

13.15 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twenty one minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (I) **Need to Provide Halt for Koyna Express at Takari, Sangli District, Maharashtra**

[*English*]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad): There has been a long standing demand from the people of Takari, Tal, Walva, District Sangli in my Constituency for a halt of the Koyna Express at Takari Station. a south Central Railway. Takari is an important and centrally located railway station for the people of Walva, Khanapur and Tasgaon Tehasils of South Sangli. So, having a halt there will be very convenient for them. Therefore, I request the Minister for Railways to kindly provide a halt for the Koyna Express at Takari.

- (II) **Need to Bring about Development in Western Region of Orissa by setting up an autonomous regional development council**

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): It is an irony of fate that the Western region of Orissa which is endowed with enormous natural resources and which has a rich culture, remains backward and undeveloped. Resentment among the people on account of such neglect of this area by authorities is mounting up and is threatening the solidarity of the State. What is, therefore, urgently needed is the development of this region through an autonomous regional development council for the area with proper emphasis on formulation of plan at the dis-

trict level and its implementation generally by the Zilla Parishads.

- (III) **Need to Check the Acute Power shortage in Maharashtra especially in Western and Northern parts of the state.**

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik): There is acute shortage of Power in Maharashtra, especially in West and North Maharashtra. The farmers are facing many problem because of this power shortage. Even their water pump sets cannot work continuously for more than two hours. This will lead to low production of foodgrains. besides, many power generation units there, are not functioning for want of coal. I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to ensure uninterrupted power generation in these units and encourage Hydro-Electric generation projects like Ghatghar Project in Tehsil Akola, District Nagar in the State of Maharashtra.

- (IV) **Need to Declare Policy of Government Regarding Khadi and Village Industries and lift ban on filling vacancies therein.**

SHRI RAM NAIK: (Bombay North): Kadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) was established after our country's independence to promote village industries which have a large potential for rural employment. The Government have recently changed the industrial policy which is going to have far-reaching effect on big industries and medium and small scale industries. The trade, commerce and banking policies are also being changed. In this perspective, the future of Khadi and Village industries needs to be considered.

To the original list of 26 village industries, in addition to Khadi, wool and silk, 67 more industries were added in 1987 by amending the Act. However, the employment pattern in KVIC has not been changed to match the addition of industries. More-