

1st May, 1987 and ending on the 30th April, 1988, and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha,"

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajy Sabaha do agree to nominate ten members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the House for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1987 and ending on the 30th April, 1988, and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted.

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

12.21 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) Need to take necessary steps to ensure reasonable price of mustard and gram to the farmers

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) : The mustard and gram crops have started arriving in the markets in Rajasthan. Therefore, the Government should make preparations on war footing to purchase them from the market. The experience in the past shows that the outset, when the mustard and gram produce arrives in the market for sale, the prices go down even below the support price. As a result of this, the small and medium farmers' yields are sold at lower prices.

12.22 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

It is my submission to the Government that the farmers should not get less price for their produce as has been the case in the past. The Government should, therefore, make full arrangements for funds and sacks

well in time so that the 'Nafed' is able to buy these commodities in time and the farmers of the State are saved of distress sale. Besides, State Governments should also be directed to make preparations for timely purchase of these commodities.

[English]

- (ii) Need to provide financial help to the Uttar Pradesh Dairy Co-operative Federation

SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA (Mirzapur) : More production and availability of milk and milk products is an indication of prosperity. Many States in India like Haryana, Punjab, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Andhra are producing more quantities of milk and milk products, and make it available to the common people at cheaper rates. In this regard, National Dairy Development Board is doing very well. But in U.P., specially in its eastern part, the production of milk and milk products is not growing, because the U.P. Dairy Cooperative Federation is facing serious financial crisis. The Operation Flood Programme is not being implemented properly, for lack of funds in Uttar Pradesh. The U.P. Dairy Cooperative Federation had forwarded some projects to be approved and assisted by National Dairy Development Board. It is learnt that the project for eastern U.P. has not been accepted, and perhaps sufficient financial help is not being provided to U.P. Dairy Cooperative Federation.

I request the Agriculture Minister kindly to ask N.D.D.B. to approve the above programme, and help the U.P. Dairy Cooperative Federation financially. I would also request that if Central Government in any way can help the U.P. Dairy Cooperative Federation, appropriate steps in this direction may kindly be taken.

[Translation]

- (iii) Need to complete construction of dam on the Narayani river to save Deoria District of Uttar Pradesh from the fury of floods

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Salemপুর) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I

would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the havoc created every year by floods in Deoria district of Uttar Pradesh. On the north of Deoria, the floods of the river Narayani destroy property worth billions of rupees and cause sufferings to lakhs of people. The Government of Uttar Pradesh constructed a dam by spending lakhs of rupees for protection from floods. But beyond the boundary of Uttar Pradesh, the Government of Bihar has not so far completed its portion of the work. The water of the Narayani brings destruction and sufferings to about 20 lakh people of Deoria, North Padrauna and Hata as a result of breaches in the embankments. It is very necessary to construct this dam.

The Bari Gandak river flows near Piprasi and below it flow two rivulets called the Kurva and the Ghuri. The level of the Narayani river is 15 feet above their level and these rivulets join the Bansa river after a short distance. The entire water of the Bari Gandak reaches this rivulet through Piprasi dam resulting in destruction of both the tehsils. The most dangerous period is about to come because this year also the dam has remained incomplete. The Narayani river has a flowing capacity of 5 to 7 lakh cusecs and the capacity of the rivulets and other rivers is 20 to 30 thousand cusecs. The River Narayani start overflowing with just 5.5 lakh cusecs of water. In this way, if the dam is not constructed well in time, the Narayani river may change its course and may flow into the Bansa river. As a result of this, an area of 20 lakh population will be inundated and this will cause indescribable sufferings.

Therefore, through you, I request the Hon. Minister of Water Resources that since two States are involved in it, an on the spot study should be made and there after action taken in consultation with both the State Governments to save the people from this calamity without any delay. If this is not done, I warn the Government that with the arrival of the ensuring rainy season, both the tehsils, of Hata and Padrauna will be destroyed.

[Translation]

(iv) Need to ensure that clearance to various projects in Vidarbha

region of Maharashtra is not held up on account of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Chimur):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, work on most of the projects in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra has remained stalled for many years for want of approval by the Ministry of Forest. We appreciate the views of the Hon. Prime Minister on environment and forests. The Forest Conservation Act was passed in 1980. Officials are defining it in their own way and are not adopting a realistic attitude in this regard. As a result of this, it may not be possible to achieve the targets that we have fixed for irrigation, communications, agriculture and energy under the Seventh Five Year Plan. The development of Vidarbha has virtually been stopped due to this Forest Conservation Act.

Chandarpur, Bhandara, Garbhchirauli, Thane and Amaravati in Maharashtra are five such districts where the forest area is more than average and it has become the cause of misfortune for these districts. 58 per cent of land is covered by forests in this area. The work on irrigation projects of this area, on which crores of rupees have already been spent, has been stalled. The work on thermal power station at Chandarpur has been left incomplete because some trees were required to be cut to construct the canals through which the water to be utilised in the above station was to reach there. Therefore, the construction work of the canal was suspended. The survey of coal-mines was started in Chimur tehsil and the trees were yet to be cut as a result of the survey when its work was also stopped.

Similarly, the Government has ambitious plan to provide houses to the poor. There are no trees here, but in the Government documents, this land has been registered as a forest land. As a result of this, the benefits of the scheme do not reach the poor. There is also no place to install a transformer for the electricity department and no place is also available for the tehsil office, bus-stand, hospital etc. Everywhere it is forest only.

There are hundreds of tanks in the Bhandara and Chandarpur districts which