

can do without the lunch hour. If we have to facilitate the starting of the Private Members' Business on time, I think the House can continue without any lunch break. Now, it is 3.30 p.m. and we have to take up the Private Members' Business.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Matters under Rule 377 may please be allowed.

MR. SPEAKER : Matters under Rule 377 will be allowed. Afterwards private members will be taken up, there is a little time left for it.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M.SAYEED) : Mr. Speaker Sir, with your permission, I would like to submit that we may pass the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill which has already been passed in the other House.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. In this House, I should not be taken by surprise in this way.

SHRI P.M.SAYEED: There is only a small amendment to be done in a single section.

MR. SPEAKER: Before allowing you, I should understand what is there. If it were really of a technical nature, I would have agreed. But I had to apply my mind. Had you talked to me beforehand, I would have applied my mind. That is a different thing.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Yesterday, the situation was critical, that is why we have done this, it is not possible every day.

HON. SPEAKER: This is his difficulty but even then he does not want to do it.

[English]

15.30 hrs

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) NEED TO GRANT ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE TO KARWAFI MEDIUM IRRIGATION PROJECT IN GADCHIROLI DISTRICT OF MAHARASHTRA

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE (CHANDRAPUR): Sir, various irrigation projects of Gadchiroli and Chandrapur districts of Maharashtra are awaiting clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India. One such project awaiting clearance is Karwafi Medium irrigation project in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra. Near about 770.25 hectares of forest land is involved in this project. The project proposals have been submitted to Government of India by Government of Maharashtra. This project has been administratively approved by Government of India with the help of the World Bank. Government of Maharashtra have spent nearly three crores of rupees till 1984 for the construction of buildings, approach roads and foundation of the project. Work has been stopped for want of Environmental clearance. Gadchiroli is a tribal district with 68% forest cover.

15.31 hrs

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER IN THE CHAIR)

I urge upon Minister of Environment and Forests to examine this project from all angles and take necessary steps for clearance for this project in the naxalite affected areas.

- (ii) NEED TO CELEBRATE 3RD CENTENARY OF CREATION OF THE ORDER OF KHALSA BY GURU GOBIND SINGH AS THE 'YEAR OF HUMAN SPIRIT'

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (CHANDIGARH): Sir, it was in the year 1699 that Guru Gobind Singh established the Order of Khalsa. He emphasised on the oneness of all humanity highlighting the universality of the human spirit. The completion of the third centenary of the major event would obviously generate great enthusiasm in India and abroad. It will only add to the richness of India's diversity and install greater inter-faith understanding if the year 1999 is celebrated as the "Year of the Human Spirit". This would help make a new beginning in the relationship of the Sikh community with people of other faiths, transcending sectarian and any other narrow consideration.

I urge the Government to set up a National Committee for the purpose associating important national figures and also to approach the United Nations to observe the year as the "Year of the Human Spirit".

- (iii) NEED FOR EARLY SETTLEMENT OF COMPENSATION CLAIMS OF FARMERS WHOSE LAND WAS ACQUIRED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FIRING RANGE AT MAHAJAN TOWN IN BIKANER, RAJASTHAN.

[Translation]

SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH (Bikaner): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thirty four villages were get vacated when a firing range was constructed in Mahajan city of Rajasthan. The Farmers of these villages were given agricultural land in lieu of agricultural land and those people who wanted compensation for residential area were given the compensation for that but due to the lapses on the part of officers some agriculturists could still not covered and they were neither given cultivable land nor compensation for their cultivable land. These farmers are still running from pillar to post for compensation for their agricultural and residential land for the last 10-15 years.

Similarly, no compensation has been paid for school buildings, wells and agricultural land has not been paid so far.

We urge upon the Government to get it investigated and then the farmers should be paid compensation promptly by issuing order to this effect immediately.

- (iv) NEED TO PROVIDE BETTER TELECOM FACILITIES TO MAYURBHANJ IN ORISSA

[English]

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA (Mayurbhanj): Sir, Mayurbhanj, Balasore and Bhadrak revenue districts are