

12.10 1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

Tenth Report

CH. RAM PRAKASH (Ambala): I beg to present the Tenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sitting of the House.

12.11 hrs.

STATEMENT *RE* MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE OF *Toria* CROP OF 1987-88

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G.S. DHILLON): Sir, as announced earlier on 12th instant, the Government have fixed the minimum support price of *Toria* crop of 1987-88 to be marketed in 1987-88 season itself at Rs. 400 per quintal. The price fixed for 1987-88 season is higher by Rs. 25 per quintal than that of the last year. The price has been fixed at a higher level to provide incentive to the producers to increase the production of oilseeds.

12.12 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): With

your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing today will consist of:-

- (1) Further consideration and passing of the Railway Claims Tribunal Bill, 1987 and the Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Amendment Bill, 1987, as passed by Rajya Sabha.
- (2) Consideration and passing of:-
 - (a) The Comptroller and Auditor-General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1987.
 - (b) The High Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1987.
 - (c) The Repealing and Amending Bill, 1986, as passed by Rajya Sabha.
 - (d) The Parsi Marriage and Divorce (Amendment) Bill, 1987, as passed by Rajya Sabha.
- (3) Discussion and Voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1987-88.
- (4) Consideration and passing of the following Bills, as passed by Rajya Sabha:-
 - (a) The Authorised Translations (Central Laws) Amendment Bill, 1987.
 - (b) The Equal Remuneration (Amendment) Bill, 1987.
 - (c) The All India Council for Tech-

nical Education Bill, 1987.

- (d) The Merchant Shipping (Second Amendment) Bill, 1987.
 - (e) The Dock Workers (Regulation of Employment) Amendment Bill, 1987.
- (5) Consideration and passing of the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunal) Amendment Bill, 1987.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO (Rajahmundry):
Sir, I request that the following may be included in this week's business:-

As the House is aware, the East-Godavari District in Andhra Pradesh was ravaged by unprecedented and most severe floods along with other districts in the Godavari basin in August 1986. An assurance was given that the farmers who were affected by the fury of floods would be given help under the Crop Insurance Scheme. While the farmers of West-Godavari and Krishna Districts had been already given money under this programme, it is unfortunate that no amount has been released to the farmers of East-Godavari District so far. They have not been able to recover from the reeling affect of the floods. Their economy is shattered. They are not in a position to pursue cultivation activities. They have been eagerly waiting for the release of funds. An amount of Rs. 15.61 crores is still to be paid against insurance money for the victims of those floods. I, therefore, appeal to the Government to come forward immediately and make payment to the farmers of East-Godavari District who were badly affected by the floods in several mandals in East-Godavari District.

12.16 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kaliabor): Sir, I request that the following may be included in this week's business:-

The world-famous one-Horned Rhino land 'Kaziranga' which is situated in my constituency 'Kaliabor' in Assam, is on the verge of extinction because of heavy erosion caused by the mighty river Brahmaputra. In this connection, I draw the attention of the Government of India for taking immediate measures to protect the 'Kaziranga National Park' and its most precious wild-life including setting up of one model village, beautification of the game sanctuary for attracting the foreign tourists and also lifting area-restrictions permit for the foreign tourists including rendering modern amenities of life there. The health of wild animals like buffaloes, deers, bears and rhinos is deteriorating very much because of the dampness in the sanctuary due to heavy floods. Some wild animals have died because of various diseases and floods. Present need is the protection of the wild animals there. During rainy season, the entire sanctuary gets submerged with flood water for months together. As a result of this, the wild animals go here and there and fall prey in the hands of the poachers. During the last floods, about 5,000 deers were killed by poachers or washed away by flood waters. Many rhinos have been also killed by poachers due to insufficient forest guards. The rhinos will be extinct from the map of 'Kaziranga' if quick action is not taken. I request that the Government should build some platform within the sanctuary so that during the rainy season or floods, the wild animals can take shelter on it. The number of forest guards should be increased and instructions issued to provide necessary protection to the animals from various diseases.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati):
Sir, there was a discussion on floods. When it is coming up again? Have you got any idea when it will be taken up?

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: It will be coming up.

[Translation]

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV (Morena): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following subject may please be included in the list of Business for the next week. Bhind and Morena district of Chambal division are not getting their full share of water from Gandhi Sagar although it was decided that water would be should by Chambal division and Rajasthan in the ratio of 40:60. The reason is that very often the canal gets breached on the border of Rajasthan, the repairs of which take considerable time. As a result, the crops of the farmers wither away. In view of this difficulty, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has formulated a number of irrigation projects in respect of Chambal division, such as, irrigation scheme on Kumbo river, lift irrigation schemes near Eshadh and Nadi villages on chambal river and Majuri and Bhamar well project which are pending with the Central Government since long. I would request the Central Government that the above mentioned projects should be cleared immediately and a senior officer of the Central Government should be Deputed to surprise the shifting of water of Gandhi Sagar so that the farmers of Chambal division could get their full share of water.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Sir, Oriya is one of the oldest languages in the country. It has a very rich and high standard literature. Its rare books having eternal values, in fitness of things, deserve to be translated into English, Hindi and other regional languages for the benefit of literature-loving people of different State in the country and even abroad. This could very well be done by establishing as Institute of

Translation on the initiative of the Union Government. Such translation would also go a long way in strengthening the much-needed solidarity of our multilingual country.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): Sir, I request that the following may be included in this week's business.

The reported neglect of Malabar area in Kerala by Railway Department giving rise to widespread dissatisfaction and agitation involving demonstration, stopping of trains and other untoward incidents. The Railway Ministry may kindly intervene.

The numerous technical snags which have developed time and again on the aircraft of our main domestic airlines, i.e., the Indian Airlines, have not only inconvenienced but also jeopardised the lives of its passengers. A detailed discussion on the floor of the House is sought.

SHRI MOHD MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah): I request that the following may be included in this week's business:-

The television network has been considerably expanded with the inclusion of vast urban and rural areas in the country during the successive Five-Year Plans with the objective of providing education, entertainment, information regarding national and international events besides promoting national integrity. Although the achievements in this regard are laudable, yet, much remains to be done to extend the media to majority of the backward areas in the country. Etah district in Uttar Pradesh is one such backward area. The existing relay stations at Farrukhabad, Kanpur, Etawah and Agra with low power transmitters having a viewing range of only 26 kms do not feed Etah which is at a distance of 60 kms, with the result that T.V. reception in the district is blurred and very poor, virtually depriving the people T.V.

programmes. If a high power 5 KW T.V. Relay Centre is established at Etah, it will cover the entire sub-divisional headquarters of the district.

I would, therefore, urge the Government to consider the feasibility of installing a high power transmitter in Etah in public interest and to take necessary steps for its installation before the close of the current financial year to provide the benefits of the media to lakhs of people of Etah district.

SHRI KRISHNA SINGH (Bhind): Sir, the following may please be included in this week's apsmda:-

The Etawah-Gwalior-Jhansi road, a major portion of which is presently State Highway no. 37 of Madhya Pradesh, is a very important inter-State road which links one of the most backward and formerly dacoit-infested rural areas of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh with developing industrial and commercial towns. After the eradication of dacoity menace, this rural area is now undergoing a very rapid agricultural development. New Industrial areas have also come up near Bind, Gwalior and Jhansi, resulting in very heavy traffic on this State Highway. The State Governments are unable to develop this road according to the rapidly growing traffic requirements. I, therefore, request the Government of India to declare this important State Highway as a National Highway, for which Madhya Pradesh has submitted a proposal a long time back.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: We will consider the submissions made by the hon. Members and will try to accommodate as many of them as we can in the next week.

12.24. hrs.

RAILWAY CLAIMS TRIBUNAL BILL AND
METRO RAILWAYS (CONSTRUCTION
OF WORKS) AMENDMENT BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): I would like to propose that items 16 and 17 of the agenda, namely, further consideration of the Railway Claims Tribunal Bill and Metro Railways (Construction of Works) Amendment Bill, be postponed till tomorrow because the Minister for Railways has gone to the site of the railway accident which took place late last evening.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think, the House agrees.....

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We now go to the next item.

12.25 hrs.

COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR-
GENERAL'S (DUTIES, POWERS AND
CONDITIONS OF SERVICE) AMEND-
MENT BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): On behalf of Shri Narayan Datt Tiwari, I beg to move* that the Bill further to

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.