

13.47 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Need to establish development boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and Other Backward Regions of Maharashtra.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now we will take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri Banwari Lal Purohit.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur) : I beg to draw the attention of the House towards the excessive delay being caused in the formation of the statutory development boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and other regions of Maharashtra, under Article 371 (2) of the Constitution.

As far back as 26th July 1984, both the legislatures of Maharashtra by a resolution, unanimously passed, recommended to the Central Government to constitute the development boards. The heavy backlog of developmental expenditure in these backward regions is making the people of these regions very restless. May I, therefore, request the Government of India to take steps expeditiously in the matter ?

- (ii) Need to Introduce Daily Air Service to Ladakh.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : The people of Ladakh had been requesting the Civil Aviation Department to increase the frequency of Delhi-Leh Indian Airlines flights, by adding one flight each on the Delhi-Chandigarh-Leh and Delhi-Srinagar-Leh routes, thereby making it a daily flight. However, the Minister of Civil Aviation expressed his inability to increase the frequency of flights for some time, in view of the re-carpeting works in progress on the runway of Leh airport. Now, the re-carpeting works on the runway have been suspended for the winter months, and the runway is available for landing.

Ladakh remains out off from the rest of the country for over seven winter months, and the only communication during winter is by air. In view of the problems being faced by the people for entry and exit

out of Ladakh, I request the Government to introduce daily air service to Ladakh, by adding one flight each on the Chandigarh-Leh and Srinagar-Leh routes, at least for the winter months.

- (iii) Need to Set Up a Branch of All India Medical Institute at Calcutta.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW (Dum Dum) : The eastern region of India is lacking in modern medical facilities and amenities. A growing need for such an establishment is very evident. A geographical survey of the eastern region will show that the establishment of such a nature will serve the need of Assam, Bihar, Orissa, Tripura, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, West Bengal and the part of north-eastern region of India. The modern medical science in India is definitely extensive but no doubt it is very expensive i.e. for beyond the reach of common man of the eastern soil. The eastern region is contributing to the manpower of India whereas the medical facilities are not at par with the population explosion of the eastern soil. The handful of Hospitals with their ancient equipments, poor management and maintenance are unable to cope with the growing medical needs. On the one hand, the expensive nursing homes with latest medical treatment facilities are beyond the reach of the common people, on the other, the journey to Velore, Delhi or Bombay, the only three places that provide modern medical facilities with life saving devices are expensive and totally impractical for the ailing people of the eastern India due to distance. Calcutta being the major Metropolitan City in the eastern region having all infrastructural facilities and also connected by air and rail with all major cities and areas of eastern India. Calcutta will be the ideal place for setting up a branch of the All India Medical Institute like the one in Delhi.

- (iv) Need to appoint a body to monitor the programme for development of tribal of kannanore region of Kerala.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore) : In spite of the various programme initiated by the Government there appears to be very little change in the social status of the tribals of Kerala