

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) **Need to set up a T.V. transmitter at Hassan in Karnataka and to telecast programmes in Kannada via INSAT network.**

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary) : In the year 1984 low power transmitters were set up in Karnataka. The need to telecast programmes in Kannada has been stressed in various inaugural functions by the public. It is not possible to telecast with low power transmitters.

The former Minister of Information and Broadcasting was kind enough to inform Karnataka Government that the proposal for setting up of T.V. network station including T.V. transmitters at Hassan will be considered in future plans depending upon the availability of resources. I request the Government to set up L.P.T. (Low Power Transmitter) in districts like Chickmagalur, Kotala, Mandhya and Mercaw.

I suggest that programmes on the INSAT network which feeds the L.P.T. of the State should serve the people of Karnataka.

As regards Hassan, the Indian Space Research Organisation may be able to provide transmission facility from their master control facility at Hassan without much expense. I request the Government that both the issues, namely, telecasting of Kannada programmes and expansion of T.V. network may be considered by Government sympathetically.

- (ii) **Need to give financial assistance under Rural Development Programme to the Shephards who lost their sheep in floods in Andhra Pradesh**

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in 1983, due to floods, lakhs of sheep died in A.P. The shepherds who belong to backward classes have lost their livelihood. They do not have any other means of livelihood except sheep breeding. Thousands of shepherds are roaming in the villages without any employment.

Hence I request the Central Government to advise the Banks to advance loans to individuals or societies. This scheme may be taken up as a Centrally sponsored scheme under the Rural Development Programme with a maximum subsidy of 50% per individual for not more than one unit consisting of 20 sheep and maximum subsidy of Rs. 2,000/-.

- (iii) **Need to lift ban imposed on recruitment in Post and Telegraph and other Government offices for operational purposes.**

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur) : Sir, the continuance of the ban imposed by the Ministry of Finance on the recruitment to existing vacancies and the creation of any new posts has caused sharp deterioration in the maintenance and operation of essential services like postal and telecommunication facilities. When such a ban was imposed in 1974, the operational posts in P & T and a few other Departments were exempted from the ban vide Department of Finance Circular letter O.M. No. 14 (24)-E (Coord)/74, dated 30.8.1974.

Hence I request the Minister of Finance to modify the present ban so as to exempt the filling up of vacancies and creation of new posts for operational purposes in P & T and other Department as was done in 1974 so as to avoid any further deterioration in their services caused by the increase in workload on account of expansion of these facilities on the one hand and the non-filling up of vacancies consequent upon retirement or promotions on the other.

[Translation]

- (iv) **Need to take over Ashoka Paper Mills in Darbhanga District, Bihar**

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, about 4,000 workers are facing starvation due to the closure of Hayaghat Ashoka Paper Mills in Bihar. There is hardly any industry in North Bihar, which is the most backward area in India. In spite of this, this Paper Mill, which was being run jointly by the Assam and Bihar Governments, has been closed down. Capital worth crores of rupees has been invested in it. The machines are rusting due to the closure of the mill. There