

[Shri Buta Singh]

take only the physically-fit and experienced drivers for the DTC. They are being given intensive training. We have our own training school in the Corporation in which training is being imparted to them. Also incentive is given to the driver who renders accident-free service. This is one of the important steps to prevent the recurrence of accidents. Also speed control is there and recently we have introduced the speed control system in the DTC buses and these buses are fitted with the governor so that the driver does not over-speed the vehicle. So, all these steps are taken to see that road safety is ensured and the aspect of prevention of accidents is taken due care of. The hon. Member has made very valuable suggestions and we will certainly fully consider the suggestions made by him. I say this because I am equally concerned about this matter. This House, if it considers better, should give its own views on the malady of this road transport accidents and we will in all sincerity see that whatever amendments are suggested, whatever modifications are suggested in the Motor Vehicles Act, are incorporated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You did not mention anything about the development of roads. Incidentally I have got a press clipping. A conference of experts in the field was held at Roorkee on the 27th October, 1980 and inaugurating the Conference, Dr. Jagdish Narayan, Vice Chancellor of Roorkee University said that the revenue from the road-transport industry has grown from Rs. 135 crores to Rs. 1238 crores annually in the last 15 years. But the expenditure in the same period on road development had been reduced from 65% to 27%. So, this is an important point to be taken note of.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Sir, it is the overall situation, If you add up both the Central as well as the States expenditure, it will work out higher. Moreover, it is a national problem and we must do what best we can.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is for the consideration of the hon. Minister.

14:47 hrs. →→→→→

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

FIRST REPORT

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN (Kanpur) : Sir, I beg to present the First Report (Hindi and English versions) of

the Committee on Public Undertakings on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings (Sixth Lok Sabha) on Jute Corporation of India Limited—Shortcomings in the Functioning of JCI.

14:48 hrs.

ANTI-APARTHEID (UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA-RAO): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to give effect to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to give effect to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.”

The motion was adopted

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I introduce the Bill.

14:50 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) FORESTS LYING NORTH-EAST OF PERUVENNA MUZHI, RESEVOIR OF KUTTAIDI IRRIGATION PROJECT IN KERALA

**SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): It is reported that some attempts are being made to clear a five kilometre stretch of very dense forest which lies north-east of the Peruvennamuzhi reservoir of Kuttaidi irrigation project in Kerala.

This forest of 500 hectares is lying in an area from where the Kakkazam dam gets surface water. It is understood that this forest is being cleared for planting rubber under the Kerala Plantation Corporation.

In one hectare of forest, as many as 250 trees with a height of over 30 metres, and a width of over 75 cms. are standing. If this forest is cleared it is estimated that the timber would fetch

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 27-11-1980.

**The original speech was delivered in Malayalam.