

(Interruptions)

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU (Dharmapuri): Sir, the Government has to come to our rescue. If the Government is not helping us, what can we do?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I would request you to resume your seats. He will make necessary arrangements for your stay. Kindly resume your seats.

12.45 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377-*CONTD.*

- (ii) **Need for survey of Bastar Forests by satellite and to take preventive measures to check deforestation**

[Translation]

SHRI MANKU RAM SODI (Bastar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, deforestation in the Bastar district has taken place due to illegal felling of trees by the advisers in the protected forest spread over thousands of acres. Due to this illegal deforestation lakhs of acres of land in forests has been converting into desert area, plants and trees and rainfall has become very scarce in that region. It has seriously affected the environment and also the life style of the Advisers. Unless it is checked immediately, there will be complete deforestation.

Therefore, my submission is that the hon. Minister of Forests and Environment should get a survey of the forests of Bastar district conducted through satellite and submit a report of the actual position. Secondly, in the interest of conservation of forests and extension of forest cover wood cutting of wood and Bamboo as also the export thereof should be banned in the entire district at least for a period of ten years. Besides, trees useful from the point of view of public utility as well as environment, should be planted in the about 15 lakh hectares of forest land

lying vacant. The services of private sector may also be utilized for the purpose, if required. If these measures are not taken immediately, this world famous forest region will be ruined.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): With your permission, I would like to say something. I would not have interrupted the Zero Hour. But at this hour we can say something which normally perhaps under the rules we cannot. I would like to mention that the entire House congratulates our Member from the opposition who has just been married. We all wish her a very happy married life.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The whole House heartily congratulated her. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDERJIT (Darjeeling): I am joining in this group to wait for proper sweet. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): While joining in this congratulation, I must express my regret that the Members of this House have not been given the opportunity of partaking in the celebration along with the function. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Ponnani): May I also express my congratulation? As Shri Indrajit Gupta has said, we did not get the opportunity of partaking in the celebrations. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Mavattupuzha): We have one Member Shri T.J. Anjalose from the Communist Party who also got married recently and he also may be congratulated. I take this opportunity of congratulating him. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESHWARI (Bellary): As a lady Member, I also want to congratulate her.

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): I have already congratulated her personally and also attended her marriage reception. Now I, as a Member join the leader of the House in extending heartiest congratulations to her.

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad): On behalf of Janata Dal I congratulate Dipikaji though she did not invite us.

SHRIMATIGIRIJA DEVI (Maharajganj): On behalf of Janata Dal I congratulate Dipikaji and also wish her a happy married life. I regret that we were not invited.

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla): You are welcome to Himachal Pradesh for honeymoon... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRIMATIDIPIKA CHIKHLIA (Baroda): I thank the House for giving me warm welcome.

[*Translation*]

The hon. Members have a complaint that they did not receive invitation cards. It is due to the fault of the post office. These cards might have got mixed up with Deepawali cards.

[*English*]

I carried with me the whole diary of the Lok Sabha.

[*Translation*]

You may receive them after a month, if not received by

SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: Dinner must be arranged.

SHRIMATIDIPIKA CHIKHLIA: It will be arranged.

MATERS UNDER RULE 377-CONTD.

(iii) **Need to declare Ponta Sahib-Rampur Buser and Pinjore-Sawarghat roads in Himachal Pradesh as National Highways**

[*Translation*]

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI (Shimla): The Ponta Sahib road in Himachal Pradesh goes upto Tibet Via Karmrau, Ranhat, Heuni, Hardkoti Road, Samarkot, Rampur Buser, Kinnaur and Samdoh. Another road from Pinjore in Haryana goes upto Leh in Laddakh Via Nalagarh, Sawarghat, Kullu and Manali. These roads are maintained by the Border Roads Organisation. I request the Central government to declare both these roads as National Highways.

(iv) **Need for early payment of salaries to medical officers appointed by the Central Government in Primary Health Centres in Uttar Pradesh**

DR. P.R. GANGWAR (Pilibhit): The Central Government has posted a third Medical Officer in the Primary Health Centres in Uttar Pradesh. Their salaries are given directly by the central Government. These officers, who are 706 in number, have not been paid their salaries since March, 1991 but the Central Government has not paid any attention in this direction till now.

Neither has the Central government given the funds nor has it issued any directive to the State Government to take action.

So, I request the hon. Health Minister to release the necessary amount to the State government so that arrangements may be made for payment of salaries to these medical officers.

(v) **Need to regularise unauthorised LPG connections in Jalgaon, Maharashtra**

DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE (Jalgaon): In my district Jalgaon, Maharash-