

## LOK PAL BILL

[English]

Appointment of Member to Joint  
Committee

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : I beg to move :

"That this House do appoint Shri Ram Singh Yadav to the Joint Committee on the Bill, to provide for the appointment of a Lokpal to inquire into allegations of corruption against Union Ministers and for matters connected therewith, *vice* Shri Mool Chand Daga died."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do appoint Shri Ram Singh Yadav to the Joint Committee on the Bill, to provide for the appointment of a Lokpal to inquire into allegations of corruption against Union Ministers and for matters connected therewith, *vice* Shri Mool Chand Daga died."

The Motion was adopted.

12.20 hrs.

## MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) Need to review the new policy regarding coal distribution to safeguard the interests of coal consuming units in Northern India

SHRIMATI CHANDRA TRIPATHI : (Chandauli) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to submit the following under rule 377 :

Coal India Limited is having a new policy with effect from 1st April, 1987 for the year 1987-88 in respect of distribution of coal. Under this policy 120 wagons of coal will not be transported directly by rail annually. In order to meet this shortfall in requirement, inferior quality coal will have to be lifted by paying Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 more. Thus, cost of coal will increase by 25 to 30 per cent which will have

enormous impact on the cost of production of other items and will ultimately result in increase in the prices at the national level. The quality of coal will also be affected directly because of the inferior quality of coal and the investment will also be adversely affected. The increase in the rate of interest will result in further increase in the cost of production. Government is, therefore, requested to take appropriate measures to overcome the crisis being faced by the coal consuming units of northern India.

[English]

- (ii) Need to construct a new aerodrome at Jabalpur with all necessary facilities including that of night landing

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur) : A budget of Rs. 190 lakhs has been allocated for the improvement and construction of a new aerodrome in Jabalpur, Directorate General of Civil Aviation had decided and informed in 1983 to shift the operation from the existing airport at Jabalpur by constructing a new aerodrome. The new site has also been selected tentatively and is under the Ministers' active consideration. For three years has there been no progress towards survey or planning of construction of the new airport.

In December, 1986 the Civil Aviation Minister had informed the House that National Airports Authority is planning to make Jabalpur Airport suitable for B-737 operation during the current plan.

If the funds allocated are not utilised from now, the work will fall in arrears and funds will lapse.

In the public interest, it is imperative that Jabalpur be provided with a modern aerodrome equipped with all necessary facilities, including that of night landing, so that it becomes suitable for the operation of B-737 services at the earliest.

- (iii) Need to open more post offices in rural areas specially at Vasai and Palghar Talukas of Thane district of Maharashtra

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH (Bombay North) : People of rural areas in Thane district of Maharashtra, specially in Vasai

and Palghar Talukas, are very much worried about the lack of communication facility in their Taluka and district as Government of India is not considering to open more post offices in rural areas. According to local sources in Maharashtra, there is a ban on opening of new post offices. It is need of the day to open more and more new post offices in rural areas to take people into the 21st century. I request Honourable Minister for Communications to make necessary amendments as far as ban is concerned. I further request to make sufficient provision of funds to open more and more new post offices in rural areas, specially at Vasai and Palghar Talukas to Thane district in Maharashtra.

12.25 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

(iv) Need to impart anti-drug education right from school level and consider introducing death penalty to persons dealing with narcotics

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali) : Sir, the conclusion of the national symposium on drug addiction held recently at Patiala is mind boggling. It says that some 15 million people will be drug addicts in this country by the year 2000 AD if adequate steps to check drug abuse are not taken now. According to the Director General of Narcotics Bureau, Mr. B. V. Kumar, there are already half a million drug addicts in the country. Besides, it is well known that the school and college children are the special targets of drug pushers. To save our younger generation, the Government should consider anti-drug education right from school level including showing of audio visuals on how innocent and unsuspecting children and students are made drug-addicts. The Government should consider introducing death penalty to any one who is dealing with narcotics, as has been done in some countries.

[*Translation*]

(v) Need to take necessary measures to ensure adequate supply of water for drinking and irrigation purposes in Balrampur area of Gonda district of Uttar Pradesh

SHRI DEEP NARAIN VAN (Balrampur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the condi-

tion of my constituency Balrampur in Gonda district becomes horrible during the rainy season. The water of the rivers which originate from the hills flows down to the plains with high velocity and the entire area is water-logged. The people are compelled to drink contaminated water. During summer season, the river and rivulets dry up which causes acute scarcity of drinking water. Though the land is fertile there, the ground water level is as deep as 1000 feet or more. It is not possible for a common man to dig such a deep well with the result that there is starvation in the area and the problem of poverty has become more complex.

I would request the Government to construct reservoirs to store the water flowing down from the catchment areas of Tapti river and to dig deep tubewells for drinking water. Modern techniques of cultivation should also be made available to the people so as to remove their difficulties. It would be better if the Government appoints a committee of experts to study the problems of this areas and to suggest remedial measures.

(vi) Need to provide central assistance to save the people of Rayalseema area in Andhra Pradesh from recurring drought

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : Sir, the districts of Rayalaseema were prosperous under the rule of Vijayanagar kingdom and this area was known as Ratnalaseema, a land of diamonds, when diamonds in heaps used to be sold in the streets. Now it is euphemistically called Ralaseema meaning the land of rocks.

A drive down in Rayalaseema will present a landscape that is replete with dried up irrigation wells, barren lands and bare hillocks devoid of vegetation and not a green patch can be seen. Agricultural lands have been abandoned by the villagers who left for green pastures elsewhere. Only the spectre of drought stalks the districts in Rayalaseema.

Plagued by drought continuously for seven or eight years, the Rayalaseema area presents a dismal picture. Parched lands,