

[Shri Narayan Dutt Tiwari]

happens, and to facilitate that end. the Summit has appealed for the extension of all possible material support to the Front-line States. It is in this spirit that on behalf of the Government and people of India, PM has announced our contribution of Rs. 50 crores (equivalent of US \$ 40 million) over a 3-year period to the AFRICA Fund. Nigeria has also announced a contribution equivalent to US \$ 15 million over a period of three years and Peru and Algeria US \$ 10 million each. Other countries have indicated that they will be making generous contributions. As such the Fund has got off to a flying start with approximately US \$ 70 million.

A number of Governments and organisations have shown keen interest for cooperating with the AFRICA Fund. The Prime Minister has written to all Heads of State or Government forwarding a copy of the Appeal and the Plan of Action.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : I suggest a discussion under Rule 193 on this Statement.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You give notice ; I will consider.

12.09 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

- (i) Financial assistance to Orissa Government for construction of a flyover at Jajpur-Keonjhar road railway station

***SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS** (Jajpur) : Sir, Jajpur-Keonjhar Road is an important railway station in Orissa. The Railway line intersects the link road connects national highway No. 5 at Panikoli. Every day thousands of trucks carrying iron ore from Gandhamardan area of Keonjhar district ply on this road. In addition to this, many other vehicles ply on this road every day. On the other hand,

*The speech was originally delivered in Oriya.

goods trains, passenger trains and express trains pass through the railway line every ten to fifteen minutes. In such a situation, thousands of vehicles keep waiting on both sides of the road. This is creating heavy traffic congestion at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road causing great inconvenience to the vehicular traffic as well as the public. Therefore, it is necessary to construct a flyover at the level Crossing of that railway station. This will provide a great relief to everybody and will go a long way in avoiding the frequent accidents.

It is regrettable that the fly over has not been constructed despite repeated demands. The Government of Orissa is financially not sound enough to bear the cost of the fly-over. As such, I demand that a fly-over is constructed at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road station during the 1987-88 financial year.

- (ii) Financial assistance to Rajasthan Government to meet the drought situation in the State, particularly in Rohat tehsil of Pali district.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Rajasthan has been facing drought for the last four years in succession and the situation, particularly in the Western Rajasthan, is very pitiable and deplorable from every point of view. People are not getting employment there. Very few people are engaged in the drought relief works.

Economically, the condition of Rajasthan has become worse. Very few relief works, particularly in the Pali district, have been undertaken. Thousands of people are facing starvation and the cattle are dying daily for want of water and fodder. There is an acute shortage of drinking water. In many villages there is no drinking water. Thus the people have neither employment nor have then fodder for the cattle. The farmer is heart-broken. The condition of agricultural labourer is even worse. Thefts and dacoities have started taking place in the villages. The officers at the helm of affairs in the Government do not go to the villages. The condition in the Pali district and particularly in the Rohat tehsil is continuously deteriorating and in the absence of relief works and fodder for the animals, the situation is causing concern.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards this situation and hope that the Government would provide funds to implement the rural employment scheme and other schemes meant for alleviating the poverty and will also make available opportunities for employment there. The Rajasthan Government should provide more funds to start relief works. The State Government should make arrangements for fodder otherwise the livestock will perish.

[English]

- (iii) Need to protect the Padhanpat forest in Orissa and develop it as a wild life sanctuary.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Deogarh town in Orissa situated on the National High way No. 6 in the midst of forests and hills with Padhanpat fall is a beauty spot in the State. Large number of tourists from different part of the country visit this place to enjoy nature. But it is a matter of regret that necessary tourist facilities are yet to be provide there. Secondly, probably due to depletion of forests in the catchment area and regular fire accidents, the volume of water of the stream is gradually getting reduced causing concern in all the quarters. If this is not averted, not only the beauty of the place will be seriously affected but also drinking water will pose a problem in this town.

What is therefore required is protection of the Padhanpat forest with emphasis on large scale plantation of the special species required for the purpose and developing it as a wild life sanctuary, so that the beautiful environment of the area could be maintained deserving a proper place in the tourist map of the country.

In view of the importance of this project and the paucity of funds of the State Government, I would request the hon. Minister of Forests and Environment, Government of India to please consider this matter sympathetically.

[Translating]

- (iv) Demand for an Ayurvedic Research Institute in Khalilabad district of U.P.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir,

the country has made much advancement in the field of medical science. But if one says that only Allopathic system of Medicine has made progress and the ancient medical system of the country has deteriorated, nobody can deny this. In comparison to the propagation abroad of medicines prepared with the herbs of our country, the use of these herbs in the Ayurvedic medicines in our country has been much less in spite of their availability here. Herbs are found in large quantities in Basti, Gonda, Gorakhpur, Bahraich and in the Jungles and hilly areas of districts adjoining the border of Nepal. I think that if research is conducted on the use of herbs, the people of this area, which is backward from the point of view of Allopathic System of Medicine, will be able to get cheaper and safe medicines and the poor people will also be able to get treatment. In the districts which have been mentioned above, there are not sufficient numbers of allopathic hospitals and dispensaries where people may get treatment. In case, some one falls seriously ill, he has to be taken only to Varanasi which is beyond the means of a common man.

Taking these circumstances into consideration I would like to request the hon. Minister that to make available medical facilities in the backward districts of eastern U.P., an Ayurvedic Research Institute may be set up in Basti in Khalilabad district so that the available herbs are utilised in the preparation of Ayurvedic medicines and the poor people may get medical facility there.

- (v) Need to provide security to Shri Sunil Dutt, M.P., who is on a Peace March to the Golden Temple, Amritsar.

SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been reported in the newspapers that the terrorists have threatened to stop Shri Sunil Dutt, M.P., who is on Padyatra for the cause of peace and national unity which will terminate at the Golden Temple, from entering the temple and also to kill him. I demand that arrangements should be made to protect his life.