

(iii) NEED FOR STOPPING FURTHER IMPORT OF RUBBER IN THE INTEREST OF INDIGENOUS RUBBER CULTIVATORS.

**SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL (Muvattupuzha):** Following the import and release of large stock of natural rubber by STC during the month of September—the peak rubber production time—it has created great crisis in plantation industry. The price of rubber has crashed more than Rs. 3,000/- per ton and there is no demand for rubber now. To save the poor and marginal rubber cultivators, I request the Commerce Minister to stop further imports of rubber, force the manufacturers to keep three months stock and instruct STC or Rubber Board to purchase the surplus rubber from the open market in order to keep it as a buffer stock.

(iv) NEED FOR UTILISING MICROWAVE CHANNEL IN KERALA FOR TELE-VISING ASIANGAMES.

**\*\*SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat):** The ASIAD 1982 is going to be an event of great significance. People all over the country are looking forward to witness it with great eagerness. The Government had rightly made arrangements to televise the games through INSAT-I so that people in different parts of the country could see and enjoy it. Unfortunately, with the failure of INSAT-I, the hopes of witnessing Asian Games over the TV in States which have at present no facility of TV transmission have been dashed. Particularly distressing is the case of the State of Kerala.

Kerala has not yet been put on the TV map. The people of Kerala were hoping to witness the games on TV with the help of INSAT. But, with that gone their hopes have been shattered.

However, the situation is not so hopeless. I understand that the existing microwave channels in Kerala can be utilised for TV transmission purposes. If these channels are used, without much cost, people in Malabar, Cochin and Trivendrum will be able to witness the games on TV. This arrangement is existing presently in Bangalore where with the help of microwave channels. TV programmes from Bombay and Madras are relayed.

Therefore, I would earnestly request the hon. Minister of Communications to allow the microwave channels to be used for TV transmission in people of Kerala could also enjoy the people of Kerala could also enjoy the games.

(v) RURAL WATER SUPPLY PROGRAMME IN RAJASTHAN

**श्री वृद्धि चन्द्र जैन (बाड़मेर):** सभापति महोदय, मैं नियम 377 के अन्तर्गत निम्न वक्तव्य संदन के समक्ष प्रस्तुत करना चाहता हूँ :

आजादी के 35 वर्ष के उपरान्त भी देश पानी की समस्या का समुचित तरीके से हल नहीं कर सका है। अभी तक भी देश के राजस्थान प्रान्त के रेगिस्तानी क्षेत्रों में पीने के पानी के लिए 10-10 मील दूर जाना पड़ता है।

राजस्थान एक ऐसा प्रान्त है जहाँ देश की पचास प्रतिशत रेगिस्तानी क्षेत्र आया हुआ है। जहाँ एक उद्गम स्थान से दूसरे स्थान में पानी पहुंचाने के लिए क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण जल प्रदाय योजनाएं बनानी पड़ती हैं और एक ग्राम 25 वर्ग मील से 100 वर्ग मील तक फैला हुआ होता है और वहाँ पानी पहुंचाने में बड़ी लागत

††The original speech was delivered in Malayalam.