

on the 1st May, 1988 and ending on the 30th April, 1989 and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate ten member from Rajya Sabha to associate with the committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the House for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1988 and ending on the 30th April 1989, and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted

12.25 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Need to take steps to remove drinking water scarcity in certain towns of Madhya Pradesh

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA (Vidisha) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is an acute shortage of drinking water in the rural and urban areas of Vidisha parliamentary constituency. Recently, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent proposals to the Central Government to instal new hand pumps and tube wells in the problem villages of Vidisha, Raisen and Sihore districts. Approximately, 700 villages are covered under the CSP Scheme. District twenty-point Committees and District drought vigilance Committees have also expressed deep concern over the alarming situation of drinking water in the important towns like Vidisha, Ganj Baloda, Sironj, Raisen, Sanchi, Begamganj, Mandideep etc. I urge upon the Central Government to take urgent action in this matter.

[Translation]

- (ii) Need for financial and other assistance to the farmers of Datia district of Madhya Pradesh affected by recent hailstorm

SHRI KRISHNA SINGH (Bhind) :

Mr. Chairman, Sir, hailstorm has badly damaged the standing crops in Datia district of Madhya Pradesh recently. Consequently, the crops have been destroyed in about 50 villages. Out of these in about 30 villages 80 to 100 per cent crops were destroyed. According to a Government estimate, crops worth more than Rs. 1.5 crores have been destroyed.

This area has been in the grip of drought for the second successive year and the farmers had toiled hard and were expecting a good crop. But the hailstorm has dashed all their hopes. Special relief programmes should be launched in this area immediately so that the small farmers and farm labourers are able to get employment. Due to lack of irrigation facilities Datia is a very backward district and the farmers are by and large dependent on nature here. In order to end this dependence, maximum irrigation projects should be undertaken in the area.

I demand that the incomplete canal under Rajghat irrigation project should be completed by starting large scale relief works. Besides, the crop insurance scheme should also be implemented effectively. Land revenue, bank loans, *takavi*, electricity bills and all other outstanding payments should be written off as far as possible or at least their recovery should be postponed temporarily.

- (iii) Need to set up a T. V. relay centre at Keonjhar in Orissa

*SHRI HARIHAR SOREN (Keonjhar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government of India had a proposal to set up some television relay centres in Orissa during the Seventh Plan period. Keonjhar was identified as the location of one such television centre. But it is regrettable that the television relay centre has not been set up at Keonjhar so far. Demand has been at different times for the installation of a television relay centre at Keonjhar, but it is unfortunate that steps have not been taken in that direction.

The two television centres located at Cuttack and Sambalpur are situated far away from Keonjhar. Therefore, the

*Translation of the matter originally raised in Oriya.