

13.46.5 hrs.

ARMY (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Army Act, 1950.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Army Act, 1950".

The Motion was adopted.

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: I introduce the Bill.

13.47 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

(i) **Need to Start Construction of Kharia Gutti and Navtha Irrigation Projects on River Tapi**

SHRI VIJAYA NAVAL PATIL (Erandol): There are two important irrigation projects - planned on Tapi river. These are Kharia Gutti and Navatha. These projects were planned about 30 years ago. Its estimated cost was Rs. 80- crores. But the work on these projects has not started even after work several decades. At least one of these projects should be started immediately so that the farmers of Khandwa District of Madhya Pradesh and Amaravati, Jalgaon and Dhule District of Maharashtra get water for irrigation. Even the Hathnour Wire constructed about 8 years ago is dependent on water that is stored in Kharia Gutti on Navatha. As this is

an inter-state Irrigation project; intervention and support of the Ministry of Water Resources of Government of India is very necessary.

If these projects are further delayed, the farmers, dependent on the water from Hathnour Wier will suffer tremendously. Moreover 10,000 electric water pumps operating on both the banks of Tapi river will become unoperational or will operate only partly resulting in serious loss to farmers. There are about 70 cooperative lift irrigation schemes undertaken on this river. The area contemplated to be irrigated by these lift irrigation schemes will also become unoperational if continues water flow is not there in Tapi river, especially during summer months.

I therefore, urge upon the Central Government to look into the matter and take steps for starting at least one of these irrigation projects without further delay.

(ii) **Need for setting up a National University at Kuppam, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh for the Development of Dravidian Culture.**

SHRI M.G. REDDY (Chittoor): South of the Vidhyas has a distinct culture. Its way of life; thinking, architectures, music, dance, folk-culture, technology, medicine and agriculture have had a different growth and development than in the north of the Vidhyas. The South Zonal Council formed recently by the Government of India is based on this distinctness and for quick development of the performing arts.

The tribals, speaking one or the other Dravidian languages, are found in the Southern States in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar and West Bengal.

The early emigrants from south of the Vidhyas to the Far-East and Africa and to the Pacific Ocean number about two crores. A study of their problems is imperative to remove the imbalances and dissatisfaction.

Education in the mother tongue specially in Science and technological subjects helps to remove poverty. An attempt to produce the tools of book production and common technic vocabulary usable in the Southern States will be a step for national reconstruction.

A common script for the southern languages inter language translation by making use of the computers will help quick dissemination of knowledge in the four southern States as also in the North.

Though individual language Universities, like Tamil Talegu and the proposed Kannada University, study in the single-language intensively in a limited area, a comprehensive-outlook and comparative approach are yet to be developed.

As such, I request the Central Government for setting up a National University for the development of Dravidian culture at Kuppam, Chittoor district Andhra Pradesh.

- (iii) **Need to set up high power T.V. transmitters at Raisinghnagar and Anupgarh, Rajasthan**

[Translation]

SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHRI (Bikaner): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Raisingh Nagar and Anupgarh town of Rajasthan are situated in the Pakistan border, Military personnel are deployed there in a large number for the safety of the borders of the country. The military jawans watch the news telecast by the Lahore T.V. station. This has an adverse affect on the personnel who are deputed for safeguarding the borders of the country. In view of this it is very essential to set up high power T.V. transmitters at Raisingh Nagar and Anupgarh in the national interest.

Both Raisingh Nagar and Anupgarh are prepared to construct building for T.V. relay centre. As such I request the Central Government to issue orders to set up T.V.

relay centre at both the places on priority basis.

- (iv) **Need to provide STD facility in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI MANKU RAMSODHI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, people from all parts of the country are employed as workers and officers in the Beladila Iron ore project of Baster which earns foreign exchange for the country. Even for sending important messages to their families they have to wait for months together due to inefficient communication system. At times the tragic news of their parent's death reach them so late that they are unable to participate in the rites performed after the demise of a person. Telephone is the only facility which can be valid for long distances. But the calls do not materialise even after 8-10 days. Repeated complaints have been made to streamline this system but the work done in this connection has never been found satisfactory. As a result representations have been sent to the Central Government to link this place with S.T.D. facility. In the representation a mention has been made with regard to the orders which have been issued to provide S.T.D. connection at Dantewara in the near future. A request has been made in the representation to include this project also in that order since it is situated hardly at a distance of 40-50 kms.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to include this project in the Dantewara S.T.D. connection scheme.

- (v) **Need to give 'B' category status to Kota city, Rajasthan**

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): I have been raising this issue continuously for so many years to grant 'B' category status to Kota district through various medium. The Central Government have set certain norms in this regard. As per the norms said down for the categorisation of cities Kota is fit to be categorised in "B-2" category from all aspects. The official figures in this regard for 1981 and 1991 are readily available.