

does not require water. If you want to retain drinking water, you must have subsequent rains. In many cases, it does not happen. That is how we find Madras in the grip of scarcity of drinking water, that is how we find Rajasthan and Maharashtra in the grip of scarcity of drinking water. May I know from the hon. Minister whether he is going to give any aid to the State Governments where such areas do exist. These are large areas which are not included in the drought areas. These are areas where *annewari* may be more than 8 annas. But there is no drinking water. The people are actually carrying drinking water by trucks and bullock-carts. The number in Maharashtra has increased during the last one month from 500 to 1200.

These are the three questions which I would like to ask the hon. Minister and I would request him to reply to them.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Firstly, the hon. Member has asked about areas suffering from cyclone, floods and drought together. Normally, the practice is that the State Government submits respective memoranda on drought or flood or cyclone. Then, it is considered by an inter-Ministerial group, by a high level committee, and a view is taken and the decision is taken according to the guidelines and the norms fixed. As I said earlier, in the case of many States, we have given them assistance under drought relief works, under flood relief works, for meeting the expenses....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: These are being granted separately.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Yes, Sir, separately.

As regards the other suggestions made by the hon. Member, the House has on earlier occasions discussed in detail the long-term plans to fight floods or to face drought effectively. We have taken note of whatever suggestions has hon. Member has made and we shall pass on those suggestions to the Minis-

tries concerned. Mainly the suggestions concern the Irrigation Ministry. We shall pass them on to the Ministry of Irrigation.

About the middlemen, the policy of the Government of India is not to involve any middleman as far as the relief works under any scarcity conditions are concerned. If any specific complaint is made or something is brought to our notice, we shall certainly take up the matter with the State Governments.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: What about left-out drought prone areas in the region of Marathwada, in Maharashtra? What about scarcity of drinking water in certain areas in Maharashtra? Rajasthan is also facing the same problem. What have you done about it?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: That is a separate programme under the Ministry of Rural Development. We are concerned here with relief given under drought conditions.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am going to the next item. (*Interruptions*).

13.35 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

MARINE PRODUCTS EXPORTS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI-MATI RAM DULARI SINHA): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of section 4(3) (c) of the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 4(3)(c) of the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

**** (Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I make it very clear that I am conducting the House according to the rules. I cannot conduct the House according to your wishes. Do not record anything.

**** (Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There are ample opportunities in the House to discuss Demands for Grants in the Budget and about everything. You can utilise that opportunity. Do not record anything.

**** (Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not the way. Nothing. I have gone to the next item Rule 377. I am not permitting you. Do not record anything.

**** (Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shrimati Usha Prakash Chaudhari.

**** (Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No submission is allowed. Nothing is to be recorded.

**** (Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can not use any opportunity for anything. You use some other opportunity.

13.38 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) STEPS FOR SAFE TRAVELLING OF WOMEN IN TRAINS

SHRIMATI USHA PRAKASH CHOUDHARY (Amaroti): A horrible incident took place in 121-Dn-Tamilnadu Express on 17th March, 1983, in between Jhansi and Agra. A young lady entered the train at Jhansi at about 10.35 for Delhi. She was to be received by her family members at Delhi. Some of the unauthorised vendors and other persons entered the compartment between Jhansi and Agra and raped and murdered the lady. It was a very horrible incident as this brutal treatment was received by her for about 3 and a half hours. The incident took place in the day light. It was with the help of the Guard of the train that one of the culprits was caught. I have witnessed the incident at Agra and had to arrange the further disposal as the lady had a 4 month child which was to be handed over to her relatives who reached Agra late in night.

It is absolutely difficult for a single lady to travel safely unless definite sufficient reservations are provided in a sleeper with an escort of at least a lady constable. It is also necessary to strictly ban the entrance of unlicensed vendors. It is also necessary to ensure arrangement of a Police escort to each of the compartments where reservations for ladies are provided. I request the Government to move in the matter immediately and punish the culprits without loss of time.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Even on such an inhuman tragedy, the Minister does not feel like making some observation and give an assurance.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR: The Railway Minister is not present here.

**** (Interruptions)**

(ii) INSTALLATION OF A STATE OF DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD IN DELHI AND CELEBA-