

(iii) Need to allocate sufficient funds to State Government for providing safe drinking water to villages

[English]

SHRIANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE (Jalna): Sir, I raise this matter under Rule 377

Even after 45 years of Independence we have not been able to provide safe drinking water to large number of villages. This is in spite of the fact that crores of rupees have been spent, both by the Central and the State Governments, on various schemes. It appears that we are nowhere near the target to provide this basic necessity of life to a large section of our society who in their own turn left no stone unturned to make the green revolution a success which has enabled the country to solve the food problem. The National Drinking Water Mission which was primarily set up to fulfil this very task is still struggling to achieve its targets.

It is hoped that highest priority accorded to this task in the Eighth Plan document will bear the fruits and by March, 1993, all villages will be provided with safe drinking water.

I urge upon the Union Government to provide sufficient funds, if necessary, by diverting funds earmarked for other purposes and programmes. Technical know-how, if asked for, may also be provided to the State Governments so that there is no shortfall in the target.

(iv) Need to look into the demands of All India Central School Teachers' Association

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): The All India Central School Teachers' Association have put forward their demands before the Government on several occasions, which among other things include the implementation of the Chattopadhyaya Commission Report, representation in the

Board of Governors of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, reconstitution of the committee dealing with transfers, updating of rules pertaining to appointments and promotions, review of the category of Laboratory Assistants and recognition of more than 600 teachers as surplus as well as consideration of their transfer. The association has also decided that if the Government doesn't sympathetically consider their demands, then teachers of central schools across the country, would go on an indefinite strike.

Therefore, it is my request that Government should sympathetically consider these demands and solve the problem.

(v) Need to Provide financial Assistance to Uttar Pradesh Government for Early Construction of a barrage on River Yamuna at Agra, Uttar Pradesh

SHRIBHAGAWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): The ground water-level in the Agra city is constantly going down since it is adjacent to Rajasthan, During summer months the water level goes down by as many as two metres. If this trend is not checked, not only the entire Agra area will turn into a large desert but also the entire South West Uttar Pradesh shall will come under the grip of the desert. The hand pumps installed and wells dug for drinking water in Agra area dry up due to the level of water going down day by day. Uttar Pradesh Government has decided to construct a barrage on river Yamuna in order to check the trend of water level going down. The barrage would solve the drinking water problems in Agra city. But till now, no financial help has been made available to the State Government either from the World Bank or any other financial institution.

I would, therefore, like to request the Central Government to provide financial assistance from any financial institution or World Bank or from its own sources to the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the construction of a barrage on Yamuna River. So that the problem of drinking water shortage in Agra and falling of water level in the area could be solved.