

40,000 to 50,000 people depend for their livelihood and daily bread.

Now a most unfortunate thing has happened in that the Orissa Boat Owners/Fishermen are threatening

Andhra Pradesh fishermen not to operate in that part of sea for fishing. I cannot understand why such a situation should arise as long as the fishermen are working in Indian waters. Orissa boatmen have followed up their threat in writing also and have gone to the extent of sending telegrams to Andhra Pradesh Boat Owners to remain away from that side of Coast.

The boat owners of Kakinada have sent telegrams to Prime Minister and the Home Minister to be kind enough to intervene and help the fishermen.

I would request the Government of India to take immediate steps before an ugly situation develops.

- (iv) **Need to provide adequate funds for the expansion of existing telephone exchange at Bhubaneswar during Seventh Plan.**

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack): The present capacity of the Bhubaneswar Telephone Exchange is 7,000 lines including the expansion done during 1985. Even after expansion it is unable to meet the requirement of the general public and Government offices. A number of applicants who have registered their applications under OYT category, Special category and General category are eagerly awaiting for years for getting telephone connections. This apart, Government offices are not getting new connections. Some of the Departments like Administrative Reforms and C.D. & R.R. have deposited money for telephone under OYT category, but no connections have been provided. Non-availability of telephones has created difficulties for Government offices to function. The Commerce Department is receiving complaints for non-supply of new telephones. Without the expansion of main telephone exchange at Bhubaneswar, new telephone connections cannot be provided. Many new offices of

the Government of India and Research Projects offices set up at Bhubaneswar need urgent telephone connections.

In view of this, I demand that adequate fund provision should be made for the expansion of existing main telephone exchange at Bhubaneswar so that the requirement of Seventh Plan is fully met.

[Translation]

- (v) **Need to direct Rajasthan Government to stop recovery of dues from farmers of the Indira Canal Project Area.**

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there have been many types of bunglings in the construction of pacca water courses in Indira Canal Project area and the farmers are made to bear the brunt of it, thereby, causing great resentment in them. How can a poor farmer bear the burden of the bunglings indulged in by the department? The banks are serving notices on the farmers. It may be worth noting here that the Indira Canal Project is being executed with special Central assistance.

I, therefore, request the Centre to direct the Rajasthan Government to stop recovery from the farmers at the earliest so that the resentment is removed.

(English)

- (vi) **Need to declare 18 species of Birds in Orissa endangered species to save them from extinction.**

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Indian Bird Life today is in a state of seige because deforestation, extensive agriculture and predatory humans' over-hunting has damaged extensively country's quail, patridge, pheasant and jungle fowl.

Interfering with bird power is highly dangerous. Holland and China discovered this when they massacred sparrow, hoping to double the harvest. The effect, however, was just the reverse as insects flourished unchecked.

[Shri Somnath Rath]

Of the 8,000 birds, India harbours 1,200. About 180 species found in the country are endemic and they are found nowhere else.

Coming to Orissa, the following 18 species of birds are on the threshold of extinction. I suggest these birds be declared endangered species and early steps be taken to protect them :

1. Dattor
2. Eastern Roof Horon
3. Chestnut Bittorn
4. Nakta Duck
5. Brahminy Kito
6. Sahin Falcon
7. Peacock
8. Pheasant-tailed Jacanna
9. Spur-winged Plover
10. Emerald Dove
11. Malabar Pied Hornbill
12. Racket-tailed Drongo
13. Hair-crosted Drongo
14. Hill Myna
15. Paradise Fly-catcher
16. Shama
17. Painted Bush-quail
18. Largo Egrot

(vii) **Need to lay on the Table of the House the full texts of opinions of Ministries of Home and Law regarding Bill on Muslim Women, pending in Lok Sabha.**

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : The Times of India (Delhi Edition) of 4th March, 1986 has published despatch by Shri Arun Shourie under the Caption 'Opinion of Ministries ignored' on Bill on Muslim Women.

This despatch states :

"The Bill (Banatwala's Bill) was addressed to the Ministry of Home Affairs. In its search for the relevant material, the Ministry consulted among others the law ministry. In his note dated May 25, 1985 the legal adviser to the law ministry categorically stated that the Supreme Court had correctly interpreted the law, and opined that "provisions of maintenance for divorced wife do not conflict with the Mohammadan personal law." He cited what Parliament had been told on behalf of the government 12 years earlier and concluded : "A careful reading of the judgement would show that the honourable court has simply interpreted the relevant provision of the Cr. P. C. without any interference with the Muslim personal law as such."

The law Secretary was, if anything, even more emphatic. "The Muslim personal law is of a civil nature, whereas section 125 is a provision contained in the Criminal Procedure Code", he said and added that "the Bill to amend Sections 125 and 127 of Cr.P.C. should be opposed."

The note was signed by the Secretary, Mr. B.S. Sekhon, on May 31, 1985 : the opinion was then endorsed by Mr. H.R. Bhardwaj, minister of state for law on June 1 and by Mr. Ashoka Kumar Sen cabinet minister, on June 2."

The various documents given to leaders of parties and groups in the Parliament in connection with the Bill on Muslim Women did not contain the above mentioned information concerning the full text of the opinions prepared by the Home Ministry and law ministry and other relevant documents.

I demand that the Minister for Law and Justice should make a full statement in the House regarding the opinions of the Home Ministry and Law Ministry mentioned in Shri Arun Shourie despatch and