

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Forty-first report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 24th August, 1987."

The motion was adopted.

12.08½ hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

- (i) **Demand for opening a Navodaya Vidyalaya in Lakhimpur-Kheri, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRIMATI USHA VERMA (Kheri): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House towards opening a Navodaya Vidyalaya in Lakhimpur-Kheri Parliamentary Constituency. There is provision to open a Navodaya Vidyalaya in each district under the New Education Policy. In this connection I would like to inform that site for the school has since been selected and land measuring about 8 acres has also been earmarked for this purpose in Sharda Nagar where there are built up quarters. In addition, 22.80 acres of land has been earmarked for school building and residential quarters for school staff. The District Magistrate, Lakhimpur has already sent a proposal to this effect to the Secretary (Education) Government of Uttar Pradesh but orders for opening the school have not yet been issued.

12.09 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Here I would like to point out that there is not a single Kendriya Vidyalaya in Lakhimpur—Kheri. Therefore, the Ministry of Education may also make arrangements

to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya in the area. This will provide much needed relief to Government employees.

Therefore, I request that the proposed Navodaya Vidyalaya be opened because a lot of time is consumed in constructing buildings etc.

[*English*]

- (ii) **Need to sanction a gas based Power Station near Unnao Village of Datia District Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI KRISHNA SINGH (Bhind): Sir, a section of the Hazira-Bijapur-Jagdishpur gas pipeline is passing through Datia District in Madhya Pradesh. This district is a very backward district and also a dacoit-infested area. It is a no-industry district.

I have learnt that there is a proposal to set up a gas-based power station in this area. The Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board was asked to make a preliminary survey regarding the infrastructure available which has already been done. There is plenty of cheap land available. The district headquarters is well connected with main broad-gauge railway line and state highway. The nearest airport at Gwalior is also just 80 km away.

I, therefore, request the Government to kindly sanction a gas-based power station near Unnao village of Datia district.

This would provide ample job opportunities for the unemployed youth and would also become a catalyst for future development of this most backward area. I may mention here that a few months back the hon. Prime Minister had said that at least one big industry will be set up in every district of the country.

- (iii) **Need to conduct a study into the extinction of rare species of flowers in the 'Valley of Flowers' in Chamoli district of Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI CHANDRA MOHAN SINGH NEGI (Garhwal): The world famous valley of

flowers in Chamoli district of Uttar Pradesh where unimaginable species of flowers used to blossom every year during the month of August are not flowering now. The local forest officers and environmentalists are of the opinion that it happened because this area was brought under Nanda Devi Biosphere and grazing by sheep and goats was banned with the result that quick growing alpine grass covered the area and completely marred the growth of flower plants. I would, therefore, request the Forest and Environment Ministry to conduct a study on the above and take urgent steps in this regard and save the extinction of rare species of flowers in the world-renowned valley which is a tourist paradise and a wonderful study place for the botanists.

[Translation]

- (iv) **Need to direct Rajasthan Government to stop recovery of amount spent on projects by Government from farmers served by the Indira Gandhi Canal Project.**

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the construction work of Indira Gandhi Canal Project is being carried out with the special cooperation and assistance of the Central Government. Pucca Water Courses have been built in this project area. Apart from the estimated expenditure, the other expenses including the administrative expenditure, interest and compound interest have been added 5 to 6 times more than the principal amount.

The drains were constructed on the land of the farmer. Due to construction of these drains, the irrigational potential has increased and it will fetch more revenue in the form of water cess for the Government of Rajasthan. Then why the cost is being charged from the farmers? The State Government should bear this expenditure.

As and when any such project is constructed, the Government bears all its expenses and the farmer gets water from

the project. Irrigation cess is charged on the basis of crop, the recovery percentage of which is from 10 to 100 in Ganganagar district. But the farmers are getting more water after pucca drains have been constructed. The intensity which was estimated to be 62 per cent earlier has increased by more than 15 per cent. The farmer is paying irrigation cess at the same rate for the increased irrigated area. Earlier, when drains were not pucca, more money used to be spent and less crops produced. The farmer had to pay irrigation cess for nothing.

There is no objection if irrigation cess is collected from the farmer if more area of land is brought under irrigation on less expenses. But it is not justifiable to charge original cost from the farmer for this purpose. In a way, it is a double expenditure. It is the Government who will benefit with the increase in its irrigation capacity, but to collect the expenses of the project from the farmer is not at all justifiable under any principle. As has been done by Punjab and Haryana Governments, the Government of Rajasthan should also write off the cost incurred on drains. I have been bringing it to the notice of the House in every session since the last seven and a half years. The Government has taken a decision recently that drains will be constructed at Government expenses in phase-II of Indira Gandhi Canal. Besides a decision has already been taken to construct drains at Government expenses in Mahi Project Banswada. The Central Government has already decided that the Government will construct drains up to 6 hectares only. Therefore, it is not justifiable to collect the cost of drains from the farmers under Phase-I on a uniform pattern.

Therefore, keeping in view the importance of this issue, I would like to request the Central Government to instruct the State Government of Rajasthan to solve their problems without delay.

[English]

Demand for increasing the quota of heavy cement for Orissa

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Government of India have reduced