

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The leave is granted. The Members will be informed accordingly.

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12.29 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) SETTING UP OF NAVAL ACADEMY AT EZHUMALA IN KERALA

SHRI K. KUNHAMBU (Gannanore): There was a proposal under the consideration of the Ministry of Defence to shift the Naval Academy from Cochin to some place outside Kerala. The stand taken by the Ministry was that the facilities available at Cochin are inadequate for the Academy. Cochin has been a centre of Naval training for well over 30 years and as such its claim cannot be ignored. The Government of Kerala in its representation had made it very clear that if it is a question of inadequacy of facilities in Cochin it would be met by selecting a suitable site nearabout within the state itself.

12.4 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Thereafter a committee was appointed by the Ministry of Defence to go into the question of location of the Naval Academy. The Committee recommended three sites (i) Chingalpet in Tamil Nadu, (ii) Porbandar in Gujarat, (iii) Ezhumala in Kerala. Porbandar was rejected as it is near Pakistan. The Committee mentioned two points against Ezhumala. They are (i) lack of education facilities, (ii) lack of port facilities. But the Government of Kerala has promised to provide necessary education facilities in Ezhumala. As regards the second point, the Government has said that the nearby port of Azhickal could be developed to meet the requirements of port.

Ezhumalai is the ideal place for setting up the Naval Academy as the port of Azhickal is situated nearby which can be developed suitably and the other facilities can be provided without any difficulty.

In view of these favourable factors, I would earnestly request the Government to set up the proposed Naval Academy in Ezhimala itself.

(ii) MEASURES TO AUGMENT POULTRY FARMING IN ANDHRA PRADESH

SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY (Adilabad) : Sir, poultry farming in the State of Andhra Pradesh which occupied the proud first place in the country produces daily 50 lakh eggs. During last five years poultry farming developed rapidly and now poultry population has since increased upto 1.25 crores, having 4,500 poultry farms and provided employment to more than one lakh persons directly or indirectly.

Our country has a poultry population of 8 crores birds only. India is very poor in respect of *per capita* egg consumption when compared to other countries. The world average is 150 and that of Asia is 98. Our neighbouring country China's *per capita* consumption is 105 and USA and the European countries consume 430 and 389 eggs respectively *per capita* per year. But in India *per capita* consumption is only 18 eggs per year. All India Food and Nutrition Council has recommended a *per capita* consumption per year to be at least 50 eggs in India by the end of 1980. Poultry farming is the biggest job creating activity. For one lakh birds we can create about 300 jobs. At present about 2.50 lakh persons are engaged in poultry farms, hatcheries etc. in India. This activity has proved very successful especially in Andhra Pradesh in providing additional income to Agriculturists and in providing jobs to many others.

As per the recommendation of the All India Food and Nutrition Council if we want to raise our *per capita* consumption to 50 eggs, we need 24 crore poultry population. At present our country has 8 crore birds and so another 14 crore chicks are needed. This will create nearly 5 lakh jobs. Today eggs are cheaper than vegetables and chicken is cheaper than mutton. As we all know sheep and goat population is slowly reducing and it is likely to reduce further as more and more pasture lands are being brought under plough. Mutton will become rare commodity and will gradually become out of the reach of the common man. The only answer to this problem is chicken meat which can be made available at all times at cheaper rate. In our country poultry has to be encouraged in the best interest of the nation.

Poultry farming which is picking up very well and especially in Andhra Pradesh on production side but on marketing side is in bad shape. At present a few egg merchants of Bombay have monopolised the trade which has caused serious problem to the farmers and