

2. The Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 1985.
3. The Estate Duty (Distribution) Amendment Bill, 1985.

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(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No body is allowed to speak. Next item. We will now take up matters under Rule 377. I have not allowed anybody. Matters under Rule 377.

DR. A. KALANIDHI (Madras Central) : Sir, I want to point out a wrong statement made in a Statement under Rule 377 yesterday.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You give it in writing. We will see.

Matters under Rule 377.

Shri Zainul Basher.

12.20 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) Demand for inclusion of Ghazipur and Ballia cities of Uttar Pradesh in the Ganga Action Plan

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 27 cities have been included under the Ganga Action Plan to check pollution of the Ganga river. The river Ganga covers the maximum distance in Uttar Pradesh. Only 6 cities of Uttar Pradesh have been included under this Plan, whereas the number of cities covered in West Bengal is 17. Scientific research undertaken in connection with the pollution of the Ganga river has revealed that the maximum pollution is in the Varanasi region. The areas from Allahabad to Ballia form part of the Varanasi region. Whereas Mirzapur and Varanasi have been included in the Action Plan, Ghazipur and Ballia cities have been left out. Farrukhabad and Mirzapur of Uttar Pradesh, Chhapra of Bihar and a number of small cities of West Bengal have been included in the plan by treating them as first class area. Cities of Ghazipur and Ballia are also at par with these cities.

There is a great resentment among the local people due to non-inclusion of Ghazipur and Ballia in the Ganga Action Plan as Ghazipur is located on the banks of the Ganga. Effluents from the opium and sugar factories and breweries in the district as also the city's sullage are released into the river. The same is the situation of Ballia city. The pollution of the Ganga has started telling upon the health of the people living on its banks right from Varanasi to Ballia. Recently, the scientists had expressed their apprehension that an epidemic may break out in Varanasi due to pollution of the Ganga which may engulf the entire country. I would, therefore, request the Hon. Prime Minister to take steps to include Ghazipur and Ballia cities of the Varanasi region in Ganga Action Plan.

- (ii) Need for the exclusion of 'Mochis' from the list of Scheduled Castes in Gujarat Except in District Dang

SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA (Dhamdhuka) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, *Mochis* in Gujarat are not considered untouchables, because this caste is not untouchable in the State and economically also they are many times better off than the Harijans. In the rural as well as in urban areas, they live with high caste people. There is no difference in the standard of living of the high caste people and *Mochis* and the high caste people do not treat them as lower caste.

In Maharashtra, the *Mochi* caste has been included in the list of Scheduled castes and they work on raw hides and are treated as untouchables. When Dang district was included in the Gujarat State, the court for the sake of a few *Mochis* of this district ordered that all *Mochis* living in Gujarat should be included in the list of Scheduled Castes on technical grounds. As a result of it, a great injustice is being done to the Harijans of Gujarat, because most of the benefits which would have gone to them under the provisions of the constitution are now being cornered by the *Mochis* because of better education and access to the Administration. Their standard of living is also good and they are enjoying all the benefits meant for the Harijans.

Therefore, *Mochis* should be excluded

from the list of Scheduled Castes in Gujarat except those in Dang district and I request the Hon. Home Minister to introduce a Bill in the current session of Lok Sabha for this purpose.

- (iii) **Need to protect crops from wild animals and also to preserve the latter**

**DR. CHANDER SHEKHAR TRIPATHI** (Khalilabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the following matter in the House under rule 377.

The incidents of damage to crops by wild animals have become very common in various parts of the country. Such complaints are particularly more in the areas where agricultural land is located around the forests. For instance, most of the crops of the farmers in Basti and Gonda districts in Uttar Pradesh are destroyed by the wild animal called 'Neel Gai' (antelope). The number of antelopes in this area has increased to such an extent that it has become a formidable problem for the farmers to protect their crops. Howsoever intensive the protective measures they may take, some damage is unavoidable. Sometimes, it has been noticed that the farmers kill such wild animals in a bid to protect their crops. These wild animals are rare animals and Government are spending lakhs of rupees every year to increase their population. Thus, on the one hand, the crops of the farmers are being damaged and on the other, these rare wild animals in the country are being killed.

Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister that while there is need to save the farmers from such damage, it is also necessary to take concrete steps to protect these rare wild animals and as such I hope that Government would take necessary steps to save the crops as well as such rare animals.

- (iv) **Need to restore regular power supply to the Gorakhpur Fertiliser Plant**

**SARI MADAN PANDEY** (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the following matter in the House under rule 377.

The role of fertilizers and irrigation in increasing food production and bringing

agricultural revolution in the country is very vital. If uninterrupted power supply is assured for the fertilizer plants, we can have considerable increase in food production and the foreign exchange being spent on import of fertilizers can be saved. I have come to know that Gorakhpur Fertilizer Plant is being subjected to drastic power cuts and the production has come to a halt. Moreover, the workers are also facing the threat of lay-off. This plant used to get 53 M.V.A. of power which was reduced by 60 per cent on 21.2.85. In spite of efforts, 30 per cent power cut continued till 7.3.85, and on 25th March, the entire power was cut. Again, on 7.4.85, 10 M.V.A. of power was supplied. When I met the Hon. Energy Minister, the supply was raised to 25 M.V.A. from 10.4.85. The plant has suffered a loss of Rs. 3.5 crores and 28,000 tonnes in terms of production till 13th April.

Therefore, through this notice, I requested the Central Government to intervene in the matter immediately to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the plant and, if necessary, power should be arranged from the neighbouring States also.

[English]

- (v) **Need to have a Time Scale of Pay for employees of the NTC showrooms of Tamil Nadu**

**DR. A. KALANIDHI** (Madras Central): There are about 500 employees working in the Showrooms of the NTC in Tamil Nadu. They are being paid only consolidated salary. They are not given the time scale of pay as is being given to those employed in the NTC factories. I understand that the employees of the Patna Division NTC showrooms are being given time scale of pay. Why is a uniform policy not followed in the fixation of time-scale of pay to the workers of NTC showrooms in India? These showroom employees are also working just like any other employee of the Central Government, and its undertakings. When one division of NTC is paying time-scale of pay to its showroom employees, the other division of NTC in Tamil Nadu has no reason to deny it to its employees. In these circumstances and in view of the fact that India is one and there should not be any discrimination with reference to race, region, caste, etc., I request the