

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR:
Under Rule 198. . . (Interruptions)

MR SPEAKER : Overruled
Please sit down. Not allowed.
Now, Matters under 377. Shri
Chitta Basu.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) REPORTED MOVE TO DE-LINK
CALCUTTA FROM HALDIA PORT

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat):
With your permission, Sir, I want to
bring a matter of urgent public impor-
tance.

It is a matter of grave concern to
learn that the Ministry of Shipping
and Transport are contemplating to
de-link Calcutta from Haldia port.

It is to be noted in this connection
that Haldia port was developed with
the object of supplementing Calcutta
Port by handling bulk cargo. It was
never meant to operate as an inde-
pendent unit. An earlier team of the
Central Government in 1976, ex-
pressed their considered opinion
against the de-linking proposal.

A Central Team was sent to
Calcutta to study the issue recently. It
is surprising to note that the said
team did not meet the representatives
of the Government of West Bengal.

The basic problem of Calcutta
Port is assured minimum of supplying
4,000 cusecs of water from Farakka
during the lean season. Mere delin-
king of the two ports cannot solve
the basic problem facing the Calcutta
Port.

Since considerable misgivings have
been created in the mind of West
Bengal Government by the recent
visit of the Central Team, it is
essential, that the Minister of shipping
and Transport makes a statement
clarifying the matter.

I urge upon the Minister to make
such a statement at the earliest
opportunity.

(ii) NEED TO LOCATE OFFICE OF
THE REGIONAL CEMENT CONTROLLER
AT HYDERABAD

SHRI T. DAMODAR REDDY
(Nalgonda): Andhra Pradesh is fac-
ing great difficulty in making avail-
able cement to the needy persons. It
is extremely difficult to get cement at
the reasonable prices, though it is
available freely at a much higher
price. The farmers, people in rural
areas, small house builders and those
who require it for ordinary
repair find it very difficult to get
cement. It is a common experience
that genuine persons do not get
cement at a reasonable price in time.
It is indeed a travesty that about
12 major cement plants and 4 mini
cement plants are located in Andhra
Pradesh, yet the people are facing
difficulty. There is need that distribu-
tion of cement should be arranged
properly. It should be made available
before the monsoon. There should be
ample provision for the rural areas
and the tribal regions of the State.
Unless we provide basic essential
material to the tribals and other
backward people all other develop-
ment works will come to a standstill.
It is therefore necessary that a regional
cement controller's office be located
at Hyderabad so that the distribution
could be assured. I, therefore, request
the central Government to set up a
Regional, Cement Controller's office
at Hyderabad. It will fulfill a long felt
demand of the people. It would prove
a boon to the State. The distri-
bution of a commodity is as important
as its production. I am sure some
positive measures will be adopted in
this matter.

(iii) RESERVATION OF CANCELLED
TRAIN SERVICES ON WESTERN RAIL-
WAY

श्री जोतीबाई कार० चौधरी : (मेह-
साना) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, बंदूक रेलवे ने