

[Shri Niren Ghosh]

advanced stage of completion. Surprisingly enough there is inordinate delay in granting licence for the project. Refusal to grant licence would evoke state wide public resentment. I therefore demand that licence be immediately granted for the petro-chemical project.

(ii) REPORTED INDISCIPLINE IN THE BRANCHES OF STATE BANK OF INDIA IN SOUTHERN STATES

SHRI S. A. DORAI SEBASTIAN (Karur): I want to raise the following matter of public importance to draw the attention of the Finance Minister under Rule 377.

State Bank of India's long standing record of good service to people mostly to weaker section has been greatly affected by indiscipline hooliganism and riotous behaviour of certain employees specially in Southern States.

It is reported Branch Managers and Officers have been illegally confined, gheroad, physically assaulted and bank properties, furniture are destroyed, bank cash and records are tampered with. There is no rule of law, no respect for authority and no regard for systems and procedures. The affected branches are Trivandrum, Calicut, Ottapalam, Nagecoil, Tirunelveli, Palayamcottai, Aruppukottai, Kollankanal, Mayuram, Nagapattinam, K. Magiri, Ponneri, Dharapuram, Hoyal, Hospet.

The Madras Circle Management have initiated disciplinary action and in many cases police have filed criminal cases.

The top management of the State Bank is however under pressure from staff union and planning to drop disciplinary proceedings.

The Branch Managers and Officers are exposed to grave personal risks and there will be complete collapse and break down of administration. On the memorandum submitted by 5,000 officers to the Prime Minister, Finance

Minister and the Chairman of the State Bank, if no action is taken it will completely demoralise them.

Will the Finance Minister direct the Chairman, State Bank to act in such a way which will ensure discipline and not compromise and encourage indiscipline and chaos in the premier banking institution of India.

(iii) REPORTED NON-LIFTING OF SUGAR QUOTA FROM LEVY STOCK BY THE FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA FROM A BOMBAY MILL

SHRI BHAUSAHEB THORAT (Pandharpur): I want to raise the following matter of public importance to draw the attention of the Minister under Rule 377.

It is reported by Maharashtra Rajya Sehkari Sakhar Karkhana Sangh Ltd., Bombay that at about 3.33 lakhs tones of sugar from levy stock has not been lifted by the Food Corporation of India. The movement of the levy sugar from factory to the distributing centre is very poor. The agency fixed for distribution of the sugar is F. C. I. F C I is not taking keen interest in lifting the sugar quota allotted to them by the Government. The total allotment is not lifted, only 50 per cent of the total allotment has been lifted. It is not understood as to why there is difficulty with the F. C. I. in not lifting the sugar quota of levy when there is no problem of transporting free sale sugar quota. What is wrong with levy sugar quota? It can be shifted on par with free sale quota. I suspect there is something between hoarders, officers of F. C. I. and also factory owners of sugar industries. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to investigate the matter fully by sending an expert team because it is pertinent that only quota of December 1979 onwards is not lifted. To create in the public mind a resentment against the Cong.(I) Government (of Mrs. Indira Gandhi), this has been manipulated

by all over agencies. So this should be investigated fully.

(iv) SPREADING OF JAUNDICE IN AN EPIDEMIC FORM IN HILL DISTRICTS OF UTTAR PRADESH

श्री हरीश रावत (अलमोड़ा) : अध्यक्ष जी, मैं नियम 377 के अन्तर्गत लोक महत्व की बातों की ओर माननीय रक्षा मंत्री, गृह मंत्री और स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

उत्तर प्रदेश के पर्वतीय जिलों में पीलिया नाम का रोग भयंकर रूप से फैला हुआ है। रानीखेत व उसके निकटवर्ती क्षेत्रों में इस रोग से कई लोगों की मौत हो चुकी है। इस महामारी को रोकने में स्वास्थ्य विभाग बिल्कुल असफल रहा है। इस रोग का पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में भयंकर रूप से फैलने का कारण स्पष्ट रूप से ज्ञात नहीं हो पा रहा है। क्षेत्रीय जनता को शंका है कि इस रोग का कारण विगत वर्ष पर्वतीय क्षेत्र में हुए कुछ विस्फोटों से सम्बन्धित है। ये विस्फोट उस समय हुए जब कि कुछ विदेशी नागरिक इस सीमान्त क्षेत्र में शंकास्पद रूप से घूमते हुए पाये गये हैं।

क्षेत्रीय जनता के स्वास्थ्य के साथ साथ देश के सीमान्त की सुरक्षा का मवाल भी जुड़ा हुआ है। अतः केन्द्रीय सरकार अपनी किसी ऐसी एजेंसी द्वारा इस बात की तत्परता से जाच कवाये।

(v) REPORTED CASES OF CRIMINAL ASSAULT ON WOMEN IN BIHAR AND MADHYA PRADESH

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Under rule 377 I want to raise one matter. On 13th of March the Patriot has reported two incidents of rape from two states under President's rule viz. Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. In Bihar, a young Harijan woman of Bijwania village in Champatia block under West Champaran was criminally assaulted by a co-villager. The police have registered a case. No arrest has been made so far. At Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh two young sisters, one of them married, were raped at the point of knife and forced to cook food by about a dozen drunk men who beset their house in the thinly populated locality on the 11th March. Such news of rape are often reported in the Press now-a-days. Many more incidents take place which are not reported. In view of the fact that

rape should be considered a crime against humanity, I draw the attention of the government to take immediate steps for apprehending and punishing the culprits in these two cases, as well as to devise more effective means in the legal, administrative and social fields to curb this evil effectively in all parts of the country.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV (Azamgarh): Under rule 377 such cases are brought to the notice of the House. The whole nation feels concerned about such serious cases. Would you ask the Minister to tell us what steps are being taken so that we may know.

MR. SPEAKER: It is brought to the notice of government.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: The Minister should make a statement.

MR. SPEAKER: We cannot do it. Action has to be initiated by them.

12.20 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET, 1980-81—GENERAL DISCUSSION, DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (ON ACCOUNT), 1980-81, AND SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1979-80—Contd.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): Mr. Speaker, I have heard with great interest and attention the contribution made by all sections of the House. In the concluding part of my address I invited the House to offer constructive suggestions for framing the regular budget for the year 1980-81. A large number of suggestions have been made on the floor of the House such as expanded expenditure on some of the projects like irrigation, industries, rural development, support to village and rural industries, etc. I am thankful to all the Members for the various suggestions they have made. I am sure that in the revamped budget which will come up in the course of the year these suggestions will be reflected and adequate provisions made therefor.