

[Shri Janardhan Poojary]

by Government of India on 6-4-1987 under the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1952 (60 of 1952) to inquire into the events and circumstances leading to the arrangements entered into with the Fairfax Group Inc. of USA. The terms of reference of this Commission of Inquiry is indicated in the Notification regarding appointment of this Commission which was published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary dated 6-4-1987, the details were announced by me in the House on 6-4-1987.

2. This Commission of inquiry will be serviced by the Department of Economic Affairs. As the setting up of the Commission is a post budget development, provision therefor has not been included in the Demands for Grants of the Department. As however, the Commission is required to begin its work immediately and submit its report to Central Government within the stipulated period of three months, it is proposed to draw an advance of Rs 8 50 lakhs which is the present estimate of the expenditure on the Commission from the Contingency Fund of India. The advance will as usual be recouped through a Supplementary Demand to be presented in the next session of Parliament.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing goes on record.

*(Interruptions)***

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) .
The Prime Minister has not replied to our points. We are walking out in protest.

12.28 hrs.

Shri Basudeb Acharia and some other Hon. Members then left the house.

12.29 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

MR SPEAKER : Now matters under rule 377. Shri V S Vijayaraghavan

(i) **Demand for T.V. transmission facilities in Malayalam at Palghat through microwave**

[Translation]

*SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat) : The low-power TV transmitter at Palghat cannot transmit Malayalam programmes from Trivandrum. The Government has now taken a decision to utilize the microwave for relaying Malayalam programmes by the TV Centre at Calicut. But this will benefit only Cochin and Calicut.

Palghat is a district which is fast developing industrially and educationally. T V is an important instrument of development. Programmes only in Hindi and English have reduced the utility of TV. The local people are unable to enjoy even the entertainment programmes, as they are produced in an unfamiliar cultural milieu and lack the local flavour. Palghat is predominantly a tribal district. The population of Scheduled Castes and Tribes is also very large. T V should cater to the needs of these sections of the population. When the Prime Minister visited this area in 1985, he has taken keen interest in the problems of these people. With the use of microwave, Malayalam programmes could be seen in 10 out of the 14 districts. Palghat and a few other districts are left out

I, therefore, request the Government to take immediate steps to provide transmission facilities in Malayalam in Palghat through micro-wave

*The Speech was originally delivered in Malayalam.

**Not recorded