

15.02 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

Twenty-Second Report

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduara) :
Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Twentysecond Report of the Committee on Private Mombers' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 6th August, 1986."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Twentysecond Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bill and Resolutions presented to the House on the 6th August, 1986."

The motion was adopted.

— — —

15.02½ hrs.

RESOLUTION RE : GROWTH OF
RURAL ECONOMY—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up further discussion on the Resolution moved by Shri D. N. Reddy on the 25th July, 1986.

Shri Harish Rawat to continue his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) :
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, last time I had stated that the officers and employees working in the rural areas did not have the feeling of commitment, devotion and attachment for the implementation of the programmes for the rural areas. We do not lack money for any programme for development, welfare, and economic uplift of the rural

areas. The Government has earmarked adequate funds for the welfare and the development of the rural areas through programmes like NREP, RLEGP, IRDP or Special Component Plan. After the Fifth and the Sixth Five Year Plans, these programmes are being implemented in a phased manner. The desired rate of progress has not been achieved even after spending so much money.

Roads are being constructed under NREP and RLEGP but their condition is such that a single rainfall washes away the earthwork and their condition becomes still worse. All the developmental activities are being carried out in a halfhearted manner. Corruption is rampant in the implementation of these programmes and as a result the weaker sections of the rural areas are being exploited. The rural workers have also adopted the ways of their urban counterparts, so much so that the leaders in the rural areas depend on these programmes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have promised drinking water in every village by 1990. According to a survey of 1972, many villages are still facing drinking water scarcity. Our national average in the rural electrification is also only 51 per cent. There are some States like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Bengal which have still not achieved the target of even 40 per cent. The Planning Commission should do something to change this situation. The Planning Commission should also issue guidelines to the various ministries engaged in this task. The Planning Commission should not only make allocation of funds but should also see to it that money is spent on the public welfare programmes for which it is allocated and must monitor the results of these programmes. As an Indian I am very proud of the fact that our country has made considerable progress after independence. It is a matter of pride for us to compare the present situation with that of 1947. But when we take stock of the entire situation we find that a sizeable portion of our population i.e. about 40 per cent people are living below the poverty line. We have not been able to provide them with the basic necessities of life. They do not have a house to live, clothes to wear and nutritious food to eat. But we cannot remain content with the