

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो किराये के रूप में कितनी राशि जमा कराई गई तथा विमान और कार से दौरा करने पर प्रस्ताव में कितनी घनराशि खर्च हुई ?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री धनिक लाल मण्डल): (क) और (ख). सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और उपलब्ध होने पर सदन के पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Advertisements issued by D.A.V.P. to Jantayug, Dainik Prakash and Pravada

9049. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the per day circulation figures of Jantayug, Dainik Prakash and Pravada published from Aligarh City during March, 1977 to March, 1978 on the basis of which the advertisements were given to them by the DAVP;

(b) whether Government testified the certificates of Chartered Accountants which were submitted by the Editors in support of the per day circulation figures of the above named newspapers; and

(c) whether the figures as testified by the Chartered Accountants were verified departmentally, or otherwise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Advertisements to Jantayug and Pravada during the year 1977-78 were released on the basis of their circulation for the year 1975 assessed by Registrar of Newspapers at 3000 and 2000 copies respectively.

Dainik Prakash is not borne on DAVP media list as it has not applied for advertisements.

(b) and (c). Jantayug and Pravada had claimed incorrect paid circulation and they are being asked to explain as to why they should not be debarred for Government advertisements in accordance with the advertising policy of the Government.

12.03 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) REPORTED DELAY IN CONSTRUCTION OF BROAD GAUGE LINE FROM BONGAKAON TO GAUHATI

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA (Kaliabor): Sir, under Rule 377 I beg to draw the attention of the House to the delaying policy of the Government in regard to the construction of the Broad-gauge line from Bongaingaon to Gauhati.

This project which was sanctioned by the previous Government was the outcome of sustained efforts by the M.Ps from North-Eastern region and of the various States which they represented. Construction work was started in right earnest in 1976, but since the first year had to be mainly devoted to relatively inexpensive works like acquisition of land and erection of earthworks, only a small provision of Rs. 2 crores was made. The allocation in the two subsequent years must have to be massive, if the project was meant for completion. The project could have been and should have been completed by the end of the financial year 1978-79. But there ensued a serious backlash.

In the 1977-78 first budget of the Janata Government, the project was downgraded and the allocation was slashed to Rs. 1.50 crores only. In his budget speech this year, the Railway Minister was candid enough to say that important projects should be heavily provided to complete them in three to four years. By only nominally providing for the project this year also, he has clearly expressed that the Government does

[Shri Bedabrata Barua]

not consider this project to be at all important. We protested against the meagre allocation in the 1977 budget, but expected the third crucial year to see a minimum investment of Rs. 15 crores. At least 70 per cent of the estimated expenditure should have been spent by the end of the third year. The Railway Minister in his 1978 budget just provided a pittance of Rs. 2.48 crores which means that at the end of the financial year 1978-79 the total expenditure made from the commencement of the project would be just Rs. 6 crores.

At this rate, the project would take more than fifteen years to be completed. We strongly protest against this virtual scuttling of an already sanctioned project by the devious tactic of killing the project by starving it of the necessary funds. With out saying so on paper, the Government has practically backed out of the previous Government's binding commitment to provide a broad-gauge line upto Gauhati as expeditiously as possible.

We feel badly let down by this extraordinary demonstration of callousness towards the needs of two crores of people living in the N.E. region.

The undeveloped economic, commercial and industrial status as well as the endemic high price situation of the N.E. area are very much the outcome of the bottleneck in transport. The absence of a direct broad gauge connection with the vast producing and consuming centres of India has very much contributed to this bottleneck.

I call upon the Railway Minister to immediately rectify this offence and forthwith find at least Rs. 13 crores more for this project in the current year, so that the work could be completed in two years from now.

(ii) REPORTED SHORTAGE OF DOCTORS AND NURSING STAFF IN DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD T.B. HOSPITAL, DELHI.

श्री हरिकेश बहादुर (शोरखपुर) :
मान्यवर, आप की अनुमति से नियम 377 के अधीन मैं प्रविलम्बनीय लोक-महत्त्व के निम्नलिखित विषय का उल्लेख करना चाहता हूँ —

डा० राजेन्द्र प्रसाद टी० वी० अस्पताल, दिल्ली की स्थिति बहुत खराब हो गई है। वहाँ पर 60 से 80 मरीजों के लिये एक डाक्टर हैं, जिस से एक मरीज को अधिक-से अधिक एक मिनट का समय मिल पाता है वहाँ पर नर्सिंग स्टाफ की भी बहुत बड़ी कमी है। इतना ही नहीं शाम को तो 11-12 सौ मरीजों के लिये केवल 2 डाक्टर रह जाते हैं। इस अस्पताल के अधिकशांश मरीज गरीब परिवारों से आते हैं, जिन के परिवार वाले अस्पताल में भर्ती करने के बाद मरीज से रिश्ता तोड़ लेते हैं। ऐसे अनेक रोगी उपेक्षा और निराशा के कारण विक्षिप्त तक हो जाते हैं। पिछले वर्ष 4 रोगियों ने आत्म-हत्या तक कर ली थी। हाल में एक रोगी पागलपन का शिकार हो कर मर गया। अतः इस अस्पताल में डाक्टरों की संख्या बढ़ाना अत्यन्त आवश्यक है साथ ही मनोवैज्ञानिक चिकित्सकों की भी आवश्यकता है। इस अस्पताल के कर्मचारियों में लापरवाही और अष्टाचार भरा हुआ है। अतः वहाँ कठोर प्रशासन की भी आवश्यकता है। मेरा अनुरोध है कि सरकार इस समस्या पर तत्काल ध्यान दे।

(iii) NEED TO LAY THE FIRST INTERIM REPORT OF SHAH COMMISSION ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH (Hoshangabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your leave, may I under Rule 377 mention the following matter of urgent public importance, namely the First Interim Report of the Shah Commission and proceed to make a statement thereon:

Sir, it is reported that the Shah Commission has submitted its Second