

12.55 hrs

[English]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**(I) Need to Establish a Civil Engineering wing Division at Trichur, Kerala**

PROF SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN (Mukundapuram) Mr Speaker, Sir, in tune with the importance attached in the Eighth Five Year Plan to telecommunications, I urge upon the Government for furtherance of other underdeveloped areas like of Kerala and Malabar area. Since 1978, no progress has been made in the civil engineering developmental activities, except some small projects. Therefore in commensurate with the target works on the basis of available official statistics and on the basis of the bare necessities of telecom network for the development, I request the Government to explore the possibility of opening more civil engineering wing for construction activities for executing the basic infrastructure for telecom buildings, cable ducts etc.

The anticipated total expenditure for 1992-93 was Rs. 3000 lakhs for civil building construction works in Kerala, out of which roughly Rs. 300 lakhs were earmarked for Trichur District. In the normal conditions, these works which spread in Trichur Distt and part of Palghat Distt are to be executed by the Civil Wing Division at Emakulam and Calicut.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to create one civil wing division at Trichur to cope with the increased work load.

(ii) Need to provide more funds to Maharashtra Government for solving Acute rinding Water Problem in Vidarbha Region of Maharashtra

[Translation]

SHRI TEJSINGHRAO BHONSLE

(Ramtek) Mr Speaker, Sir, due to scant rainfall, absence of dams, absence of wells, borewells and neglect of proper crop planning, the level of ground water is going down in Vidarbha. According to the Government statistics 30 per cent villages in Vidarbha have acute water crisis, if this speed continued the possibility of Vidarbha becoming a drought-prone area can hardly be ruled out. The position of the level of ground water is terrible and the construction of dams in Vidarbha for irrigation has been announced only. The construction work of Upper-Wardha had started in 1975 which has not yet been completed. Mosikhurd and Lauhar Vardha schemes have been announced only. The sugar factories were opened in Vidarbha in the hope that dams would be constructed, but they have been closed down one after the other. There is need to dig borewell and wells for solving the water problem. Bank loan has not been given for digging wells. Among the 30 per cent villages affected by the water problem in Vidarbha up to March 1993, there were 43 villages in Wardha 258 in Nagpur 164 in Bhandara, 153 in Chandrapur and 36 in Gadchiroli and in June 1993 these have reached up to 192 villages in Wardha, 395 in Nagpur, 466 in Bhandara, 631 in Chandrapur and 968 villages in Gadchiroli.

So, it is my submission to the Central Government to issue instructions to the District Administration and State Administration immediately for solving this problem, and the Central Government should provide more and more financial assistance to tackle this problem.

(iii) Need to set up a Medical Collage at Sagar in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR(Sagar) Mr Speaker, Sir, Dr Hari Singh Gaur University, Sagar is the oldest university of Madhya Pradesh and one of the famous universities in the country, which was founded in 1946 by the great educationist Dr Han Singh Gaur who donated the money earned by him. This is the only university in the country which had been established by donation from only one person. This university

[Sh Anand Ahirwar]

has all other faculties except medical faculty. It was a strong desire of Dr. Han Singh Gaur that there must be a medical college in Sagar. This is a long standing demand for which citizens, youths and students have taken out demonstrations several times. Chief Ministers who held office at different times had made assurances too for the opening of a medical college in Sagar. Establishment of a medical college in Sagar is a must in order to provide medical facilities not only in 5 districts under Sagar division but also in other districts of Bundelkhand. Public health is responsibility of a welfare State.

So, I would like to request the Central Government to establish a medical college in Sagar immediately in the light of the need for extension of medical facilities.

13.00 hrs

(iv) Need for construction of a new Railway Bridge at Bharatpur in Rajasthan

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (Deepa) (Bharatpur) Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bharatpur city in the eastern part of Rajasthan is adjacent to the border of Uttar Pradesh, but is quite backward. There is a railway bridge to reach this city, bridge connects Delhi with Bharatpur. This bridge has outlived its life. Both the light and heavy vehicles cannot pass over this bridge, so they have to take a round of 5 Kms. which takes one hour more. The Government has funds but the work has not yet started.

So I would like to request the Central Government to start this work at earliest.

(v) Need to Ensure that Fiscal Relief on Synthetic fibres and filament yarns is Passed on to the Consumer

[English]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat) In the

Finance Minister's Budget proposals for 1993-94 it had been said that as part of long term policy of bringing synthetic fabrics within the reach of the common man, he had felt the need to reduce the excise duty in this sector. The said concession given to the man-made Fibre yarn in the budget proposals amounts to Rs. 318 crores.

However, the most significant pronouncement on the excise duty segment from the Finance Ministry comes from outside the Budget proposals. The Finance Minister made it clear that the excise duty concessions on synthetic fibres and filament yarns was to be passed on.

The Minister also cautioned that the import duties would be slashed drastically to open the flood gates of synthetic fibres and filaments imports if the local spinners failed to pass on the reduction in excise duties to achieve the above objective.

'However, in case of man-made yarns (Viscose and Polyester) past experiences have always been that the duty concessions given at the raw material stage have not been passed on to the end consumers. It is well-known that the weaving industry of Surat is consuming 70 per cent of total yarns production yearly and the spinners are making crores of rupees from poor weavers and consumers by the profiteering system.

I urge upon the Central Government to take immediate steps to pass on the fiscal relief to the consumers urgently.

(vi) Need to Construct Railway Crossing on the way to Tourist Resort at Mongpong, Darjeeling

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri) I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the Forest Department has opened of Tourist Resort at Mongpong in Darjeeling, West Bengal, on 18th December 1922, with entertainment facilities such as river rafting,