

explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Income-tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 1989.

12.09 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

- (i) **Demand for directions and financial assistance to Bihar Government to launch scheme to meet acute drinking water scarcity in Purnea**

SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH (Purnea): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am speaking in this House on the shortage of drinking water in my constituency i.e. Purnea (Bihar).

Recently I had an extensive visit of the aforesaid area. There is still a great shortage of drinking water in the entire region and it is likely to deteriorate further during the summer season. Situation is not being improved in spite of our continuous apprising of the situation to the State Government.

Purnea region has not been covered under the cluster programme of tubewells initiated by the World Bank whereas it would have been more appropriate to cover this region under the said project, in view of the gravity of the situation.

Wherever there are old hand-pumps in the rural areas, the funds meant for their repairs are not being utilised properly by the Local Public Health Department.

It is necessary that the supply of drinking water in the rural areas having the scarcity of water should be managed at the war level before the onset of the next summer season.

In this connection, I would like to request the Central Government to issue proper directives to the State Government in

this regard and also to grant more financial assistance if necessary.

[*English*]

- (ii) **Demand for supply of more power to Orissa from the Farakka and the Chhuka Hydel Projects**

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): The State of Orissa is reeling under severe power shortage for last about a decade and has recorded to statutory and other restrictions for the last six years. During the current water year, assuming the normal generation of Hydel Power and purchasing power from Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board, NALCO etc. the power availability is estimated to be 543 MW against unrestricted requirement of 1000 MW.

To meet the shortage, the State Government have imposed statutory power cut of 75% on heavy and power intensive industries, 50% on large Industries and 30% on State owned undertakings, along with the peak load restriction from 6.00 P.M. to 10 P.M. on all industries. There is therefore no scope to have further power cut on Industrial sector.

To save the State 15% unallocated power from Centrally owned projects located at Farrakka and Chhuka in the Eastern region, which would be supplied to the State of Orissa, considering that thereby highest deficit power shortage there when compared to all the States located in Eastern region, else, the State will have to face 40% power shortage for several years to come even after purchasing power from NALCO, Madhya Pradesh and various constituents of FREB at a much higher cost than the selling rate of the power by the Orissa State Electricity Board.

I would therefore request the Energy Ministry to come to the rescue of the Orissa State, for supply of more un-allocated power from Farakka and Chhuka Hydel projects with immediate effect, like Kerala and Kar-