

[English]

"Leave it to me, I will do that. How I will do that, leave it to me."

[Translation]

There were his words: Leave it to me, and he has been avoiding it for one and a half year. The impeachment motion is lying pending in the House even today. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister of Parliamentary affairs that keeping in view the sentiments of all the hon. Members, there is no other alternative, the impeachment motion may kindly be passed through consensus and the Chief Election Commissioner be removed. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Matter under Rule 377.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let there not be any debate. It is not fair on our part to drag on the Zero Hour for such a long time.

SHRI M. R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): Sir, when the by-election is going on in Tamil Nadu, he should not meddle or disrupt the by-election which is going on in Tamil Nadu. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Janarthanan, you wanted a response from the hon. Minister, the Minister has also responded to your request. Let us now go for Matters under Rule 377.

13.29½ hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

(i) Need to clear Pamba-Achankoil Vaigai River link Project of Tamil Nadu

DR. V. RAJESHWARAN (Ramanathapuram): Ramanathapuram district in Tamil Nadu is the most backward drought

prone area. Drinking water scarcity is the major problem as subsoil water in most of the area is saline. Due to frequent failure of monsoon, most of the land remains dry and agriculture normally fail. National Water Development Agency has taken up 23 water balance studies in India. Pamba-Achankoil Vaigai river link is one among those studies. If this project is implemented about 700 million cubic metres of water can be diverted towards Tamil Nadu. The project cost is around Rs.700 crores. This will help in irrigation of one lakh hectare of land in Tamil Nadu and provide 17 MW electricity benefit to Kerala.

In view of the backwardness of the district, I request the Central Government to finalise this project immediately. I further request that World Bank loan may be sought for speedy implementation of the project.

(ii) Need to amend the Constitution to make provisions for providing reservation in Government jobs to other backward classes in proportion to their population

SHRI P. P. KALIAPERUMAL (Cuddalore): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the population of other backward Classes constitute 52 per cent of the total population of India. The population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes constitute 22 per cent of the total population of India. The reservation of jobs to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes has been rightly made in proportion to their population, that is, 22 per cent. But surprisingly, the reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) has been made 27 per cent which is not in proportion to their population. This is thus an anomaly.

The people of Other Backward Classes, sans the creamy layer are socially oppressed and economically depressed. They are half-naked, semi-starved and illiterates.

In these circumstances, I urge upon the Union Government to suitably amend the

[Sh. P.P. Kaliaperumal]

provisions of the Constitution of India which stands in the way to reserve Government jobs in proportion to their population so as to render social justice to the people of Other Backward Classes.

(iii) Need to clear the pending power projects of Kerala State

SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Mr. Deputy Speaker, sir, Kerala State faces a lot of difficulties with regard to power. The State does not get enough power to meet even the domestic demands. Low voltage and power cut have become common features. In order to find a solution to this problem, the Government of Kerala have submitted many schemes for the consideration of the Central Government. The Thermal Power Station at Kayamkulam, the Pooyankutty Hydro-electric Project, Brahmappuzha, Diesel Projects at Kasargod and Calicut are some of the important projects among them. Most of these projects still remain on paper either because of the objections from the Department of Environment or because of unresolved problem regarding foreign aid.

I would, therefore, request the Union Government to sanction these projects so that construction work could be started during the current financial year itself. I would also request the Government to get foreign aid from Japan for the Thermal Power Project at Kayamkulam.

(iv) Need to solve the problems of people displaced due to construction of Tehri Dam in Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the demand to rehabilitate the displaced persons of Tehri Dam in Uttar Pradesh.

Since their demands have been lying pending for a long period, the people displaced due to construction of Tehri Dam have gone on fast unto death since the 23rd February.

In order to make the construction of the Dam successful, the people of 105 villages in its vicinity were displaced and rehabilitated in Pathri, Raiwala and Banjarwala villages in 1979. Moreover, 750 families of 14 revenue villages were displaced in Bhaniwala. The displaced persons say that no facility has been provided to them even after so many years. The land given to them for their cultivation is stony and unfit for cultivation. They had been promised to provide land for schools, colleges by the Tehri Water Development Corporation, but they did not get any land.

The displaced people were granted 1500 acres of land at the rate of Rs. 4,000 per acre. The amount of Rs. 4,000 (per acre) was given for irrigation on purposes. The each displaced person was promised to provide 2 acres irrigable land and a plot of 200 square yards for houses, building, but they have not been given any land as yet.

The Government had ordered the Tehri Development Corporation to ensure job for one member of each of the affected families. It was assured that 750 persons would be provided employment. But only 25 persons have been given employment so far.

I, therefore, request that the proposed amenities should be given to the people displaced due to construction of Tehri Dam in Hill Area with immediate effect so that the people may have some relief and lead their life properly.

(v) Need to provide financial assistance to the Bihar Government for reopening of Ashok Paper Mill in Darbhanga Parliamentary Constituency

SHRI MOHAMMED ASHRAF ALI FATMI (Darbhanga): Sir, Ashok Paper Mill in my