

13.53 hrs.

ENVIRONMENT (PROTECTION) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the protection and improvement of environment and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the protection and improvement of environment and for matters connected therewith”.

The motion was adopted.

SHRI Z.R. ANSARI : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

13 54 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) **Need to provide compensation and rehabilitation grants to the persons whose houses and crops have been damaged due to water logging in various parts of Rajasthan**

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) : There has been constant water logging for the last two or three years in the area from Mastiwali first head to Suratgarh head of the Ghaghar Flood Control and the Indira Gandhi canal as a result of which water has entered the residential areas of the villagers located in this area and damaged their houses. The farmers can not cultivate their land. Consequently the farmers of the area have been deprived of the means of their livelihood. The Government has given only nominal financial assistance to some of the affected persons.

Therefore, I earnestly appeal to the Central Government to give rehabilitation grant and compensation to the persons of the area whose houses have been damaged partially/completely due to this water logging. The land which has been rendered uncultivable should be reclaimed with the help of modern machines. The recovery of various loans of Government and banks should be stopped.

- (ii) **Need to connect Ranakpur Jain Temple in the Aravali Hills of Rajasthan with Vayudoot Service**

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : There are many places of tourist interest in India and the beautiful and famous Ranakpur Jain Temple in Aravali hills of Rajasthan is one of them. It is a beautiful piece of art. Thousands of tourists visit this place and now the foreign tourists are also attracted towards it. But this beautiful tourist place is cut off for want of transport facility and no easy, comfortable and time saving means of transportation are available there.

If this beautiful tourist spot is connected by Vayudoot service the tourist can visit this scenic place directly from Ahmedabad or Udaipur. The Vayudoot service can be linked with Ahmedabad which can then be extended upto Udaipur, the city of beautiful lakes. It will also provide transport facility to the tourists who want to visit various artistic places of Jaisalmer. I think if Minister of Tourism and Minister of Civil Aviation pay attention towards it, they will get all necessary cooperation from the people of Rajasthan. I hope that, if this is found feasible from all angle, the Government will not hesitate to introduce Vayudoot service and will not deprive the tourists from viewing these beautiful artistic places. This proposition will also not cause any economic strain on the exchequer.

- (iii) **Need to introduce Vayudoot Service linking Trivandrum and Cochin with Kumali in the Western Ghats region**

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki) : Sir, the Vayudoot service was introduced in

[Prof, P.J. Kurien]

different parts of the country to supplement the existing domestic air services. This has proved a success and there is a great demand for the extension of this service to more and more areas. According to the latest decision of the Government Vayudoot services are being extended to 44 new stations in 1986-87. This is a welcome decision.

However, the State of Kerala has not yet been put on the Vayudoot map. The existing air-services are quite inadequate to meet the growing volume of inter-regional traffic within the State. The Government of Kerala has already submitted a proposal to start Vayudoot service in the State. The service could link Trivandrum and Cochin with Kumali in the Western Ghats region which has immense attraction for the tourists. If Kumali is linked with Vayudoot service, the tourist traffic will increase manifold and the financial gain will be substantial.

Therefore, I would request the Government to take immediate steps to introduce Vayudoot service linking Trivandrum and Cochin with Kumali.

14.00 hrs.

(iv) Need to declare Kalahandi District of Orissa as a 'No Industry District'

SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK (Kalahandi) : Sir, Kalahandi is one of the backward districts in Western Orissa. No step has been taken to set up industry in that district so far. Except the M/s. Vegetable Labour Complex, no other medium or major industry has been set up in that district. The policy of the Government of India is to remove regional imbalances by setting up of industries in the backward areas. Kalahandi should, therefore, be declared as a 'No Industry District' as it is still backward. The industrial entrepreneurs should be encouraged to set up industries in that district and all kinds of facilities be provided to them. The Central Government should assist the State Government to set up industries in Kalahandi district. In the case of major industry, World Bank assistance should be sought, if necessary.

The Kalahandi district abounds in forest and mineral resources. There is a tremendous scope to set up forest and mineral-based industries in that district. The cost of

labour is also cheaper in Kalahandi than the other districts of the State. The establishment of industry will go a long way in providing employment to the local people.

In view of this, I request the Government of India to declare Kalahandi as a 'No Industry District' and offer incentives for setting up of industry in that district without any further delay.

(v) Need to retain the Advance Flood Forecasting Division in Burla, Orissa

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack) : Of the various natural calamities that the State of Orissa has to face, flood is one such recurring feature which occurs once in every two years, resulting in heavy loss of crops, domestic animals and human lives. Sometimes the people in the flood prone areas do not find time to evacuate themselves to the safer places at the time of flood in the absence of advance flood forecasting information. Therefore it is necessary to set up some advance flood forecasting offices in Orissa. After a lot of persuasion, the Government of India have opened an advance flood forecasting Division at Burla. This Division office is forecasting the flood information at the appropriate time and thereby helping the people to a large extent. But it is regrettable that a group with vested interest is trying to impress upon the high officials for shifting this office to Madhya Pradesh. The people of Orissa will be very much agitated if this proposal is implemented. Because they will be deprived of getting advance information regarding possible flood and will not be able to evacuate themselves to the safer places.

In view of this, I demand that the Advance Flood forecasting Division functioning at Burla should not be shifted to any other place on any circumstances. At the same time, I demand that one flood forecasting Division should be set up at Bhubneshwar. The branches of the flood forecasting office should also be set up at Banki, Tikarpara and other places in Orissa.

[Translation]

(vi) Need to take necessary measures to preserve 'Salar' trees in Chittorgarh, Rajasthan

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh) : Sir, I would