

helpless spectator. For India to regain its lost glory, the whole body of I.H.F. should be scrapped.

(iv) SUPPLY OF CEMENT TO ASSAM TEA ESTATES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF QUARTERS FOR LABOURER.

SHRI PURNANARAYAN SINHA (Tezpur): I take the liberty to make the following Statement. The Regional Cement Officer Calcutta, on the allocations of cement made by the Ministry of Industries, issues allotments of cement for different tea estates of Assam and since no one tea estate can afford to hire one or more trucks to carry the cement allotted to it at Chaibasa or Shalmar from where also no direct truck haulage service into Assam is available, all the tea estates, which are hurriedly completing the construction of labour housing as required under the Plantation Labour Act passed by the Lok Sabha, have their transporters based at Calcutta and Jogighopa, Assam. The cement that is taken for road haulage due to non-availability of railway wagons are at first carried to Calcutta from where another fleet of trucks having permits to ply between Calcutta and Assam carry it to different tea estates. This process is going on for over a decade. The transporters, having no title to the cement they handle, are not required to take out storage licence under the Essential Commodities Act though they have to hold cement for some days to weeks pending transshipment into Assam bound trucks. On or about 27th April, 1979, the West Bengal Government sealed up all the cement that was held by some transporters at Cassipore and arrested two transporters for allegedly not possessing storage licence for the cement that was held by them pending transshipment and thereby created unnecessary obstacle in the process of constructing labour housing in Assam tea estates before the rains set in June-July, next. The Ministries of Industry and Commerce, Government of India might be pleased to take up the matter in collaboration with the Tea Board so that the cement is

forthwith released and no further obstacles with harassment are created on baseless grounds on transport of cement.

(v) REPORTED DECISION OF GOVERNMENT TO CHANGE THE VENUE OF THE NEXT NON-COMPETITIVE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL FROM CALCUTTA TO BANGALORE.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377 I want to draw the attention of the government to the following matter of urgent public importance.

It is a matter of dismay to note that the Government of India has reportedly decided to hold the next non-competitive International Films Festival of India in Bangalore in January, 1980 instead of in Calcutta as had been promised. This decision of the change of venue from Calcutta to Bangalore tantamounts to going back upon its own commitment.

The criterion and reasons for such selection of venue lend the whole matter open to question. The primary objective of such film festival being the involvement of film-makers, technicians, workers, artists and the film-goers Calcutta's claim is pre-eminent.

The West Bengal government have also requested the Government of India to revise the decision regarding the venue of the International Film Festival and hold it at Calcutta.

(vi) NEED FOR IMMEDIATE COMPLETION OF DURGAPUR-CALCUTTA EXPRESS HIGHWAY.

SHRI RAJ KRISHNA DAWN (Burdwan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377 I want to draw the attention of the government to a matter of urgent public importance.

West Bengal is the most densely populated State of India and it is one of the industrially developed State also. There are two biggest ports in Calcutta and Haldia. Besides, these ports, railway track are also not in-