

[Translation]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to provide facilities in all T.V. centers in Kerala for relaying programme in Malayalam from T.V. stations in Trivandrum**

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Sir, although Doordarshan Transmission centres had been set up in different parts of Kerala a few years ago, the programmes in Malayalam are not available in any of the centres except in Trivandrum. The local people will get the benefit in full of the medium of T.V. only when apart from the national programmes, there are programmes in the local language also. For example, the T.V. centre at Palghat relay only programmes from Delhi and it is not equipped to relay the programmes in Malayalam from Trivandrum. Same is the case with other centres too. A language, not understood by local people and programmes depicting an unfamiliar cultural background make the T.V. programmes uninteresting. Therefore, it is necessary to equip all the relay centres in the State to relay programmes in the regional language apart from the national programmes. It is not proper to refuse to fulfill a basic cultural need of the people merely on the ground of financial constraints.

Therefore, I request the Government to provide the facilities in all the T.V. centres in Kerala for relaying programmes in Malayalam from the T.V. Station at Trivandrum.

[English]

- (ii) **Conversion of National Highway between Bangalore and Nelamangala into a double road**

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur): National Highway No. 4 is a double road only between Bangalore and Nelamangala. At least five to ten accidents take place every day leading to the loss of many precious lives. Therefore, it is very essential to immediately convert this high way into a double road between Tumkur and Nelamangala. In addition to this rest houses should

be constructed at important places on the high way. The state highway between Tumkur and Honraver should also be declared as National High way. By doing so it will enable thousands of people of Karnataka to go to Karwar and other parts. It will help the transportation of goods also. I hope that the Central Government will take necessary steps to convert this National Highway into a double road.

[Translation]

- (iii) **Extension of Tirori Tumsar Road Passenger train up to Bhandara town.**

SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI (Bhandara): Chanderpur, Gondia, Balaghat, Jabalpur cities of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are connected with narrow gauge railway line. This railway line, linking the cities mentioned above, passes through such areas where there are forests and Adivasis live there. There are iron, copper and manganese mines also in these areas. This narrow gauge line is more than 100 years old and the engines and coaches have become obsolete and dilapidated. Some two or three years back, due to collapse of a culvert, an entire train fell down into the river. About 400 persons had lost their lives in the accident. The then Railway Minister had visited the site and assured on the spot that during the Seventh Five Year Plan this line would definitely be converted into broad gauge line. But no action has, so far, been taken in this regard.

Similarly, there has been a long standing demand that the passenger train running between Tirori-Tumsar Road should be extended up to Bhandara Town. The railway line is available upto Jawahar Nagar passing through Bhandara. The coaches and engine which remain idle at Tumsar Road after coming from Tirori can be taken upto Bhandara Town via Bhandara Road. In this connection assurance had been given by the General Manager of the South Eastern Railways as also by the hon. Railway Minister that the train would be extended up to Bhandara Town.

I request the hon. Railway Minister to issue immediate orders to extend the Tirori Tumsar Road passenger train upto

*The speech was originally delivered in Malayalam.