

versity of Delhi or of a recognised College or Institution of that University."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of Statute 2(1) (xix) of the Statutes of the University of Delhi, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Court of the University of Delhi, subject to other provisions of the Statutes. The members so elected shall not be the employees of the University of Delhi or of a recognised College or Institution of that University."

The motion was adopted

MR. SPEAKER: We will now take up matter Under Rule 377

13.11 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (I) Need to accord clearance to Pachaiyaru Reservoir Scheme in Kamraj District, Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN (Tiruchendur): Pachaiyaru Reservoir Scheme, an important project in Kamaraj district, Tamil Nadu has been pending for a long time with the State Government of Tamil Nadu for want of clearance from the central Forest Department.

13.11 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

Though the State Government has considered the project favourably yet the scheme could not be cleared by the Central Govern-

ment Forest Department on the ground that the rare species of monkeys locally known as 'Lion Tail Monkeys', inhabiting the Kalakkadu hill forest would be affected.

In this connection, I may point out that the "Pachaiyaru Reservoir", a small dam is to be constructed at a height of 300 ft. only whereas the rare species of monkeys inhabit the Kalakkadu hill forest at a height of 4000 ft. Therefore, the question of harm being inflicted on this rare species does not arise. Nangemari taluk and other adjoining areas are the most drought-prone areas in the whole of the country. Therefore, "Pachaiyaru Reservoir", after its construction, would be a great boon to the people of the surrounding areas.

I would request the Central Government to take immediate action for according clearance by the Central Forest Department so that the scheme can be taken up for execution immediately.

- ✓(II) Need to give adequate recognition to the people of Chimor in the 50th anniversary of freedom movement

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Chimur): The time has come to focus the attention of Parliament and the nation on the martyrs of Chimur who responded magnificently to Mahatma Gandhi's call to throw off the yoke of foreign rule through the "Quit India" Movement.

The gallant men and women in Chimur a tiny village in Chandrapur district of Maharashtra, for all practical purposes threw out the British from their mofussil area, an achievement demonstrating the strength of patriotism. Nine precious lives were lost. Retaliating, the British unleashed their wrath on the brave and fearless freedom fighters by sentencing 20 of them to death and several others to life imprisonment.

Against this historic backdrop of which we all should be proud, I am sure all will agree that Chimur deserves recognition as a

citadel of martyrdom. It should not languish in neglect. On the eve of the 50th anniversary of the freedom movement, on 9th August, 1992 it will be in the fitness of things if Government were to do the following:

1. It should honour the people of Chimur by announcing special economic measures and projects.
2. A major public sector unit could be located in Chimur or a major private sector unit could be encouraged to set up a manufacturing unit in Chimur - this would be dedicated to the memory of all those who laid down their lives in the freedom struggle from this area.
3. Invite all freedom fighters from all over the country to Chimur and present them suitable awards and mementos on the occasion.
4. The President, the Prime Minister and other dignitaries should attend the function to be held in Chimur.

The greatness of the people of Chimur is best summed up in the words of the revolutionary freedom fighter and poet, Pandit Ram Prasad Bismil:

"Shaheedon ki Chitaon Par Lagenge
Har Baras Mele
Watan Par Mitanewale ka Yah Baki
Nishan Hoga".

(III) Need to give more concession to small newspapers

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL(Jabalpur): I would like to draw the attention of this august House to the impact of frequent newsprint price hikes on small newspapers. Almost 70 per cent of the total cost of bringing out a small daily depends on the cost of newsprint. The sale price of one

small daily does not recover the cost of bringing out that newspaper. Consequently a small daily has to very heavily depend on Government and private advertisement for its sustenance.

The frequent newsprint price rises, twice in six weeks, particularly the recent one, has inflicted a crippling blow to small newspapers. Their survival has been greatly jeopardised.

While appreciating the recent statement of Honourable Information and Broadcasting Minister, I would like to state that the Minister has not spelt out as to how he intends to help the survival of small newspapers in our country.

The 18 per cent increase in Government advertisement rates would mostly go to the big newspapers.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to consider exempting small newspapers having circulation of less than 50,000 copies per day, from this one time surcharge. Secondly, the Government should give a greater share of its total advertisement volume to small newspapers.

Thirdly and more importantly the Government should provide to small newspapers quota of both imported and indigenous newsprint on circulation basis and to provide the same at subsidised rates so as to ensure the survival of these small newspapers so vital for our democracy.

[Translation]

(iv) Need to ensure proper functioning of telephones in Hamirpur, U.P.

SHRI V.N. SHARMA (Hamirpur): The telephone system in district Hamirpur of Uttar Pradesh is not functioning properly. The district headquarter has no telephone link with its Tehsils or Blocks. Not even 10 per cent telephones are in working order in Mohowa which has a population of 85,000