

the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Acquisition of certain area at Ayodhya Ordinance, 1993. [Placed in Library See No. LT—3583/93]

18.39 hrs

[Mr. Deputy Speaker *in the Chair*]

18.40 hrs.

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

(I) Need to allocate Tapti gas for Power generation at pipavav in Saurashtra region of Gujarat.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR (Dohad) : Commitments have been made by the successive Central Governments from time to time to allocate Tepti gas for power generation at pepavav in Saurashtra region of Gujarat State. This was so given because this was based on sound economic reasons. Any move to renege on these commitments by unilateral action on the part of Central Government will create a turmoil in Gujarat. Delay in allocating gas for power stations in Gujarat will puch the State which has been a poineer in the use of gas into a deep power crisis. This matter has been taken up time and again by the State Government with the Central Government at various levels. However, no decision has been taken by the Government of India so far.

Basically, Saurashtra region is backward and there is no source of any other natural gas production to boost the power generation to meet the demand of industrial development. Many new large/medium industrial units are under progress in this region and without regular power supply the growth rate , of development of industry will decline.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to look into the matter.

(iii) Need to look into the anomalies created by one time increase in pension scheme in respect of ex-soldiers

[*Translation*]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur) : Instead of providing "one rank one pension" to ex-soldiers, the Government had given them "one time increase in pension as relief." A large number of ex-soldiers were benefited by it.

However, several categories of ex-soldiers were deprived of the benefit of this one time increase in pension. It includes the soldiers who are given honorary promotions either at the time of their retirement or after their retirement in recognition of maritorious our services rendered by them. They have been given pension increase neither according to their previous post nor as per the honorary rank.

Similarly if ex-soldiers got some temporary job somewhere after retirement. They were also deprived of the benefits of increase in pension. Though they did get some temporary benefits from their other employment, but they did not get the pensionary benefits.

Besides, there are many individual cases lying pending with the Ministry of Defence for a long period.

The Ministry of Defence had informed that a Committee has been formed which is examining all these cases. However, in spite of writing to them a number of times we have not been able to get any information with regard to the report.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to remove the anomalies with regard to increase in pension immediately so that the discontent spread among the ex-soldiers could be removed.