures are taken at the present pace and half-hearted manner. As these monuments are the symbol of ancient Kalinga or Utkal which has witnessed many glorious events of ancient Orissa, I request that the Government of India should make a special provision of grants for the proper repair and preservation of these monuments.

(vi) Need to link Kargil by air

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. HASSAN COMMANDER (Ladakh): It has been a long standing demand of my Constituency Kargil that it should be linked to other places by air service. But it is the misfortune of the people of this region that their demand has not been fulfilled even after 40 years of independence. The air service has not been started there despite their demand for it. Whenever any high dignitary from centre goes there he promises for bringing Kargil on air map, but nothing has been done so far. The result is that for full eight months this area remains cut off from the rest of the country, following heavy snowfall, and the State and Central Government remain unaware of the affairs of this area. Therefore, I fervently appeal to you that you should provide the inhabitants of this area an opportunity to reach in other parts of country by bringing it on air map so that they too become part of the mainstream.

Lastly, once again I would like to make an ardent appeal to you that this area should be linked by air-service.

(vii) Need to set up South-Western Railway Zone for Karnataka with its Headquarters at Bangalore.

[English]

SHRI C. P. MUDALA GIRI-YAPPA (Chitradurga): Karnataka