

Saturday, May 6, 1978/Vaisakha 16, 1900
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

MR. SPEAKER: We take up matters under Rule 377. Shri Vinayak Prasad Yadav.

श्री यदवराज (कटिहार) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय की ओर आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ

MR. SPEAKER: No, no: you have not taken my permission. You must give notice.

Don't record.

(interruptions)*

(i) REPORTED NEWS ABOUT U.S. GOVERNMENT'S EFFORT TO RE-INTRODUCE AMERICAN PEACE CORPS IN INDIA.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377, may I draw the attention of the House and the Government to an important matter of public importance?

It is being reported that the United States Government is making an effort to re-introduce the American Peace Corps in India. A decade ago, the Government of the United States spread large contingents of American Peace Corps all over the world in the name of voluntary activities for the development of the region of different parts of each State they have been employed.

In India, thousands of peace corps volunteers were deployed in different parts of the country and they stayed there for a long time but the activities of these

volunteers had been criticised and it aroused suspicion of espionage. The presence of a large number of volunteers in every small corner of the nation is not desirable for the national security. Even certain Western press also linked the activities of the Peace Corps volunteers with C.I.A.

The criticism against the Peace Corps volunteers in India was so severe and the Government was forced to examine the whole agreement and decided to send them back home. Sending away the peace corps volunteers was a right decision from the point of view of national security. Our nation cannot afford thousands of volunteers spreading all over indulging in all kinds of activities in the name of voluntary development work. It is well known that the C.I.A. is always active in the developing nations and engineering chaos in such countries for protecting their interest.

Any attempt to introduce the Peace Corps activities in the country is a threat to national security and it will open the door for espionage activities by the so-called volunteers. So, may I take this opportunity to request the Government not to resort any such discussion or decision to bring back the Peace Corps in India?

(ii) REPORTED BREACH IN GANGA CANAL IN GANGA NAGAR DISTRICT, RAJASTHAN.

श्री बेगाराम चौहान (गंगानगर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, गंगानहर टूटने से फसल और खलिहान पानी से भर गये हैं। गांव कालियां डूब गया है और लगभग डेढ़ करोड़ का नुकसान हुआ है। इसके बारे में मैंने नियम 377 के अधीन इस अविलम्बनीय लोक महत्व के विषय का उल्लेख करने की अनुमति मांगी थी जो आपने बड़ी कृपा कर प्रदान की है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि गंगा नगर के पास नहर टूट जाने से फसलों में और खलिहानों में पानी भर गया है। सड़कें टूट गई हैं और गांव कालियां जो बहुत बड़ा गांव है पानी से भर गया है और हजारों परिवार इस कारण दुःखी हुये हैं। मैं प्रार्थना करना हूँ कि इन लोगों को भारत सरकार की ओर से मकानों और फसलों का मुआवजा दिया जाना चाहिये।

*Not recorded.