Both our Missions in Kampal and Nairobi have gone to great lengths to ensure that Indian nationals as well as persons of Indian origin were assisted at this time of crisis. Government also wish to acknowledge with gratitude the generous and timely assistance of Belgium, France and USA.

Our High Commissioner was in Bujumbura last week where a few of our nationals have decided to stay on. Further consular services that were requested were provided and an assessment made of the local situation in Burundi where there is also tension.

I would like to clarify that our Passport Office at Ahmedabad received one application just two days ago, on May 9, 1994 from a Rwanda evacuee for a duplicate passport. This is being processed expeditiously.

Sir, the situation in Rwanda continues to be uncertain. Looting of property including that belonging to Indians has taken place ever since the trouble began although it has not been directed at Indians as such. Once the situation becomes clearer, we would be in a position to request the Rwanda authorities to safeguard the property of Indian nationals.

12.40 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to Ensure Adequate Supply of Petrol, Diesel And Kerosene Oil to People of Andaman And Nicobar Islands

[English]

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman and Nicobar Islands): Sir,

Andaman and Nicobar Islands is one of the most remote isolated backward territory. where there is actute shortage of kerosence. petrol and diesl oil. Except in Port Blair and Car Nicobar Island, there is neither any petrol pump nor any kerosene depot, from where people can get petrol, kerosene and diesel, to meet their requirements. For the last two months, there is an acute shortage of these products at Diglipur, Mayabunder, Little Andaman, Campbel Bay, Naun Caury, Katchal and other Islands. As the ferry boats are not carrying these items, the people of these islands are facing tremendous hardships. Besides, the Government could not arrange boats to carry all these essential items to different islands. In many places, the poor villagers and tribals are not even able to light the lamp in the evening. A serious situation is prevailing without any redressal. I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to depute a team of Indian Oil Corporation to examine the requirements of petrol, diesel and kerosene oils to these Islands, so that necessary arrangements can be made to supply therse items to the needy people of these Islands.

(ii) Need for Setting up of an Aluminium Plant in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA KONATHALA (Anakapall) Sir, the Geological Survey of India and the Mineral Exploration Corporation have established the existence of bauxite in Visakhapatnam, East-Godavari and Srikakulam districts in Andhra Pradesh, which is estimated at seven hundred million tonnes which constitutes more than fifty per cent of the deposits in India. The Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation studied the feasibility of setting up of an alumina/aluminium plant based on the bausite deposits and recommended in the year 1977, for establishment of a six million

tonne alumina plant and identified Korukonda village near Krishnathivipeta in Visakhapatnam district. The Bharat Aluminium company ltd. had undertaken the study of the feasibility and identified two locations, one near Koraput in Orissa and another near Krishnathivipeta near Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh nave already confirmed the availability of land, totalling 2,433 acres, and offered to provide infrestructure like water, power and other requirements, if any.

In Jonuary, 1986, the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission studied the scope and modalities of the proposed bauxite - based alumina plant for export - oriented buxite and a Memorandum of Understanding had been signed on 24.1.1986, between the national Aluminium Company Ltd. and the USSR.Subsequently, in 1986, the management of NALCO was entrusted with the preparation of the feasibility report and, in turn, NALCO submitted its export - oriented mining to the Government of India. The State Government also proposed to exempt payment of Mineral Rights Tax, but from 1988 till now, no action has been initiated on this plant.

I request the Central Government to expedite the matter at the earliest and see that the proposed alumina / aluminium plant is entrusted to NALCO or BALCO at earliest.

(iii) Need to Clear the Proposal of Government of Kerala for Implementation of Integrated Wasteland Development Project in Wayanad District.

[Translation]

SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Sir, a proposal from the Govern-

ment of Kerala to implement the integrated Wasteland Development Project in the Wayanad District of Kerla is awaiting clearance from the Union Government. 4,500 hectares of land comes under this project, out of which, 500 hectares of land is degraded forest land. The total cost of the project is around Rs. 4 crore.

Raising of decentralised nurseries, soil and moisture conservation, afforestation and social forestry, dryland horticulture, regeneration of degraded forest and distribution of fuel wood devices are the programmes to be undertaken under this project.

This project is very essential for the development of Wayanad district, which is a very backward district of the State. I would, therefore, request the Central Government to accord clearance to this project early.

(iv) Need to Assess the Needs of Fishermen in Srikakulam District of Andhra Pradesh

[English]

DR. VISWANATHAN KANITHI (SRIKAKULAM): Sir, fisheries is Srikakulam district in Andhra Pradesh are under-developed. The facilities and infrastructures available to fisharmen community in the district are totally negligible when compared with other parts of the coastal areas of the country.

The district has more than 175 kilometres of coastline with 105 fishermen villages consisting of more than 23,000 families. There are no mechanised boats in the entire coastline to enhance the catch. There are no landing berths on the shore. The villages are deprived of facilities for storage and preservation of the fish. Some

^{*} Translation of the matters originally raised in Tamil