

PLAN OUTLAY

The State Plan outlay for 1989-90 has been fixed at Rs. 789 crores, including Ninth Finance Commission Award of Rs. 89.01 crores for Grants for Special problems. The Central assistance for the Year 1989-90 will be Rs. 36.62 crores. A special assistance of Rs. 560.00 crores will be given to the State during 1989-90. The annual Plan provides Rs. 394.65 crores for irrigation, flood control and power, Rs. 82.27 crores for agriculture and co-operation and Rs. 23.65 crores for industry and minerals. The State Government will continue to pay special attention to ongoing projects and projects at an advanced stage of completion.

VOTE ON ACCOUNT

While as required, the Annual Financial Statement for the year 1989-90 has been laid before the house and the connected Demands for Grants are also being circulated to the Hon'ble Members alongwith the other Budget papers I am, at this stage, seeking only a 'Vote on Account' for the first six months of the financial year 1989-90 except for the requirement of food procurement where the annual requirement needs to be Voted to keep procurement operations going.

12.13 1/2 hrs

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (PUNJAB) 1989-90

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K.GADHVI) I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in re-

spect of the State of Punjab for 1988-89.

12.14 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) Demand for early conversion of Maharajanj metre gauge railway line into broad gauge

SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH (Maharajanj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there was a very old railway line in Maharajanj. This railway line was included in the proposal for conversion of metre gauge railway lines into broad gauge rail line. Since the year 1980, I have been pressing for the completion of this scheme and the stock reply has been that due to paucity of funds, the work of conversion could not being taken up. But this work does not involve a very big seem.

The hon. Minister of Railways, is therefore, requested to order completion of this scheme and if there is some hitch in this, a survey for a new rail line from Darauda to Chhidha-walia may be conducted.

- (ii) Need for steps to improve the lot of handloom weavers

SHRI MADAN PANDEY(Gorakhpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the introduction of synthetic yarn has eroded the popularity of handloom textiles and thus handloom weavers are facing serious difficulties. Their problems are being further aggravated by steep rise in the prices of yarn and irregularities committed in the purchase of their products and payment therefor. The recent steps taken by Government have also proved ineffective.