

or incidental thereto."

*The motion was adopted.*

DR. ABRAR AHMED: I introduce the Bill.

**MATTER UNDER RULE 377**

- (i) **Need to upgrade AIR station at sambalpur, Orissa and set up regional news unit there**

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur): All India Radio, Smbalpur is one of the oldest Radio Stations in the State of Orissa. It is located at the nerve centre of Western Orissa. The State has one Regional News Unit at Cuttack only which has failed to cater to the needs of Western Orissa. As such there is a need to set—up a Regional News Unit at Sambalpur. With the infrastructure facilities at A. I. R., Sambalpur, the availability of PTI Agency service and modern telocm network there is quite possible to set up the Regional News Unit. This is possible if the A. I. R. Station at Sambalpur is upgraded to a high power transmission. If this is done, the commercial potential and rich heritage of a vast neglected region can be properly protected.

I request the Central Government to upgrade A. I. R. station at Sambalpur with the opening of thee Regional News Unit.

- (ii) **Need to take steps to solve acute drinking water problem in Bilaspur region of Madhya Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI BHAWANI LAL VERMA (Janjgir): Nearly 8,000 villages in Bilaspur, Raigarh and Sarguja districts in Bilaspur division of Madya Pardesh are in the grip of severe drought. As a result of insufficient rainfall an actue problem of drinking water has developed in the region. The problem has worsened further due to the decline

in water level as a result of which handpumps in 75 per cent of the villages have become nonfunctional. The Hon. Prime Minister visited village Pardriya in Bilaspur division on 17-4-93 for an on the spot assessment. The Hon. Prime Minister gave necessary instructions in this regard, yet no improvement in the situation is evident. Summer has just started and if the drinking water problem is not solved then 60 lakh persons will face deep crisis.

Therefore, I urge the Centre to take concrete steps immediately in this regard.

- (iii) **Need to provide adequate railway facilities at Chandrapur Railway Station of Central Railway**

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE (Chandrapur): Sir, people from Chandrapur and Gadchiroli districts are agitating for providing adequate facilities at Chandrapur Railway Station, Central Railway, including stoppages of Super and Super Fast trains there.

Chandrapur is a fast developing Industrial business centre and district headquarters in Maharashtra State and the facilities provided by Railways like stoppages of trains and reservation quota etc. are inadequate considering industrial expansion of the area with a population of more than 24 lakhs. I request the Ministry of Railways to consider stoppages of Ganga—Kaveri Express, Tirupati—Banaras Express, A. P. Express and Tamil Nadu Express at Chandrapur. Proposed Jabalpur—Nagpur super fast express may be extended upto Ballarshah which is a terminus of both\ Central and South Central Railways.

Hon. Prime Minister had recently inaugurated the function of broadening Chanda fort to Gondia narrow gauge at Wadsa—Desaiganj. The terminus at Chanda Fort which has historical importance and is in the interest of commuting people.