

[Shri Somnath Rath]

Of the 8,000 birds, India harbours 1,200. About 180 species found in the country are endemic and they are found nowhere else.

Coming to Orissa, the following 18 species of birds are on the threshold of extinction. I suggest these birds be declared endangered species and early steps be taken to protect them :

1. Dattor
2. Eastern Roof Horon
3. Chestnut Bittorn
4. Nakta Duck
5. Brahminy Kito
6. Sahin Falcon
7. Peacock
8. Pheasant-tailed Jacanna
9. Spur-winged Plover
10. Emerald Dove
11. Malabar Pied Hornbill
12. Racket-tailed Drongo
13. Hair-crosted Drongo
14. Hill Myna
15. Paradise Fly-catcher
16. Shama
17. Painted Bush-quail
18. Largo Egrot

(vii) **Need to lay on the Table of the House the full texts of opinions of Ministries of Home and Law regarding Bill on Muslim Women, pending in Lok Sabha.**

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : The Times of India (Delhi Edition) of 4th March, 1986 has published despatch by Shri Arun Shourie under the Caption 'Opinion of Ministries ignored' on Bill on Muslim Women.

This despatch states :

"The Bill (Banatwala's Bill) was addressed to the Ministry of Home Affairs. In its search for the relevant material, the Ministry consulted among others the law ministry. In his note dated May 25, 1985 the legal adviser to the law ministry categorically stated that the Supreme Court had correctly interpreted the law, and opined that "provisions of maintenance for divorced wife do not conflict with the Mohammadan personal law." He cited what Parliament had been told on behalf of the government 12 years earlier and concluded : "A careful reading of the judgement would show that the honourable court has simply interpreted the relevant provision of the Cr. P. C. without any interference with the Muslim personal law as such."

The law Secretary was, if anything, even more emphatic. "The Muslim personal law is of a civil nature, whereas section 125 is a provision contained in the Criminal Procedure Code", he said and added that "the Bill to amend Sections 125 and 127 of Cr.P.C. should be opposed."

The note was signed by the Secretary, Mr. B.S. Sekhon, on May 31, 1985 : the opinion was then endorsed by Mr. H.R. Bhardwaj, minister of state for law on June 1 and by Mr. Ashoka Kumar Sen cabinet minister, on June 2."

The various documents given to leaders of parties and groups in the Parliament in connection with the Bill on Muslim Women did not contain the above mentioned information concerning the full text of the opinions prepared by the Home Ministry and law ministry and other relevant documents.

I demand that the Minister for Law and Justice should make a full statement in the House regarding the opinions of the Home Ministry and Law Ministry mentioned in Shri Arun Shourie despatch and

lay the full text of the opinions on the table of the House.

(viii) **Need to pay property Tax to the local bodies on the buildings owned by Central Government in Tamil Nadu.**

DR. A. KALANIDHI (Madras Central) : Sir, after a decade, the elected representative have assumed charge in almost all the local bodies except the Corporation of Madras, Madurai and Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu. The drawback that will be faced by the newly elected bodies will be inadequate funds. In this context, I would like to bring to the Notice of the Government the need to pay property tax on their buildings, both residential and non-residential, at the rate that will be paid by the common man. Then only these local bodies will be in a position to undertake the scheme necessary to augment the water supply, drainage, roads, street lights etc. which are absolutely necessary for a Welfare State. The local bodies serve not only the common man but also the offices of the Central Government, Railways and State Governments wherein lakhs of people are employed and use the amenities provided by the local bodies. The present practice is adopting a reduction factor, bringing in the capital cost of buildings to the pre-war level of 1944 and 6 per cent thereon is paid as a property tax by the Railways and the State Government. But the Central Government is not paying any tax except the service tax to its buildings situated within the limits of these local bodies. The legitimate share must be borne by the Central Government and Railways, followed by the State Governments.

[*Translation*]

(ix) **Necessary steps needed to stop the closure of diamond and stone quarries in Panna district of Madhya Pradesh.**

SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN (Damoh) : Mr. SPEAKER Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the House, the following matter under Rule 377.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the chair.*]

The diamond mines operating in forest land in Panna district of Madhya Pradesh have been closed down thereby rendering about 5,000 workers jobless. Besides, there is a move by the Government to close down stone quarries as well which are operating in forest land.

This would cause serious unemployment problem in the district. The area where mines are operating cannot be utilised any more by the forest department for forest purposes. The closure of diamond mines and stone quarries will not only result in depriving 15,000 to 20,000 families of their daily bread, but also in loss of revenue.

I, therefore request the Government to take early steps in order to avoid spread of unemployment in Panna district on this account in these days of rising prices.

12 22 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the chair*]

RAILWAY BUDGET 1986-87—  
GENERAL DISCUSSION—CONTD.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the House will resume the General Discussion on the Budget (Railways) for 1986-87.

[*Translation*]

CH. RAM PRAKASH (Ambala) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am happy that the former Chief Minister of Haryana, Shri Bansilal, is incharge of the Railways. I was an humble Minister in his Council of Ministers. The speed with which he brought about Haryana's development remains unparalleled as compared to that in other States. At that time.....

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : If that is so, kindly insist on him to bring about the same development in my State as well.