

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 broading. 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

[Shri Ram Bhagat Paswan]

is widespread resentment among the people of Bihar on account of this closure. The Central Government are, therefore, requested to take over the mill without any delay.

[English]

- (v) **Need to sanction a special project for drinking water, based on the sub-soil water on Sahabi river to provide drinking water to Alwar town and some other areas of Rajasthan.**

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there have been scanty rains for the last three successive years in the State of Rajasthan. The State of Rajasthan is facing acute shortage of drinking water. Water level of wells, tubewells and hand pumps had gone down and these sources of drinking water have lost their efficacy in providing drinking water to the concerned towns, villages and localities. Even cities like Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Bhilwara, Ajmer and Alwar are facing shortage of drinking water. There is an urgent need to provide perennial sources of drinking water in the State. Some of the projects have already been sanctioned but financial constraints with the Rajasthan State are hampering their rapid execution. Beesalpur Dam Project in Tonk District and life schemes proposed for providing drinking water sources, based on the Indira Gandhi Canal Water could be given priority in providing financial assistance to the State Government of Rajasthan.

Alwar is a satellite town of the National Capital Region. It is a fast developing industrial town. Its population at present is almost two lakhs. There is always shortage of drinking water in Alwar town.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to sanction a special project of drinking water based on the ground water (sub-soil water) of "Sahabi" river bed near village Sodhawas, district Alwar by drilling deep tubewells. That project would supply drinking water to the people of areas of Tehsils of Behrore, Bansur, Mandawar, Kishangarh-Bas and Alwar city.

[Translation]

- (vi) **Need to provide adequate financial assistance during the Seventh Plan for providing drinking water and irrigation facilities in Barmer and Jalore districts of Rajasthan.**

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Narmada water dispute tribunal has in its award allotted 0.50 million acre ft. water for irrigation in Barmer and Jalore district of Rajasthan, which are desert areas.

The Rajasthan Government have proposed to irrigate 99035 hectares of cultivable land of these districts, but the Project report has not yet been submitted. The Central Government should impress upon the State Government to prepare and submit the project report at the earliest.

As per the present schedule, the main canal is likely to be completed by 1995-96 up to the Rajasthan border in Gujarat. The Rajasthan Government have insisted that the work on it should be completed by June 1991.

Being a representative of that area, I would like to submit that the people of the desert and the border areas of Barmer and Jalore districts are facing acute shortage of drinking water, and as such efforts should be made to make the Narmada water available there by 1991. This will help in the irrigation of land which has been without water for thousands of year.

In view of these being the backward and border areas, the Central Government should provide special assistance for that major project in the Seventh Five Year Plan and the State Government should also make adequate provision in the Seventh Five Year Plan so that the work could be taken up on war footing and the water of the Narmada river is made available to the districts of Barmer and Jalore by 1991 for irrigation purposes. In this way, greenery can be brought to that desert area. As this is an important work, loan can be taken from the World Bank to complete the project in the Seventh Plan.