

12.05 hrs.

[English]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to declare 11th November 1988, The birthday of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad as a National Holiday**

✓ KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE

(Jadavpur) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was a man of strong determination, pure heart, majestic in appearance, balanced and dignified in expression. Maulana Sahib was an outstanding figure of great courage, fearlessness, integrity and passionate love for freedom. He was a unique figure in our political life for nearly two generations. Even before he joined the Congress in 1920, he was a revolutionary. His political wisdom, patriotic and sacrificial services were recognised early and he was elected the President of Indian National Congress in 1923, a position which he held for a number of years on different crucial occasions. His services to the country as a sagacious statesman, an ardent patriot and a great intellectual are inestimable. As we are going to celebrate the centenary year of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, I urge the Government to declare National Holiday on 11th November, 1988, which is his birthday to pay tribute to Maulana Sahib.

- (ii) **Need to step up indigenous production of "Copper-T" and other contraceptives**

DR CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) Undoubtedly the entire development in the country is very much related to population growth for which the Government is very much concerned. Adopting various measures on one hand and involving voluntary organisation and general public on the other hand and declaring it as a peoples movement indicate the amount of interest taken by Government. Among different measures for arresting population growth Copper-T plays vital role but until now we

have depended exclusively on its import through UNFPA, direct imports or U.S. Aid.

To save foreign exchange, Ministry had initiated steps for its Indianisation 10 years ago. However, no progress has been done except introduction of Testing infrastructure at IIT, New Delhi, with large recurring expenses and capital investment. Technology available in the country has not been used profitably. Ministry had not implemented the recommendation of Director-General of Inspection (Ministry of Defence) as regards the placement of order on the Indian manufacturer. Although these agencies were asked by the Technical Committee of the Ministry to investigate into the manufacturing capabilities of different units and for their recommendations, the Ministry did not use the expertise of the Department of Supplies or Ministry of Defence in introducing import substitute of Copper —T despite their long experience.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare to encourage the Indian manufacturer for the supply of Copper T, of course with a condition of approval of samples.

- (iii) **Need to allow Commission to authorised agents on the sale of Indira Vikas Patras and to make N.S.C. more attractive**

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central) Mr Speaker Sir mobilisation of resources through different National Savings Schemes is a useful national work as through such schemes, savings of a common man are made available for national reconstruction.

12.10 hrs.

[MR DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

This laudable work is done mostly by small authorised agents who generally come from retired Govt. servants. They earn their livelihood by earning small commission on such sales. However, recently due to the

[Sh. Sharad Dighe]

introduction of Indira Vikas Patra, the national savings schemes have become comparatively less attractive than Indira Vikas Patra. Moreover since April, 1987, an investor in National Savings Schemes is debarred from encashing certificates till all the six years are over. This has further affected the sales of National Savings Certificate. Consequently, the poor authorised agents are hard hit.

I urge upon the Ministry of Finance to remove these anomalies and make National Savings Certificate equally attractive and also to allow commission to authorised agents on the sale of Indira Vikas Patra also.

[Translation]

(iv) Need to clear the Chambal Command Area Project Phase-II

SHRI SHANTIDHARIWAL (Kota): The Government of Rajasthan submitted the project report of the Chambal Command Area Phase-II in the year 1987 to the Ministry of Water Resources. This Scheme is meant for Kota and Bundi areas in Rajasthan. But the finance Ministry has not yet forwarded it to the World Bank whereas the World Bank had directed to submit the project report of Phase-II in 1982-83 itself immediately after completion of Chambal Command area phase-I. Due to the delay in its approval, the measures taken for the benefit of farmers under phase-I are losing their utilities. Farmers are now stated to be making several complaints about improper implementation of land reform scheme. Canals are in bad condition. Forty percent of the total water is going waste down the rivers and rivulets. Many villages have become inaccessible due to seepage of water. Land is losing its fertility. The farmers are deprived of the benefits likely to be accrued from this scheme as a result of which they are subjected to lot of misery because of non-implementation of phase-II of the project which would not only have created additional irrigation capacity but supplemented the work executed under phase-I.

I urge the Ministry of Water Resources to clear the Chambal Command Area Phase-II without any delay so that loans from the World Bank could be obtained.

(v) Need to release DA instalment due to the Central Government employees.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): The undue delay in the clearance of DA instalment fallen due to the Central Government employees has been a cause of concern for the employees and they are agitated over it.

The Pay Commission and Supreme Court have accepted the DA as their basic right and from time to time directed Central Government to release the instalments due in time.

I, therefore, urge the hon. Minister to release the DA instalment soon.

[English]

(vi) Need to utilise the services of licensed porters at Vijayawada station for loading and unloading of parcels

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there are nearly 300 licensed porters at Vijayawada Railway Station in South Central Railway. Due to innovations in the making of baggage and attitudinal changes to carry lesser luggage, these porters are not getting adequate earnings. Moreover, many trains which pass through Vijayawada Junction are transit trains which do not involve carriage of much luggage. Under the implementation of decentralisation scheme — drafting of licensed porters for loading and unloading of parcels, there is scope to utilise the services of a good number of these 300 licensed porters for loading and unloading of parcels at Vijayawada Station. This scheme is already under implementation at some stations in South Central Railway. Several of these porters have been working for several