

Renew on the working of and Annual Report of Telecommunication consultants India Ltd., New Delhi for 1990-91

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION(SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (1) Review by the Government on the working of the Telecommunications consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91.
- (2) Annual Report of the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library See No. LT. 906/91]

Newsprint Allocation Policy for the licensing year 1991-92

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Newsprint Allocation Policy (Hindi and English versions) for the licensing year 1991-92 published in Notification No. 601/4/91-NP-I, in Gazette of India dated the 4th October, 1991. [Placed in Library See No. LT. 907/91]

12.33 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

- (I) **Need to extend Indian Airlines Services upto Shillong.**

[*English*]

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong): Sir, I would like to raise an important matter of public importance under Rule 377.

Shillong Airport in Meghalaya was commissioned in 1975 and it is being utilised by Vayudoot Service connecting Shillong and Calcutta via Guwahati. However, Vayudoot Service is very irregular and has caused immense difficulties to the travelling passengers. In October 1988, the Ministry of Civil Aviation had assured that Shillong would be linked with Delhi and Calcutta by Indian Airlines. This assurance has not been fulfilled till date. I urge upon the Government to extend the services of Indian Airlines to Shillong Airport which would also give a boost to tourism in Meghalaya.

- (II) **Need to allot vacant forest land to refugees living in Puranpur Tehsil, Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh**

[*Translation*]

DR. P.R. GANGWAR (Pilibhit): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, northern area of Puranpur Tehsil in my constituency, Pilibhit, is surrounded by river Sharda, Sharda Nagar and forests. Bengali refugees who came from Bengal have been residing in this area since 1950. These displaced Bengalis are finding it difficult to earn their livelihood due to the rapid flow and soil erosion caused by river Sharda. The Forest Department forcibly

takes possession of the land after the soil erosion caused by Sharda river.

I would like to request the hon. Minister to allot land to the displaced Bengalis in Pilibhit district for building houses and for earning livelihood. Village and affected by soil erosion caused by river Sharda has been taken into possession by the Forest Department as "non Z(A)" land. This land is lying vacant. I urge upon the Government to allot this land to the displaced Bengalis, for constructing houses and farming.

(III) Need to change the management of BIC and NTC mills in Kanpur

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the textile mills located in the industrial city Kanpur which was earlier called Manchester of India, are in a very miserable condition. A number of mills have been closed and some more are on the verge of closure. Due to continuous deterioration in the industrial atmosphere of the city, the industrial frame work has completely been destroyed. It is a matter of deep concern. The mills functioning under the control of British India Corporation and National Textile Corporation have almost reached to the state of depression due to mismanagement. Notice of retrenchment and meetings of employees are being served daily. As a result of it, thousands of workers and their families are on the verge of starvation. Heavy cut in grants to these units in Central Budget has made the problem more serious and the announcement made by the Finance Minister recently regarding closure of undertakings running in loss, has also worried the employees.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to appoint experienced, meritorious and dedicated persons in the management of these units and provide economic assistance also to these sick units to make them viable

and employment oriented in order to discharge social, moral and administrative responsibility towards the people of India honestly. In addition, the Government may categorically declare that these units will not be closed down so as to instill confidence among the workers and to put a check on the imminent unprecedented labour unrest.

(iv) Need to permit Government of Kerala to introduce its interest subsidy scheme for loans taken by farmers from primary cooperative banks and Societies

[English]

SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE (Alleppey): The Kerala Government had introduced the interest subsidy scheme for the loans taken by the farmers from primary cooperative banks and societies, which was very helpful to the poor agriculturists. The scheme was started in 1979-80 and continued upto 1989-90, but due to the compulsion of NABARD at a later stage, this scheme was stopped. The scheme was an incentive for the repayment of the loans and after the introduction of the scheme, Kerala's repayment rate of the loans became the highest in the country. The State has 15 million membership in the cooperative sector and the reintroduction of the interest subsidy scheme has a vital role in the State's agrarian economy.

I urge upon the Government to give permission to the State Government for reintroducing the interest subsidy scheme.

(v) Need to take action against persons involved alleged irregularities committed by Tapovan Housing Finance Company

SHRI SOBHANDREESWARA RAO VADDE(Vijayawada): Tapovan Housing