

move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI A.K. SEN : I introduce the Bill.

12.07 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

(i) **Installation of high power transmitters in Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Bikaner and Sriganganagar in Rajasthan**

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : It is gratifying to note that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has taken effective steps to expand the television net-work in the country so as to cover 70 per cent population by the end of 1984-85.

It is a virtual media revolution which will go a long way in not only educating, informing and entertaining the people but also bringing about national integration. The Ministry had expanded the T.V. through low power transmitters in the border towns of Rajasthan viz., Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Bikaner and Sriganganagar. These districts are very large in size and are sparsely populated. The low power transmitters have a viewing range of only 25 kms. Only 5 to 10 per cent of the population of these districts will be benefited as against the target of 70 per cent, to be covered in the country. Almost 65% of the population has already been covered.

All these districts are exposed to Pakistan T.V. signals which are very powerful. We can counter-act the Pakistani propaganda only if we considerably strengthen our media in these areas.

It is therefore requested that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting may take immediate decision for installing high power

transmitters in Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Bikaner and Sriganganagar.

(ii) **Conversion of Kakinda Port into a major port**

SHRI THOTA GOPALA KRISHNA (Kakinada) : A proposal to convert Kakinada port as a major port with the assistance of the World Bank was under the consideration of the Central Government. The Prime Minister has given assurance to the people of Kakinada to undertake this project early.

This is a project which will be useful not only to the town, but also to the entire Andhra Pradesh. The people of that area are greatly agitated due to delay in undertaking this project. Early action in this regard will satisfy the people of this area.

(iii) **Need for Central assistance to drought affected people of Orissa and also for irrigation schemes**

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar) : Under Rule 377, I beg to raise the following matter of urgent public importance :

Very serious drought conditions in Orissa since September, 1984 had caused large-scale crop loss in 7.83 lakh hectares in 138 blocks of the State including Bhubaneswar, Khurda and Nayagarh sub-divisions affecting and causing wide-spread misery to a population of over 55 lakhs. Earlier, the standing crops in 4.19 lakh hectares were also damaged by floods.

I urge upon the Central Government to come in a big way to the assistance of the drought-affected people of the State by assisting them with Rs 200 crores, so that the people are provided with employment, and irrigation schemes are worked out for preventing further drought conditions in areas where irrigation facilities are not available.

[Translation]

(iv) **Shortage of currency notes and coins of smaller denominations**

SHRIMATIPATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI (Rajkot) : Mr. Speaker,