

(ii) ALLOTMENT OF A PLOT OF LAND IN DELHI TO CERTAIN PRESS ORGANISATIONS.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mor-mugao): Under Rule 377, I wish to draw the attention of the Ministers for Works and Housing and also of the Information and Broadcasting to the grave injustice being done to the six press organisations in allotment of plot of land for creation of a multi-storey complex.

The Press Association which is the only organisation of the Accredited Correspondents in the Capital had been allotted land as far back as 1965. It had deposited a sum of Rs. 40,000 towards the cost of land allotted to it. However, it surrendered the plot at the request of the Union Government in 1976 November and was promised in return the plot on 9, Rafi Marg.

However, the Union Government decided to jointly allot the same plot to six press organisations, the Press Association, the Press Club, the Press Institute, the United News of India, Samachar Bharati and Hindustan Samachar, in August, 1979.

The recent agreement signed by the Works and Housing Ministry with the UNI has, however, eliminated all the other Press Organisations. It is in total violation of the promise made by the Union Government and is in letter and spirit, against the original allotment letter by the Government given to all organisations in August, 1979.

If this agreement is not revoked immediately, it would be against all other organisations and their rights would be crushed. These organisations are greatly agitated over the manner and way in which the entire agreement was signed which cheats them of their legal and promised rights.

The Information Minister should take up the matter immediately to see that such a grave injustice is not

done to the institutions which have been serving the cause of Indian democracy.

Sir, the Information Minister is here and he must tell us about this in view of the urgency of the matter.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): I am glad that I am here, but I am not in charge of the Ministry concerned with allotment of this plot of land or the agreement. The Ministry is actually the Ministry of Works and Housing. Therefore, all that I can do is, I can request the Works and Housing Minister to look into it urgently on behalf of the associations that you have mentioned. That is what I can promise.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: That is what you are doing?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: That is what I have done.

(iii) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO HIMACHAL PRADESH GOVERNMENT IN VIEW OF DAMAGE CAUSED TO CROPS BY RECENT HAILSTORM.

श्री कृष्ण वल्लभ सुल्तागपुरी (शिमला) :
सभापति महोदय, मैं नियम, 377 के अन्तर्गत सरकार का ध्यान एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

पिछले कुछ दिनों में हिमाचल प्रदेश में भारी ओला बृष्टि हुई है। अभी 4 अप्रैल को ही ओला बृष्टि में सोलन जिले की तहसील नालागढ़ में पूर्णतया फसल आदि नष्ट हो गई है। इन दिनों वहाँ पर तेज हवाएं चल रही हैं। हिमाचल प्रदेश में जो नुक्सान हुआ है, उसे राज्य सरकार अपने सीमित साधनों से पूरा करने में असमर्थ है। अतः मेरा केन्द्र सरकार से विशेषकर केन्द्रीय कृषि मंत्री जी