

on the 1st day of July, 1985 and the waters used for consumptive purposes and for the adjudication of the claim of Punjab and Haryana regarding the shares in their remaining waters.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Tribunal for the verification of the quantum of usage of water claimed by the farmers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan from the Ravi-Beas system as on the 1st day of July, 1985 and the waters used for consumptive purposes and for the adjudication of the claim of Punjab and Haryana regarding the shares in their remaining waters.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I introduce the Bill.

STATEMENT RE : RAVI AND BEAS
WATERS TRIBUNAL ORDINANCE,
1986

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Ravi and Beas Waters Tribunal Ordinance, 1986.

15.52 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Demand to raise support prices of all agricultural produce by about 25 per cent.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, agriculturists are facing a lot of hardships due to unremunerative prices for their produce.

Their backbone is broken. Whenever they have to purchase, they have to pay high prices. When they try to sell their produce they have to sell at a very low price. Present rise in prices of products like kerosene, petroleum products and fertilizers has raised the cost of inputs of agriculture to a very high degree. Comparative rise in prices of rice and wheat is nominal. Other agricultural products remain at the same level of prices. Due to the present rise in prices, the agriculturists are crippled economically. The support price given to agricultural produce is very meagre and it does not take into account the risk involved, and the sufferings of the agriculturists who have to work day in and day out. It is high time that the Central Government raises the support prices of all agricultural produce by about 25 per cent and save the agriculturists from economic disaster.

15.53 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM
in the Chair]

- (ii) Demand for developing Northern part of Kerala to attract tourist traffic.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore) : Sir, the State of Kerala has high tourist potential which has not been tapped at all. This is most obvious in the northern half of Kerala which is absolutely cut off from the tourist map of India.

Kerala, with its long coastal line, numerous rivers and back waters, famous tropical forests such as the Silent Valley, the green hills of Wynad with its rich forest wealth and rare species of animals, the temples and places of historical importance has much to offer to a tourist. However, the birth place of Pazhassi Raja and Kunhali Marakkar who fought against alien powers, the place where the Portuguese sailer Vasco-de-Gama first landed in India, the several forts etc. have all been ignored by the Tourist Departments both at the State level and at the Centre.

It is to be noted that the temple arts of Malabar such as *Theyyam* and *Thira* and