

[Shri Chintamani Jena]

have been declared abandoned by the Government, resulting in untold miseries, sorrows and difficulties to the millions of people due to frequent floods, saline inundation and severe water logging in the area. The people of the area are facing great inconveniences and paying large amount of transportation charges of their goods and agriculture produce in the absence of water transport system. The State Government of Orissa has requested the Centre for renovation and improvement of this oldest canal of the country, to utilise the canal as inland water transport route in the Sixth Plan period but to no avail.

In such circumstances, I would request the Centre to take up this inter-State Orissa Coast canal in the Seventh Plan period on priority basis for its early renovation and improvement to revive navigation and inland water route transport, which will be a great boon to the people of coastal belts of Orissa and West Bengal too. I would, therefore, request the Hon. Minister of Shipping and Transport to accept this proposal for execution in the Seventh Plan period.

[Translation]

- (ii) Need to take steps for opening of J.K. Rayon Factory at Kanpur

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gurakhpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the J.K. Rayon Factory, Kanpur was closed down by the management more than two years ago without even taking prior approval of the State Government under Section 25 FF (a) of the Industrial Disputes Act as a result of which thousands of workers have been rendered jobless besides causing loss of production worth crores of rupees. The INTUC has urged Government to take over this mill and has offered full cooperation of workers if Government are prepared to run the mill jointly with the Co-operative Society of the workers. It is learnt that the management has given a written offer to Government that they are prepared to hand over the mill to Government with entire moveable and immovable assets against a taken compensation

of Re. 1 and agree to hear entire liabilities, but there is no decision on Government's part and on a result there is resentment and frustration among workers which is creating an adverse impact on industrial peace in Kanpur industrial town.

I, therefore, invite the attention of Government to this matter of urgent public importance I urge them to end this atmosphere of uncertainty by taking an early decision in this regard.

- (iii) Need to rename Port Blair as Savarkar Dham as a tribute to Shri Savarkar

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) Sir, I want to raise the following matter under Rule 377.

Hundreds of thousands of our countrymen suffered, went to Jails and were hanged to death during the Course of freedom struggle and this struggle of theirs, this sacrifice of theirs brought independence to the country. Certainly, after independence names of streets, roads, stations, buildings, towns and cities which were after Englishmen have been changed and named after Indian leaders in various parts of the country. We are proud of it, but many places still carry English names and Port Blair is a specific example.

Several freedom fighters were put into celular jail in Port Blair and tortured for years and the name of Vir Savarkar deserves a Special mention among them who was awarded life imprisonment twice by British rulers and tortured for many years.

We may differ with Vir Savarkar's views but we cannot ignore his great contribution to freedom struggle. Therefore, I would appeal to the hon. Home Minister to rename Port Blair as 'Savarkar Dham' after the name of India's brave son Vir Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. Certainly, this will be a great national tribute to this great personality

and to his contribution to India', freedom struggle.

[*English*]

- (iv) Need to set up Grape Research Centre at Hyderabad and also to establish Wine Industry there during Seventh Plan

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): Sir, there are thousands of acres of grape gardens in and around Hyderabad City in Andhra Pradesh. In recent times serious pests and diseases have been observed in the grape gardens. Hence, I request the Government to establish a Grape Research Centre at Hyderabad to protect the world-famous Anapshahe grape varieties and increase the quality and quantity. I also request the Government of India to establish wine industry in Hyderabad where the raw material is available in plenty in the Seventh Plan.

- (v) Need to rediret Assam Mail and to restore through Siliguri Junction A.T. Mail, Valsali Express and Haldibari Express in the larger interest of people of North Bengal

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK (Darjeeling): Sir, an alarming situation has arisen since the Railway authorities have recently diverted the Assam Mail passing through Siliguri Junction to New Jalpaiguri preceded by the total withdrawal of A.T. Mail and Vaisali Express from Siliguri Junction.

Diversion and total withdrawal of trains from this Station have caused widespread discontentment among a large number of porters, vendors, caterers and others concerned who used to earn their livelihood at this Station.

The Railway authorities have also removed the Crane Transhipment Handling Service from New Jalpaiguri and withdrawn the Haldibari Express running between Haldibari and new Jalpaiguri. This has seriously hampered the interest of the workers as well as passengers.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to look into these matters and restore the above-said trains and Crane Transhipment Handling Service in the larger interest of the people of North Bengal.

[*Translation*]

- (vi) Need to take necessary steps to check malpractices such as theft of postal articles and registered letters in Ajmer

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota): Sir, I want to raise the following matter under Rule 377.

Ajmer is a historical and religious place where the shrine of Khwajaji is located and mail and registered papers are received there from the followers of Khwajaji in India and abroad. The registered packets besides containing important information—contain dollars sent by the relatives and acquaintances of these followers living abroad. This is a big financial help for the followers living in Ajmer. But these registered packets and mail are not delivered to the addresses in Ajmer by the Ajmer Head Post Office and these packets and mail disappear in the way.

The first instance was brought to light in 1982 when Government's attention was invited to this malpractice. A second case has been reported recently. I would like to draw the attention of the House to the news item "*Registry Chori ka mamla pakra gaya*" (the theft of registered mail unearthed) which appeared in the Navjyoti dated, 24-3-85. These days thousands of pilgrims are visiting the Khawaja Shrine and if such reports come to light at this juncture, the people will definitely question the integrity of the P & T department.

I would urge the hon. Minister of Communications to order a CBI inquiry into these cases to remove the resentment prevailing among the people there and award exemplary punishment to the employees found guilty and also inculcate a sense of devotion of duties among other honest employees.