

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of the Rehabilitation Council of India for regulating the training of rehabilitation professionals and the maintenance of a Central Rehabilitation Register and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK: I introduce the bill.

12.52 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) **Need to permit the Government of Karnataka to raise funds through bonds to finance the irrigation and power projects in the state**

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ (Tumkur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the Karnataka Government had taken number of irrigation and power projects to utilise the available potential to provide basic infrastructure necessary for the speedy development of the state. Besides a substantial amount has been allocated for two sectors in State plan every year. However, these allocations are extremely inadequate and much below the investment needed.

The State Government is making all efforts to ensure that both these sectors are adequately funded. Due to severe resource constraints and the need to ensure basic minimum allocations for the local services

sector the State Government had earlier approached the Government of India for permission to raise money through special issue of bonds exclusively for financing irrigation project. The State Government had informed the Ministry of Finance that the policy of permitting the State Government public sector corporation to issue bonds should be considered.

The State Government had urged the Centre to permit them to raise funds from the market. I urge upon the Government to allow the Government of Karnataka to raise the capital through bond to meet the irrigation and power shortage in the State.

- (ii) **Need to expedite financial assistance for the development of Mahendragiri in Orissa**

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Berhampur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Mahendragiri in Orissa is situated in the Easter Chats region. It is one ancient eco-system, situated on a high plateau with an elevation of 1500 metres. Its forests extend over 70,000 acres and fall within deciduous tropical-forest zone. Indeed, Mahendragiri has the potential of becoming a tourist centre, *par excellence*.

Sadly, the forests have already sustained colossal degradation, due to rampant shifting-cultivation, indiscriminate tree-felling and heartless wild-life poaching. Time has come to arouse awareness for its regeneration among people of that area. Intensive mass-education awareness programmes with a thorough study of the fauna, flora and tribes of Mahendragiri, are essential.

The above facts justify immediate attention and action from the Government side. The Orissa Environmental Society has proposed to the Ministry of Environment & Forests and also the Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India on 6.4.1990, seeking financial assistance to hold a two-day workshop-cum-seminar on the Mahendragiri Forest ecology study, at Parlakhemundi town in Ganjam District dur-