

12.36 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to Allocate More Funds for Providing Adequate Shelter under the Specified Housing Schemes to the Backward Communities in Srikakulam District of Andhra Pradesh**

[English]

DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI (Srikakulam): Shelter is an important infrastructure for every family. Because of the disparity in the economic structure of the people, vast majority of the people are living in huts and hutments, which are roofed with straw of palm leaves. These straw and palm leaves are temporary, replaceable, incurring increasing renewal cost, vulnerable to gale, rain and fire, causing heavy damage to property. All farmers, specially the poor and marginal farmers, artisans, agricultural workers and labourers, have no other option than to go in for thatched roofing. So they are the people who are put to hardship due to fire, rain, etc. and also incur heavy losses. This is usually irrecoverable. When a poor man's dwelling is burnt in a fire accident, he loses everything of the household. The Government and General Insurance provide Rs. 500 immediately and Rs. 1,000 months or years after the incident.

In the National Housing Policy under the I.A.Y. Scheme all families of Scheduled Tribes and Castes and a tiny fraction of economically backward classes are eligible for semi-permanent and permanent rural housing. There is also a shelter upgradation programme for economically backward classes in urban

areas. These programmes must be extended in rural areas with increased allocation to cover more families in the district.

So, I urge upon the Central Government to allot more funds to enable more number of economically backward classes comprising about two lakh families in the district to get the benefits under the I.A.Y. and Shelter Improvement Programme.

- (ii) **Need to provide adequate supply of electricity at concessional rate to Haryana**

[Translation]

SHRI JANGBIR SINGH (Bhiwani): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Haryana occupies the second place in the production of foodgrains throughout the country but for the last few years the farmers of the State have not been getting adequate supply of electricity and water. The construction of Satluj-Yamuna link canal has been lying pending for the last many years and due to it, Haryana has not been getting its full share

The Southern Haryana, specially the area of my constituency is sandy. The rainy water, which used to come earlier from the hill areas of Alwar which is close to Haryana, has been stopped from last year by the Rajasthan Government, and on account of it the ground water level is falling down every year. The ground water of this area is sweet and favourable for agriculture but the electricity connections are not being given for the tube-wells and due to it the burden of loan is increasing on the farmers.

[Shri Jangbir Singh]

The Government of Haryana is making all efforts to help the farmers but the lack of resources renders it helpless.

Therefore, my submission to the Central Government is that adequate electricity supply should be provided to Haryana at concessional rate and to set up a power generation plant, adequate central aid should be given and besides it the construction work of S.Y.L. Canal should be completed soon.

(iii) Need for taking up Restoration Work and proper Maintenance of Tipu Sultan's Fort at Belthangadi (Karnataka)

[English]

SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA (Chikmagalur): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the dilapidated condition of Jamala Bai Gadai Fort, which has historical importance, located at Belthangadi Taluk, Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka and it comes in My Parliamentary constituency, Chikmagalur.

Jamala Bai was mother of Tipu Sutan, erstwhile King of Mysore. He built this fort on a huge monolith stone and named it after his mother. This is one of the tourist attraction spots, drawing thousands of tourists every year. But this is now in a very dilapidated condition.

I urge upon the Government to direct the Archaeological Survey of India to take up restoration work and regular maintenance of the Fort.

(iv) Need to Commission Radio Station at Nasik in Maharashtra early

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik): Sir, it is learnt that Nasik Radio Station is technically ready. However, there is no staff available there at the moment. As Nasik is growing industrially and agriculturally besides having a large number of educational institutions, this Radio Station will be of immense use for the farmers, industrialists as well as the students. Delay in commissioning this Radio Station will be detrimental to the people of the area and would affect developmental activities there.

I urge upon the Government to ensure early commissioning of radio station at Nasik and recruit the required staff there.

(v) Need to create Additional Storage Space at Godowns of FCI and to arrange for Timely Transportation of Procured Foodgrains from Godowns

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL (Erandol): Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Central Government towards the inability of the Food Corporation of India to provide enough covered storage to procure rice and other Kharif foodgrains. This has led to distress sales by farmers for lack of covered storage space. Another factor causing lack of space for rice and Kharif foodgrains storage is slow movement of procured wheat from the godowns of the FCI and thus there is not enough storage space available to the FCI in several States. The FCI is unable to move the procured foodgrains out of its godowns due to low offtake by consuming States as well due to railway transportation difficulties.