

[Sh. Rajesh Pilot]

the fleet of D.T.C. at any time would consist of private operated buses. This has been reiterated at subsequent discussions and it was also clarified that more private operated buses may be inducted keeping in view that their number should not exceed 40 % of the total fleet in operation under D.T.C.

In the Annual Report of D.T.C. for 1985-86 which has also been laid on the Table of the House, the projection of D.T.C. for the Seventh Plan on the assumption that 40% of the fleet at any time would consist of private operated buses, as suggested by the Planning Commission, was also given.

In answer to Unstarred Question No. 3491 on 17th March, 1988, I had also stated that the existing arrangement in Delhi already provided for plying of private operated buses under D.T.C. operation upto a limit of 40%. Therefore, the specific parameter that 40% of the fleet of passenger buses in Delhi would be privately owned is a part of well-accepted and known policy of Government. While the policy is thus clearly laid down and privatisation to the extent of 40% is also well-settled, the figure of 40% mentioned in my statement is not specifically mentioned in the Seventh five-year Plan document. As my statement on 24.3.88 is likely to give an impression that the specific figure of 40% has been mentioned in the Seventh Plan document, I would like to clarify the position as mentioned above. I would like to express my sincere regrets for any inaccurate impression that may have been created as a tolet result of my statement and for any inconvenience caused.

12.08 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

(i) **Need to send another Study**

**team to Rajasthan to assess the need for financial assistance to meet the drought situation in the State.**

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): A high power Study-Team of the Central Government comprising six secretaries extensively toured Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur districts of Rajasthan and recommended an allocation of Rs. 195.00 crores for employment programmes, for the period between November, 1987 to March, 1988.

Daily-wage rate for labour has been fixed at Rs. 10.50 in the State. On the basis of this rate an amount of Rs. 216 crores should have been sanctioned for employment programmes in the State.

By fixing a ceiling of Rs. 137 crores as relief amount at the rate of Rs. 8 per worker as daily wages the Ministry of Agriculture has not only made it difficult for the State to fight the drought situation but also made the financial position of the State weak.

Hence, the Central Government is requested to raise the expenditure limit to Rs. 216 crores for the period between November, 1987 to March, 1988 so that Rajasthan can overcome the drought situation. For the period between April, 1988 and July, 1988 the Central Government has fixed the expenditure limit at Rs. 77.50 crores which is insufficient. This amount is even less than the allocation for the corresponding period last year, which was Rs. 84 crores. In the ensuing summer season the drought situation will further worsen and 30 lakh labourers will have to be provided with employment. The State Government has sent a supplementary report seeking the expenditure limit at Rs. 497.86 crores.

I would urge the Centre to send a Cen-

tral Study-Team once again to the State to review the situation afresh. The expenditure limit for April, 1988 to July, 1988 should be fixed at Rs. 497.86 crores, and for November 1987 to March, 1988 the amount of Rs. 89 crores due to the State Government should be sanctioned immediately by the Centre.

[English]

- (II) **Need to ensure that teachers selected for Navodaya Schools had no political affiliation.**

SHRI IRAMA RAI(Kasargod): Opening of Navodaya Schools under New Education Policy is hailed by all sections of people with progressive outlook. At least some of the brilliant children of rural areas belonging to economically and socially backward families are provided an opportunity to come up in life. While selecting teachers for these schools, those who have no political affiliations should only be selected. Since the Government is spending crores of rupees on this project, I request the Central Government to give proper attention in the selection of teachers after proper screening, so that the money on this project is properly utilized.

- (III) **Hospitals Sun by the Dandakaranya Authority.**

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur): Dandakaranya Project started the rehabilitation work of refugees from East Pakistan in 1962 and is now at winding up stage both in Orissa and Madhya Pradesh areas today. In Koraput and Bastar District the Dandakaranya Authority established a large number of hospitals in the project area and Malkangiri, Umerkote, Maithili and Kondagan had very good hospitals with good equipment and staff which were much superior to any district hospital of the States. The people of these areas, both refugees and local have enjoyed the services of these hospitals for

about 25 years and now the government is going to handover these hospitals to State Governments concerned. There is lot of difference between the standards of these hospitals and the local hospitals and therefore the people of this area have repeatedly requested the Government of India not to transfer these hospitals to States, as proposed on 1.4.88, Government of India is willing to pay the maintenance cost of these hospitals for next five years. The people of this area apprehend that as soon as these hospitals are handed over to State Governments the standard of these hospitals. Will go down.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to allow the hospitals to function independently under the supervision of one senior most Medical Officer as a drawing and disbursing officer for all the hospitals in the project area to maintain the existing standard of these hospitals at least for another five years before these are handed over to State Governments concerned.

12.12 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

- (iv) **Need to give financial assistance to Bihar for road repairs in Purnea district**

SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH (Purnea): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the following matter under Rule 377:-

My constituency Purnea is the oldest district of Bihar. But even after 40 years Independence, this district has remained backward in many respects. The recent floods have nullified whatever progress the district had made, particularly, in respect of roads, which are badly affected. The Central Government is well aware of the flood situ-