

14.26 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

*[English]***(I) Need to take steps for protecting-housing-plant species, used in Ayurvedic medicines, from extinction.**

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Berhampur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, nearly 1500 flowering plant species many of them of great medicinal value are facing extinction. Among them, the most important medical plants and the diseases for which they are used are Sarpagandha (hypertension), Jatamangi (mental disorder), Guggulu (rhumatoid arthritis), Ketuki (liver disorder), Chairayata (fever), Atis (abdominal trouble) and Marimba (eye infection). At least 500 medicinal plants are used in preparation of Ayurvedic medicines.

In the process of collection, these plants are uprooted and get no chance to regenerate, with the result they are getting extinct. Sincere and serious efforts by various research institutions, forest departments, agricultural universities and other Government departments are required to conserve these plants and popularise their cultivation. The major hurdle in popularising medicinal plants is the low and fluctuating prices of crude drugs and the non-availability of planting.

I urge upon the Central Government to set up medicinal gardens at different levels and making arrangements for marketing of crude drugs through cooperative societies; which may be formed separately for this purpose.

*[Translation]***(ii) Need for Doubling of Railway line between Surat and Bhusawal***[Translation]*

SHRI CHITUBHAI GAMIT (Mandvi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, need for doubling of railway line between Surat and Bhusawal on western railway is increasing rapidly. Several industrial units are running successfully in Surat, Baroda, Ahemdabad, Vapi and Ankaleshwar in Gujart. Coal is supplied to this area from Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. Doubling of railway line between Surat and Bhusawal is very essential to ensure regular and timely supply of coal, steel and other raw materials on this line. There is heavy traffic on this railway line.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to start the process of doubling the railway line between Surat and Bhusawal and conduct survey. It would be better if this railway line is electrified so that diesel may be saved.

(iii) Need for construction of an overbridge at railway crossing, Shikohabad, Utter Pradesh

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the railway level crossing on national highway at Shikohabad, which is under Firozabad Assembly Constituency, remains closed daily for hours together. Several trains pass through this railway line. Traffic remains jammed for several hours on the national highway due to closure of the gate as a result a lot of time and people of that area and passengers is wasted. If a seriously ill patient has to be taken to a hospital and the gate is closed at that time then he dies without getting any medical help. Several

such incidents have happened there and are happening continuously.

Therefore, I urge the Government that keeping in view the demand and problems of the people of Firozabad constituency an overbridge should be constructed there to solve this problem so that people are saved from this suffering.

(iv) Need for industrialization of Pauri and Chamoli districts, Utter Pradesh

MAJ. GEN. (PETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under Pule 377, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards No Industry Districts of Pauri and Chamoli of Utter Pradesh. There is no Central Government sponsored industry in these districts. The hon. Minister of Industry has also accepted it in the House, but no concrete step has been taken so far by the Government to set up any industry in these districts.

Plenty of raw material is available there to set up industries in these districts. But I am sorry to state that industries based on raw material produced here are located outside these districts and from here raw material is supplied to other places. Due to this situation youths and educated unemployed youths of these districts are continuously migrating to other parts of the country and unemployment is continuously increasing in these districts.

Drugs and Medicines (pharmaceutical) industries based on herbs, paper and card board industries based on dryfallen leaves of pine and industries based on fruits and flowers can be set up in these districts. Besides this electronic and other such industries which require pollution free envi-

ronment and high altitude can also be set up here.

I request the Government that proper steps should be taken for the industrialization of these zero industry districts. Giving relaxation in the existing norms special facilities should be provided to set up industries here and in this connection industrialists should be encouraged so that development and industrialization of these districts can take place as it has taken place in other regions of the country after independence and employment opportunity may be available here.

(v) Need to ask State Government to Kerala to procure raw cashewnuts from ksms

[English]

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI (Kasargod) : Sir cashewnut is a seasonal crop which is produced in vast area of Kerala particularly, in Malabar region. It is one of the produces listed for export and for earning foreign exchange. There was tendency on the part of capitalists to exploit the farmers by procuring cashewnuts at lowest price during harvest season. In order to help the cultivators and workers, the State Government used to fix the minimum price for cashewnut and procure the entire produce. But this year, the Government of Kerala is not coming forward to procure the raw cashewnuts.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to ask the State Government of Kerala to procure raw cashewnuts so as to help lakhs of farmers and workers and save them from exploitation, hardship and starvation.