

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.

[Shri Umakant Mishra]

I request the Central Government to intervene in the matter and direct the Punjab Government to protect and implement the development programmes of Sanskrit and to encourage teaching of Sanskrit language in Punjab.

- (iv) **Need to take expert advice of botanists while planting trees to avoid harmful effect of trees**

**DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI** (Khalilabad) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as a result of denuding the forests at large scale during the last few years, problems of severe drought, floods and ecological imbalances have arisen. The programme for conservation of forests and planting trees and maintaining ecological balance have been launched at national level in a planned manner in the country. It has been realised that all our activities, some how or the other, are affected by trees. It is, therefore, that the slogan of "Forest is the life" was raised. There are also complaints that tree plantation schemes in vogue can also cause harm besides providing benefit. For example, planting Eucalyptus trees reduces fertility of land and the water level goes down and creates water problem etc. It is, therefore, necessary that before planting of trees a thorough study of the site should be conducted and keep in view the utility of the trees to be planted and their other merits. Only then the trees should be planted. In order to execute this work in more effective manner, the co-operation of Ayurvedic experts should be sought for this purpose so that people may get important information and encouragement in planting trees of medicinal value.

I, therefore, demand from the hon. Minister of Environment and Forests that he may recruit Ayurvedic Experts in the Forest Department so that botany as propounded in Ayurveda is properly utilised and people can save themselves from unsuitable trees planted due to ignorance and which may prove harmful.

- (v) **Steps to control floods in North Bihar to save it from yearly devastation**

**SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN** (Rosera) : Central Government should take concrete and permanent remedial measures to save Northern Bihar from devastating floods that occur every year. Central

Government and State Governments have spent crores on flood control measures since independence but these have not shown any positive results so far. The various schemes prepared till today for controlling floods have also proved to be ineffective. The various embankments along the side of the rivers have also not helped in checking the flood problem at all. All the schemes have been prepared without giving any proper thought. As a result of which thousands of acres of land has been submerged in the unprecedented floods and crops destroyed this year. Thousands of people and cattle have been washed away and three crops one after the other have been destroyed. Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government that for a permanent solution of the problem, height of embankments should be raised by 5 feet and pucca-embankments should be constructed. Canals should be dug at a distance of every 5 or 6 miles or the embankment should be removed. This is the demand of the people of Northern Bihar.

- (vi) **Need to direct the Bihar State Government to take steps to rehabilitate the Harijan and backward class people of Jahanabad Parliamentary Constituency in Bihar.**

**SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH** (Jahanabad) : India is a vast country and droughts and floods affect some or the other part of this country every year. During the current year, the entire country has come under droughts or floods. It has put farmers and labourers to great difficulty. Progress of the development of the country has come to a grinding halt. It is imperative that a permanent solution to the problem of drought and floods should be found for rapid development of the country. Special schemes should be formulated for this purpose. In Bihar 17,000 villages of the 315 blocks of 28 districts have been affected by floods this year. Thousands of people have died. Several small villages have become non-existent. South Bihar has also been victim of floods like Northern Bihar this year. Jahanabad Parliamentary constituency is the worst affected area. Dozens of villages have been submerged in flood water. These include the villages of Mandai, Chunukpur, Arhir, Daulatpur-Hardaspur-Sujatpur of Ghosi Block, Lanjo-