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[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4110/87].

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Planning for 1987-88

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKHAM) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Planning for 1987-88.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4111/87].

12.12 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

Thirty Second Report

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI (Dharmapuri) : I beg to present the Thirty-second Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

[English]

Thirty-ninth Report and Minutes.

SHRIMATI CHANDRA TRIPATHI (Chandauli) : I beg to present the Thirty-ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Defence—Defence Canteen Stores and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

12.13 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (1) Need to construct a Telephone Exchange building at Tumkur and also to provide STD facility at Tiptur exchange in Karnataka

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur) : I would like to draw the attention of the

Hon. Minister to the plight of the telephone network of my district Tumkur whose working has been unsatisfactory and its network is hazardous due to non-availability of lines. The place where the exchange is situated is very unhealthy and does not have good working conditions. Although State Government has given a land on nominal rates but still no building is being constructed. I am told that Government of India has sanctioned amount for the construction of the building. The construction of the building has not yet been started and the delay in construction is causing harm and inconvenience to the people of the Tumkur town.

Sir, I would therefore urge the Minister of intervene in the matter personally and direct the authorities concerned to expedite the construction of building and provide more number of telephones to Tumkur which is one of the biggest business centres in the Karnataka and the number of trunk calls purity to the various parts of India is more than 5000 trunk calls per day.

Sir, there is also no STD facility in Tiptur Exchange which is also one of the business centres in Tumkur District. This is also causing great inconvenience to the business community and the general people. I, therefore, appeal to the Ministry to direct the authorities concerned to also provide direct dialing system in Tiptur Exchange which will be of great help to the people of the district Tumkur.

[Translation]

- (ii) Demand for making available ATS and anti-rabies vaccines at reasonable prices

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : Sir, thousands of persons die every year because of tetanus and dog bite all over the country. These diseases have increased much during the last two years. The main reason for this is the acute shortage of ATS and anti-rabies vaccines and wide difference in the selling prices of medicines prepared by the Government companies and those prepared by the private companies. A Government company named Bengal Immunity sells ATS injections at the rate of Rs. 18.78 per ampul whereas a private company sells the same medicine at the rate of

Rs. 39.50 per ampul which is beyond the reach of the common man. It is an open loot by the private company. The Bengal Immunity has stopped the production of anti-snake venom and anti-diphtheria serum for the last one year and as a result of that, thousands of people have been pushed into the jaws of death due to the non-availability of these medicines. The most painful aspect is that non-availability of free anti-rabies vaccines in the hospitals in Uttar Pradesh has created a grave situation. The said private company is manufacturing these medicines and selling at the rate of Rs. 2400 per course all over the country but it is beyond the purchasing capacity of the people of our country.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to make available the ATS and anti-rabies vaccines in order to save the lives of thousands of people and also to check the arbitrary prices being charged by the private companies for these medicines.

[English]

(iii) *Integrated proposal of developing Paradeep Port*

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK (Jagat-singhpur) : The integrated proposal of developing Paradeep Port to handle bulk carriers for an annual export of 6 million tonnes of iron ore, construction of a rail link between Daitari and Banspani and development of iron ore mines in the hinterland of Paradeep Port is pending approval of the Government of India for quite some time.

12.16 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The Working Group constituted by the Government of India has submitted its recommendations long since and it is observed that the project is technically and financially viable, desirable from the points of view of earning additional foreign exchange and for developing backward area of the country. The Working Group has also observed that unless the projected facilities are created at Paradeep Port, the port will gradually ease out of iron ore export trade.

The proposal was initiated keeping in view the interest shown by South Korea to import additional quantity of iron ore for its new iron & steel works. If a decision about implementation of the project is delayed, it is apprehended that South Korea will turn to other sources like Brazil and Australia who would be too willing to seize such opportunity and our country would lose the opportunity to step up its foreign exchange earnings.

As such, I request the Government to take early decision in the matter and approve the proposal for the development of Paradeep Port.

[Translation]

- (iv) *Need to waive customs duty on the import of wool to protect the carpet industry in the country, particularly in Mirzapur, Bhadoi in Uttar Pradesh*

SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA (Mirzapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the carpet industry is the main industry in my parliamentary constituency Mirzapur, Bhadoi, other adjacent districts and in several other parts of the country. It is a cottage industry. About 15 lakh people earn their living from this industry. In addition to it, the foreign currency worth about Rs. 150 crores is earned by the export of carpets to the foreign countries. But today this industry is facing crisis due to the shortage and high prices of raw material. The main raw material of this industry is sheep wool which is partially produced in the country and partially imported from foreign countries like New Zealand etc. During the last Winter Session, I had demanded that the wool production should be increased on a large scale in the country and also it should be imported from countries like New Zealand on a large scale free of import duty to meet the requirement of carpet producers. In addition, it was also demanded that permission should be given to the carpet manufactures to import wool free of import duty. But it is regretted that the import duty on wool has been raised by 10 per cent causing more crisis in the Carpet Industry.