

take up the subject which has been left half way and after the completion of the same, Gujral Sahab Should make a statement at 4 P.M. and thereafter, if Prasar Bharti is taken up it will be ideal for everyone. Once the Prasar Bharti bill is taken for discussion, it will continue for a long time and thus when can the other topics be taken up since the House will sit till 6 P.M. As such, my request is to take the topic of atrocities on women after matters under Rule 377 and Prasar Bharati be taken up after statement at 4 P.M. You should not have any objection to this submission.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, how do you respond to this?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): Sir, I do not want to disturb the Agenda.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no procedural difficulty. It is a question of adjusting each other.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: You can take the sense of the House.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: We shall continue with the Prasar Bharati Bill. We shall take up the discussion on atrocities on women later....
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will use my discretion. I think, most of the Members from all the Parties want to discuss atrocities on women. Let us take up this discussion after Matters under Rule 377.

Secondly, on Kuwait also, some Members were asking that they should be allowed to discuss the issue. It is also an important issue.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: On a statement, there is no discussion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: On a statement, there is no discussion. But some Members are really wanting it. We shall either take up a short duration discussion on Kuwait today immediately after the statement or later on. But I leave it to the whips to decide. I understand Mr. Upendra, Parliamentary Affairs Minister's difficulties because he has lot many Bills to press. he has no option but to see that we pass them. But I am using my discretion and allowing the discussion immediately after that.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: How long will we sit?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That we will decide; we will talk in the chamber.

14.20 1/2 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(I) Need to take steps to Promote Tourism in Arunachal Pradesh

[English]

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East): Arunachal Pradesh, the land of the dawn-lit mountains in the north-eastern tip of India, is a breath-taking beauty. It has a population of over 8 lakhs which constitutes of over 20 different linguistic tribals having distinct different cultures, traditions and customs. The tribals are very honest, sincere and of peace-loving nature They are spread over an area of approximately 84,000sq.kms.

Snow covers the entire Himalayan Range for more than six months in a year. There are a number of perennial rivers including the famous Brahmaputra and hundreds of natural and historical lakes in the State. The climate is very healthy and very pleasant particularly in summer.

About 62 percent of the territory is covered with thick ever-green forests. Its forests

[Sh. Laeta Umbrey]

shelter some rare birds like the hornbill, green-pigeons, wild duck, etc. and a variety of other wild life like elephants, tigers, wild boar, snow leopards, pandas, musk deer, etc. Arunachal is also rich in orchid flore of more than 500 species. It has many places of historical importance like Parshuram Kund, Malinithan and Tawang. This wonderland beckons the explorers, scientists, historians and curious travellers to know and see more intimately its varied tapestry of colour and scenic excellence. In order to promote tourism the State Government has declared tourism as an industry. I strongly appeal to the Government to give due priority to Arunachal with regard to development of tourism in the country.

(ii) Need to Telecast final sequences of the EPIC Mahabharat

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO (Chikballapur): The Mahabharat TV serial has ended with the death of Bheesma and it has not shown the ascendance to heaven of the Pandavas. The later happenings may require several episodes, as it is felt by many. The great epic has won the hearts of millions and it has spread to the nook and corner of the country. The people have expressed their desire to see the later happenings of Mahabharat too. Earlier when Ramayana TV serial came to a close there was a second part Uttara Ramayan on public demand. The public demand for the extension of Mahabharat to show the later happenings is growing in the country everyday. There is a great demand for extension of Mahabharat to show the ascendance of Pandavas to heaven. This will provide an opportunity to the people of the country, especially the poor masses, to understand the great epic in greater details easily.

Therefore, my demand to the Government is to extend the Mahabharat episode beyond Bhisma's death.

(iii) Need for steps to increase the production of Groundnut in Sitapur, Hardoi and Lakhimpur districts of Uttar Pradesh

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM LAL RAHI (Misrikh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sitapur district of Uttar Pradesh is the main market of groundnuts in Uttar Pradesh, because alongwith Sitapur most of the areas of its neighbouring districts like Hardoi, Lakhimpur and Shahjhanpur are famous for groundnut production.

Groundnut is an important oilseed. It is a matter of regret that at this time, there has been a large scale downfall in the production of groundnuts in the main groundnut producing areas like Sitapur, Hardoi and Lakhimpur districts situated in the northern parts of India called Uttar Pradesh. The inflow of groundnut in 1971-72 in the markets of Sitapur which was 60-70 thousand bags on an average has come down to barely two to three thousand bags per day. Not only this, the season of groundnut which was of six months in 1971-72 has now decreased to barely three months meaning there by that the production of groundnut has come down to merely fifteen percent. Owing to this decrease in the production of groundnuts and oilseeds there has been a steep rise in the prices of edible oils. Where as edible oils were available at the rate of Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 in November, 1989, it is now feared that the price would certainly shoot up some where between Rs. 40 to Rs.50 by coming November. The production of oilseeds is to be increased in order to control the growing hike in prices of edible oils. Concrete measures have to be taken up to increase the production of groundnut in Sitapur, Hardoi and Lakhimpur districts of Uttar Pradesh.

We demand that the Government should set up a research centre somewhere between Hardoi and Lakhimpur in Sitapur District for improving the quality of groundnuts. The soil should be examined and it should be ensured that every farmer is provided seeds suitable for the soil at cheaper