

the presence of the SP and RDO. This attack by police on me points to a very serious issue. When the representatives of the people seek to find solution to their problems through democratic means, if the police beat them brutally it would only destroy democracy.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only the approved text will go on record.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): I am on a point of order...[Interruptions]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot allow anything under rule 377.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: He should have given it under rule 357.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: For that what can I do?

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: But my point of order is after this statement under rule 377 in over.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: Not like this.

[Translation]

(xi) Demand for ensuring equal price of cane to all cane growers in Uttar Pradesh

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Salem-pur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, most of the Sugar Mills are found in Uttar Pradesh and the Government of Uttar Pradesh has divided them in to three categories. For quite sometime the price of sugar-cane in Western and Central Uttar Pradesh has been more by Re. one than in Eastern U.P. which is, to my mind, not justified. Last year the difference was of 50 paise. This was an injustice to the farmers of Eastern U.P., because the recovery in Sugar Mills of Eastern U.P. for the last three years has been more than that in mills of Western and Central Uttar Pradesh. This is also true that some years ago, the recovery in mills of Western and Central U.P. used to be more than that

in mills of Eastern U.P. That is why the farmers of the Western and Central Uttar Pradesh used to get Re. one more, but during the last three years the cane-growers of Eastern U.P. have proved through hard labour, that the recovery of sugar from their cane has been more than that from the cane produced by the cane growers of Western and Central Uttar Pradesh. Even the figures of the last few years confirm that the recovery from the sugar cane produced by the farmers of Eastern U.P. has been more than that from the cane produced by the farmers of Western and Central U.P.

Now the recovery in sugar mills of Eastern U.P. is more than that in sugar mills of Western and Central Uttar Pradesh. This fact has even been acknowledged by the hon. Chief Minister of U.P. It is, therefore, quite unjustified to pay 50 paise less to the farmers of Eastern U.P.

So I request the hon. Minister to give up this discriminatory policy towards the farmers of Eastern Uttar Pradesh as early as possible and ensure a uniform price to all the farmers of the State.

(xii) Demand for Central Government's taking over Ramacast Limited, Motihari (Bihar)

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA (Motihari): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the land of Northern region of Bihar is very fertile and full of greenery. Valmiki Nagar adjoining Nepal is abundant in forest wealth, medicinal herbs and various plants. Devastating floods in the last few years have shattered the economy of this picturesque region. The *per-capita* income of this region is the lowest in comparison to that of other regions of the country. Due to shortage of power, thousands of cottage and small industries are lying closed. Especially the economic condition in East Champaran district is pitiable and the plight of the farmers is beyond description. It is regretful that not a single industry of Central or State level has yet been set up in this district, which was active during the freedom movement and had

[Shrimati Prabhawati Gupta]

made substantial contribution towards it. Closure of Ramacast Limited in the private sector for the last 7-8 years has rendered hundreds of workers unemployed in the district. So I request the Central Government to take over the Ramacast Limited (Motihari) and also to direct the State Government to start, without delay, agro-based industries by keeping in mind the agricultural potential of the district for providing jobs to unemployed workers and for ameliorating the economic condition of the farmers.

(xiii) Demand for Extension of the Barhan-Etah railway line upto Farrukhabad (U.P.)

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in the Allahabad division of Northern Railway a branch line from the Barhan railway station on the main line near Tundla, to Etah has been laid. Since its construction in 1969, this line has been running into losses for which the railway administration is responsible as it did not conduct a proper survey at that time. Had the line been laid from Hathras or Aligarh Junction the project would have been successful. On the line from Barhan to Etah only two trains hauled by steam locomotives are run. There the movement of goods and passengers is very less because the condition of coaches is very bad. For changing the direction of locomotives, there is no shed in Etah and these locomotives have to be sent to Barhan for the same.

Etah district is backward due to lack of means of transportation. As long as the line is not extended from Etah, it will remain uneconomic. Its only solution is the extension of the railway line from Etah to Farrukhabad because the latter is connected with the broad gauge line coming from Shikohabad. This way a circle of broad gauge railway lines will come into being making it more useful for the public as well as for the Railways. I would like to request the hon. Minister of Railways to first get the survey work completed, before the proposal

for extension of this line is presented to the Planning Commission so that it is included in this or any future plan and budgetary provisions made for making the means of transport more convenient for the people of Etah district.

12.40 hrs.

FOREST (CONSERVATION) AMENDMENT BILL

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we shall go to the next item-Bills for consideration and passing.

Shri Z.R. Ansari.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration." ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI G.G. SWELL (Shillong): Kindly check whether there is quorum, Sir. Or if you want to run on decorum. I have no objection. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let the quorum bell be rung. Now, there is quorum. The Minister may continue.

SHRI Z.R. ANSARI: Sir, as the hon. Members are aware the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 was passed on the initiative of our Former Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi after the enormous deforestation which has occurred in our country due to various factors had been noticed. About 4.5 million hectares were lost between 1951-52 to 1979-80. The State Governments could not exercise control over such diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose.