

District Road) which passes through both Dhule and Jalgoan districts in Maharashtra

In the absence of a gate, the vehicles have to pass under a Railway bridge No 294 which is very narrow, only 10 feet wide. So, traffic is blocked or totally jammed for hours together specially during rainy season and there is no alternative way. Vehicles are not allowed to pass under the bridge. So the Government of Maharashtra have not constructed about 1/2 km Pucca road sides of the Railway line

Unless the gate is constructed it is not possible to connect the roads approaching the Railway line from both sides

I therefore, request the Central Government to construct a Railway gate near Padase Railway Station at the earliest

- (iii) **Need to maintain status-quo in respect of release of water from Indra Gandhi Canal, Rajasthan.**

[Translation]

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir Water allowance in the Indra Gandhi Canal project has been decreased from 5.23 cusec to 3.00 cusec. It will cause substantial reduction in production in that area

Reduction in water allowance has been said as Sem Water logging. But in no branch or minor of any canal in this area is totally affected by Sem Water logging. Only a small portion of branch or minor is affected by Sem Water logging. Reduction in Water allowance is not at all justified as it will adversely affect production of crops in the area

Good crop and production of paddy in Kharif has been achieved in the affected area during the last three four years. Reduction in water allowance will make paddy cultivation impossible and the fields will remain uncultivated in which quick growing bushes will come out and make the land barren. It will be very difficult to reclaim such fields for production of crops. The problem of Water logged area can be solved by use of modern equipments or by drainage system or some other alternative

On the pretext of water logging, water is being given in second stage instead of first stage, which is highly detrimental to the farmers of the area and totally unjustified. The first stage land is Dumat, while second stage land is mostly arid. Its land yields good crops. Therefore, water allowance reduction is not justified. If inspite of all this the water allowance is reduced it will invite a big public agitation against such a wrong and unjustified step

I, therefore appeal to Central Government to maintain status quo of water allowance of 5.23 cusec in Indra Gandhi Canal project

- (iv) **Need to release adequate funds for widening the National Highway No. 43 at Nowrangpur, Orissa.**

[English]

SHRI K PRADHANI (Nowrangpur) Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir I wish to raise the following matter under Rule 377

The National Highway 43 runs through Nowrangpur parliamentary constituency from Raipur to Andhra Pradesh. The road transport is the only convenient transport available to the three districts of Orissa, namely, Nowrangpur, Koraput and Malkangiri as it touches the nearest railway line at Vijayanagaram in much shorter time. The road is narrow but slowly it is being widened on the hills. The road between Eastern Ghat and Salur is much lower in height equivalent to the paddy fields and as a result of that during rainy season the flood water always logs on the road and damages it regularly, causing much hardship to the motor vehicles passing on this road

I therefore, urge upon the Government of India to release sufficient money for widening the road on the hills and to raise the level of the road from the hills to Salur town as early as possible to enable the vehicles to pass on this road without any trouble in shorter time and prevent damage of the road during rainy season

- (v) **Need to celebrate 200th Anniversary of Ahilyabai throughout the country and set up National Awards in her memory.**

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir Dev' Ahilya Bai Holkar is a great honorific heritage of our country. She ruled over her state very efficiently 200 years ago and established a mark in the whole country about her governance and administration. She while maintaining integrity, sovereignty of the country and cultural heritage renovated several temples of worship. She erected ghats at rivers and travellers rest houses (Dharam Shalas) at several places. She performed this noble work at pilgrimage Centres in all the corners of the country in a systematic manner. She was our able statesman, efficient administrator and a great environmentalist who looked after food and life of birds and animals including fish and made satisfactory arrangements therefor. Such a great and noble lady died in 1795 on Shraavan Badi Chaturdashi. Her 200th death anniversary falls during the current year. She became mother for the people due to her status as a queen. The whole country should

remember that venerable and worshipable lady. Keeping this idea in mind her 200th death anniversary should be celebrated on national level.

For the purpose, a national committee should be appointed by the Government and it should also set up national awards in the name of great Ahilya Bai, to be given to such great ladies of the nation, who contributed a lot in any of the four fields such as politics, administration, Service of humanity, preservation of Dharama (Righteousness), which had been the four main and sacred pillars of the life of Ahilya Bai. Similarly postal stamp should be issued in her memory and serial on her wonderful and pure life be broadcast on television network.

- (vi) **Need to restore central aid given for development of scheduled castes to the Government of Rajasthan and also to allow its use for providing drinking water etc. in scheduled castes dominated villages.**

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, an amount of Rs. 18 crores was used to be allocated every year by Central Government for the development of Scheduled Castes to Rajasthan State Government but this year this amount has been reduced to Rs. 8 crores only, out of which only Rs. 2 crores have been given. For the remaining Rs. 6 crores, a condition has been laid that the amount will not be allowed to be spent on the schemes of drinking water, electricity and road development in the villages inhabited by scheduled castes. Whereas emphasis is being given to the works of development in the villages inhabited by scheduled castes in other states.

Therefore, Central Government, is requested to remove the restriction put on the use of money by State Government of Rajasthan and the full amount of Rs. 18 crore be given to the State Government on as was given earlier and that amount needs to be further increased to at least Rs. 25 crores.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have a point of order Earlier the Central Government used to reply to the issues raised through Rule 377 within one or two weeks, but that practice has been put to an end. I want to urge to the Government that reply should be given to the members in regard to the matters raised under rule 377 as was the practice earlier.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I have raised such an important matter under Rule 377. If the Government does not reply to the matters raised here, what is the use of our being members of Parliament? Shri Rajesh Pilot, Minister of State in the Ministry of Home affairs is sitting here and the Minister for rural Development is also

present. If they choose to remain silent on such an important issue, what is the use of our raising issues of Public Importance here ?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Girdhari Lalji, Government will respond to it.

- (vii) **Need to develop an Airport at Muzaffarpur, Bihar.**

[Translation]

SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir land of northern Bihar is very fertile. Many small and big rivers flow there. Rainfall is also sufficient. But northern Bihar is a victim of floods and droughts. Fruits, vegetables, flowers grow in plenty there. If the Central Government develops Muzaffarpur aerodrome properly and make arrangements for export of fruits, vegetables, flowers etc. direct to Arabian countries from there then the poverty, unemployment and backwardness of northern Bihar can be removed thereby and the regional imbalance will not also remain

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to properly develop Muzaffarpur aerodrome and make arrangements for export of fruits, vegetables, flowers etc. from northern Bihar to Arabian countries directly.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is also another subject under Rule 377.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Whatever happened about Prof. Rawat's suggestion, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister concerned to this. Mr. Rajesh Pilot assured that hereafter the Government will respond to the suggestions made in rule 377. You also said that will be done, but whether it has come in the record....

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I checked up with my colleague about what is happening with the question relating to Rural development. He said that we are answering all those issues which are raised in Matters under Rule 377...(Interruptions).

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, we do not get replies to the matters raised by us here under Rule 377, which we should get.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: I found that the spirit behind the statement was very very sincere. I checked it up with my colleague. I asked him, "Is this happening?" He said, "No, we are replying all matters raised under Rule 377. This is what I was talking to him...(Interruptions)