

14.44 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to instruct Haryana Government for early completion of the portion of Link Channel on Ganga Canal falling under its jurisdiction**

[Translation]

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganga Nagar): The 'Gang Canal' in the Sriganganagar district of Rajasthan is a very important canal that has been in existence for the last 60 years.

This canal, which has a capacity of 2750 cusecs, is badly damaged in the Punjab region. Water is not flowing upto the full capacity of the canal. The Rajasthan Government has diverted its share of water into the Indira Gandhi Canal and constructed a link channel on R. D. No. 500 near Mohgarh and this would be connected to the primary head of the Gang Canal at Sadhuwali. The Rajasthan Government has already undertaken the repair work, falling under its jurisdiction, and it is nearing completion. A part of this link channel falls under Haryana's jurisdiction. The Rajasthan Government had already deposited the required money for repair work two years ago but the Haryana Government has not started the work so far.

Therefore, I request the hon. Minister of Water Resources to immediately instruct the Haryana Government to complete the work at the earliest so that farmers are not deprived of water for irrigation and repair work is started once again.

- (ii) **Need to provide more infra-structural facilities at Trivandrum airport**

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): The people of Kerala are extremely happy and grateful on

declaration of Trivandrum Airport as an International Airport. However Government have not so far taken necessary steps for providing the required facilities which are essential for an International Airport. Kerala is often said to be the Kashmir of the South and there is great potential for development of tourism. Kerala could attract a large number of tourists from countries like Japan, Singapore, Malaysia as also from the Gulf countries and could earn the much needed foreign exchange. There are also a number of foreign Airways companies willing to operate their services. Recently the Gulf Air has started service which is undoubtedly the beginning in International flights from the Airport. It is, therefore, requested that all the infrastructural facilities required for an International Airport may be provided to this Airport and permission granted to the foreign Airways willing to start their services from there.

- (iii) **Need to prevent deforestation in the coastal areas of Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh**

DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI (Srikakulam): Srikakulam District in Andhra Pradesh has a coast line of about 200 km. facing the Bay of Bengal in Indian Ocean. It is frequently inflicted by cyclones and tidal waves and consequent havoc and disaster. In addition to the various short term remedial measures, some preventive measures were taken by the State Government with the assistance of the Central aid. One such is the development of green belt along coast line. With much difficulty and huge spending, since 1982, the Forest Department nursed casuarina Topes in thousands of acres, along the entire sea shore. Now the trees grew up, but the unlawful elements began to deforest unabated and unchecked in the disguise of naxalite activities. It is a project to protect the poor, innocent and ignorant people living in the coastal belt, mostly fishermen. So, I suggest suitable action must be taken to

[Dr. Viswanatham Kanithi]

protect the villagers and their properties in the shore. One such measure is to lease the land to the interested parties of the locality of not more than one acre for a family and allow them only to grow the Green Belt, so that the purpose for which the green belt is grown, will be served.

(iv) **Need to take steps to check the growing unlawful activities in border areas of Nepal**

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a matter under Rule 377. I am drawing the attention of the hon. Home Minister towards the northern part of Deoria district in Uttar Pradesh. The northern part of this district lies at the Bihar-Nepal border. Every year the floods in the Barhi Gandak cause huge devastation in Deoria district. Large areas of land are lying vacant on the banks of the river. These areas are occupied by the anti-social elements of the Jungle Party. Incidents of kidnapping of local people for the purpose of getting lakhs of rupees as ransom have become very common on the borders of Deoria district. People in the northern part of Deoria district and other parts of Bihar are terrorised by the Jungle Party elements. Since these areas are on the border of two States i.e. U.P. and Bihar as well as Nepal, it has become difficult to check the terrorist elements.

In this situation I would urge the hon. Home Minister to deploy a Special Police Forces for the safety of the people so as to protect them from the unlawful activities of the Jungle Party. This area is spread over 150 kilometres. If such measures are not taken the situation will continue to remain disturbed and protection of the local people will not be possible.

(v) **Need to establish a University in Purnea, Bihar**

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, North East Bihar, which consists of seven districts—Kishanganj, Araria, Purnea, Katihar, Saharsa, Madhepura and Sapoul—has a population of nearly ten million but almost no institution of higher education is there except a few post-graduate departments in some degree colleges. The region has no medical, engineering, agricultural or teachers' training college. It is presently served by the Mithila University in Darbhanga which is nearly 300 kms. away from Purnea, with no direct rail or road link. The region has remained educationally and technologically backward because it is poor and cannot afford distant education.

Considering the average population served by a university in the country as a whole or in the State of Bihar, the region has a legitimate claim to have a university of its own with faculties of arts, science, commerce, humanities, social sciences, engineering, medicine, agriculture and education.

The legitimacy of the claim has been conceded by successive governments of Bihar in the past but paucity of funds, the ban by the University Grants Commission and the wrangle over the site have held up progress of implementation.

Equality of educational opportunity is a sacred right and an imperative for development. I request that the Central Government and the UGC extend full cooperation to the State Government in establishing the university in Purnea which is logistically the most suitable place, in order to enable the youth of the region to progress educationally and to contribute to nation-building.