

The motion was adopted.

*The following Members also recorded their votes :

Ayes : Sarvashri Arjun Singh, Subhas Yadav, Manvendra Singh, Shrimati Chandra Tripathi, Sarvashri K. J. Abbasi, Navin Ravani, Shrimati Manemma Anjiah, Sarvashri Kinder Lal, Naresh Chandra Chaturvedi, Dr. G. S. Rajhans, Shri Mankuram Sodi, Shri P. Kolandaivelu and Shri Tape-shwar Singh.

Notes: Sarvashri C. Madhav Reddi, Syed Shahabuddin, Dr. Chinta Mohan and Shri C. Sambu.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the House will take next item, namely, matters under Rule, 377 Shri Mohanty...

12.55 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Need to provide more time for Oriya Programmes on TV and Radio by originating certain programmes from Cuttack and Sambalpur

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : A 10 KW Doordarshan Transmitter has been commissioned at Cuttack which relays programmes from Delhi. Oriya programmes from Doordarshan Kendra, Cuttack are not telecast by 10 KW transmitter except 40 minutes Area Specific programme. It is suggested that Oriya Programmes may be telecast from Cuttack from 6.00 P. M. to 8.40 P. M. like all High Power Transmitters with Oriya Regional News Service from 7.30 P. M. to 7.40 P. M.

Government of India had assured that a separate News Unit for A.I.R. Sambalpur will be set up soon after the studios are completed. Though studios have been commissioned, News Unit has not been sanctioned. Government should keep this commitment

so that a long felt need of the people of that region is fulfilled.

In Orissa, All India Radio has set up a 1 KW radio station at Cuttack for commercial broadcasting which covers area within 20-25 Km. radius. In view of increase in growth centres like Sambalpur, Berhampur, Rourkela, Angul (NALCO) Damanjodi (Nalco), Sunabeda (AEF) etc. Government of India should set up more commercial broadcasting stations to cover these growth centres.

- (ii) Need to check devastation by floods in North Bihar

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : North Bihar, particularly the Mithila region, has been ravaged by unprecedented floods this year, the like of which was not experienced in the last 100 years. Kamla, Kosi, Bagmati, Gahuma and Adhwara group of rivers have played havoc with the region. The floods continued for more than two months. Miseries of the people are beyond description. They lost everything including mud houses, standing crops, clothes, utensils and savings of life time. 90% of them have become pauper.

Most of these rivers originate from Nepal. Unless these rivers are controlled at the point of their origin, North Bihar will continue to be devastated by floods every year and no amount of relief will help in rehabilitating the marooned people. As such, the Central Government should initiate talks with the Government of Nepal on an early date and see to it that dams and reservoirs are constructed at the point of origin and North Bihar is saved from devastating floods every year. Incidentally, it needs to be mentioned that north Bihar is one of the most thickly populated regions of Asia and it is not humanly possible to evacuate the total population and settle them elsewhere.

At the same time the Central Government should depute the officers of Central Water Commission to find out the reasons for the breaches in embankments.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for lunch till fourteen of the Clock.