

(iii) MICRO-WAVE LINK FOR MALABAR REGION OF KERALA FOR T.V. PROGRAMMES.

*SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Sir, a T.V. Centre in Kerala is a long-cherished wish of the Keralites. I compliment the Government for taking a decision to set up a T.V. centre in Trivandrum. However, now it is understood that the proposed T.V. Centre in Trivandrum will not have the necessary range to cover the State as a whole. This has caused disappointment to the people living in the Malabar region of Kerala. After waiting for a T.V. Centre for so long, when it comes, if all are not benefited; it would be very unfortunate.

As a matter of fact, the problem of T.V. coverage can be solved by linking the district headquarters of Malabar region with the microwave system. With a Relay Station set up there, the people in this area can have the benefit of T.V. programmes relayed from Madras, Bombay and Trivandrum. The other day the hon. Minister for Information and Broadcasting had said in the Lok Sabha that such a link-up is possible provided the area is covered by the microwave system.

Therefore, I would earnestly request the hon. Minister for Communications to take suitable steps to link up the Malabar region with the microwave system, so that the people of Malabar also can enjoy the T.V. programmes along with the rest of the people of Kerala.

(iv) PROBLEM OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY DUE TO STRIKE BY EMPLOYEES IN BIHAR.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना): बिहार में छः लाख शिक्षकों और सरकारी कर्मचारियों की हड़ताल के चलते पटना, रांची तथा अन्य बड़े शहरों में स्थित भारत सरकार के कार्यालयों में काम कर रहे हजारों सरकारी कर्मचारियों को न कार्यालयों में पानी मिल रहा है और न उन की कालोनियों

एवं महल्लों में। इस के कारण उन में हाहाकार मच गया है जिसका स्वाभाविक प्रभाव उन वे कामों पर पड़ रहा है। कहने का तात्पर्य कि उन कार्यालयों में हड़ताल के बिना हड़ताल है क्योंकि सारा कामकाज ठप्प है।

भारत सरकार को इस ओर शीघ्र ध्यान दे कर केन्द्रीय सरकारी कार्यालयों तथा कर्मचारियों के महल्लों में पानी की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए। अगर ऐसा नहीं किया गया तो पानी के अभाव में उन कार्यालयों में कामों के पूर्ण रूप से ठप्प हो जाने की आशंका है जिस की जवाबदेही सरकार पर ही होगी।

(v) RE-IMPOSITION OF CEILING ON PRODUCTION OF MATCHES IN COTTAGE SECTOR UNITS.

SHRI ERA MOHAN (Coimbatore): In 1979-80 the Central Budget re-structured the excise schedule on the match industry with a view to encouraging the growth of cottage sector match units in the rural areas. In order to prevent the possible infiltration of the middle sector units into the arena of the cottage sector and in order to ensure that the benefit of the lowest rate of excise duty of Rs. 1.60 per gross accrues to genuine cottage sector units, the ceiling of 75 million matches was imposed on the cottage sector unit.

The Government of India removed this ceiling in June, 1980 in order to ensure accelerated growth of the cottage sector. But the middle sector units, on which also there was no ceiling, did take advantage of this and infiltrated into the cottage sector, appropriating the benefit of the lowest rate of excise duty. In order to eliminate the growing malpractices of this kind, the Government reimposed the ceiling of 120 million matches in notification issued in March, 1981.

*The original speech was made in Malayalam.