

[S. Buta Singh]

rights should be protected. In order to allay the fears of minority tribes, not only the Government did not accept the demand of MNF but included a specific provision in the Settlement that the rights and privileges of the minority tribes as envisaged under the Constitution would be preserved and protected and their economic and social advancement would be ensured. Therefore, the minorities of Mizoram have welcomed this Accord. This is a proof. The minorities feel that their interests and rights are well safe guarded under the Accord itself.

Now, Sir some hon. Members wanted an assurance that the MNF will not extend their activities to help the extremist groups. This has been made amply clear in some of the statements which have appeared after the Accord was signed, after Mr. Laldenga went to Mizoram. This has come out in those statements. The MNF itself has made it categorically clear that it has nothing to do with some organisations which are working against the interests of the county, which are indulging in violence. They said, they have no connection with those organisations. I can only hope that in future also, while this Accord is being applied, while it is being worked, the MNF will keep their solemn pledge and they will devote their full attention, undivided attention for the betterment of the people of Mizoram, for the development of Mizoram.

With these words, I hope that I have met most of the points raised by the hon. Members.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Clause 4 (2) mentions about the amendment of the Constitution. May I know, in what respect the Constitution is going to be amended ?

(Interruptions)

S. BUTA SINGH : Sir, a very important arrangement as a result of this Accord is the grant of statehood to Mizoram. Yes, it is necessary. It is because, the present strength of the Assembly is 30 and the number has to be increased. For

that, this House is the competent forum and the Constitution is a document which has to be amended.

If the hon. Member can do without it, I will be very happy, if he can spare me from this kind of work.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned for Lunch and would re-assemble at 2.10 p. m.

13.12 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till ten minutes past Fourteen of the clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at Fifteen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

- (i) Need to extend the Haldia-Allahabad National Waterway up to Kanpur

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur) Sir, under Rule 377, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the following matter—

With a view to accelerating and improving the transport system in the country, the Government have, besides the Rail transport, declared the river Ganga from Allahabad to Haldia as a National Waterway so as to utilize the big rivers as waterways, which is a commendable step. Unfortunately, the major industrial town like Kanpur of Uttar Pradesh which is situated along the river Ganga has not been included in the said waterway whereas its inclusion is justified from every point of view.

I, therefore, request the Government of India that a fresh survey may be conducted and Kanpur may be included in the above national waterway in order to ensure the speedy industrial development of Kanpur.