

[Sh. Madan Lal Khuran]

are called here. They raise their issues in the House as per their turn.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the time allotted for Private Members' Business is never curtailed.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: It will not take too much time.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: But the time of Private Members' Business is not curtailed like that. If you want to give time for raising the matters under Rule 377, then extend the House by as much time as is taken as is taken by matters under Rule 377. The Private Members' Business should definitely be allotted two and a half hours time and it should not be curtailed. That is why the time for taking up Private Members' Business has been fixed at 3.00 o'clock, as there is half an hour discussion after it. Therefore, the time curtailed from Private Members' Business may be added after 5.30. This is what I want.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We would count the time from the stage the Private Members' Business is taken up and two and a half hours would be allotted to it. If there is any interruption, we would add that much time also.

(iii) Need to declare Patna-Sitamarhi, Sonwarasa road as National Highway

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, under Rule 377 I want to say that Bihar is a backward State. The maximum number of poor people reside in this State as compared to all other States. There is an acute shortage of resources in the State. The problem of transport in North Bihar is very acute. The Union Minister has

announced many times to construct the National Highway there. The National Transport Development Council has recommended to construct the National Highway in Patna, Muzaffarpur Sitamarhi, Sonwarasa and Meetham during Eight Five Year Plan. If Central Government provides the facility of National Highway, a large number of Indian and foreign tourists would visit Siramarhi Janakpur Dham. It will provide employment opportunities to the people as well as revenue to the Government.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to accord approval to the construction of National Highway in the backward State of Bihar so that it can make progress.

(iv) Need to expedite the setting up of Gas cracker Complex in Assam.

[English]

SHRI UDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta): Sir, the Government of India has issued a letter of intent to Assam Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC) for setting up a gas cracker complex in Assam, using associated/free gas and NGL as available in oil and gas fields of upper Assam region. Undoubtedly, it will be a landmark in Assam's industrial history. The proposed complex envisages production of three lakh tonnes of ethylene per annum and setting up of various downstream units for manufacture of a variety of products. With the commissioning of this mega project, it is expected that the industrial scenario of this under-developed region would be completely changed. Also, a lot of foreign exchange could be saved there by. The proposed gas/naphtha cracker project would not only generate employment opportunities for over two lakh persons, but it would also help in technological and economic development. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take necessary steps for the expeditious and successful implementation of the proposed project with