

Ordinance, 1987.

MR. SPEAKER : The House shall now take up Matters Under Rule 377.

12.10 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) Need to assist the State Government of Orissa financially for tribal development projects in Kashipur Block of Koraput

*SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur) : The Government of India are negotiating with the International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD), Rome for launching a tribal development project in Kashipur block of Koraput District, Orissa. The project period would be for 7 years and the cost of the scheme is about Rs. 35 crores.

Government of Orissa would be getting about 42 per cent of the project cost from Government of India. The remaining 58 per cent of the project cost has to be funded by the State Government over the 7 year period. The position of State Government is financially not sound enough to bear the remaining cost of 58 per cent because the State has already suffered a huge loss due to prevailing severe drought. The State is also experiencing cyclone, flood and other natural calamities which are crippling its economy.

12.11 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

As such, I urge upon the Government of India to advice the Ministry of Welfare to take early decision in the matter and as requested by the Government of Orissa at least 50 per cent of the internal finance should be borne by the Union Government so that the project can be launched in the tribal and backward area of the State at an early date.

- (ii) Need to take necessary measures to check the spread of Jharkhand movement in Bihar

*SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jajpur) : The Jharkhand stir is gaining

momentum in Ranchi and spreading to the entire Chhota Nagpur area. The tribal inhabitants in those areas have been neglected for long and they are being exploited by the outsiders. There is growing discontentment among the tribals and they have been demanding separate Statehood. If they are neglected and exploited any further, the stir may take an ugly turn and it may spread to neighbouring States of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. Therefore steps should be taken for their socio-economic development. The Government should assist them for their educational development and for the promotion of their culture. The tribal leaders should be brought to the negotiating table and they should be advised against any further movement.

- (iii) Need to take necessary steps for encouraging study of Sanskrit language in Punjab

SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA (Mirzapur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, there was a time when hymns of Vedas and Upanishadas used to be heard in every nook and corner of Punjab and several Sanskrit epics were written there. This is the place from where the philosophy and science in Sanskrit books had found their way to Western Asia and Europe. On this basis only India had become the pioneer of the world. But today efforts are being made to eliminate Sanskrit language from that very Punjab. The source of high ideals of Guru Nanak are Upanishadas written in Sanskrit. It is a matter of concern that efforts are being made to eliminate the source of Gurbani i.e. Sanskrit in Punjab. The posts of Sanskrit Teachers are being abolished and the vacancies are not being filled up. The suggestions of Sanskrit Commission 1956 and the Sanskrit Development Programmes of 1980-81 of the Government of Punjab are being neglected. Sanskrit schools and brilliant students of the language are not being provided any help and teaching of Sanskrit is being discouraged. Sanskrit has nothing to do with any regional language. Rather Sanskrit is mother language and helpful to all regional languages. Sanskrit language is the root of the great cultural heritage of India. In view of this one cannot understand why the Government of Punjab is showing such indifference towards Sanskrit.

*The speech was originally delivered in Oriya.