

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The Hon. Member will not be here tomorrow. Her name is first.

MR. SPEAKER : We can take it at 12.30. Supply them the copy and we will take it up at 12.30 after the statements under 377 are made.

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12.09 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Need to send a Committee of Experts to survey areas in villages in Ratua and Malda in West Bengal which get inundated due to overflow of Fulahar river.

DR. GOLAM YAZDANI (Raiganj) : Neighbouring vast areas of the villages of Bilaimari and Mohanandatola in Ratua P. S. and of Islampur and Bhakuria of Harischandrapur P. S. of Malda of West Bengal get inundated almost every year due to overflow of Fulahar river because the areas are outside the Malcor Bundh in the Harischandrapur P. S. Tremendous loss of crops, cattle and properties occur. Thousands of people then have to take shelter on the Bundh. No attention is being given to find out a solution to this great problem.

Hence, I draw the attention of the Hon. Minister for Water Resources to send a Committee of Experts to survey the area and suggest means for proper solution soon.

- (ii) Need for early completion of Kalinadi Hydro-electric Project Stage II to overcome power crises in Karnataka.

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur) : Sir, Karnataka is passing through one of the worst periods as far as power and drinking water supply positions are concerned. Continuous drought for the last 4 years has crippled the economy and strained the resources of Karnataka. The power cut is upto 80 per cent on H. T. consumers and corresponding harsh restrictions on all others.

Power position in Karnataka may not improve even if the on going projects are completed on schedule. Karnataka is facing such deficit situation right from the early 50's through the whole of 70's with the last deficit spell still continuing.

Unless corrective steps are taken in the immediate future management capabilities of both the suppliers of energy and the consumers would be put to severe test.

The Kalinadi Hydro-Electric Project Stage II scheme comprises construction of three dams namely Dandhi, Kodalalli and Kadra dams and dam site power houses with total installed capacity of 320 MW. The annual energy generation is 1,260 million kilowatt hours. The estimated costs of energy generation are Rs. 32,740 lakhs and 29.3 paise per unit respectively. The detailed project report for this scheme has been approved by Central Electricity Authority and Planning Commission. State Forest Department have sent proposals for forests clearance to Government of India long back.

Unless Government of India takes a pragmatic and realistic approach to the Kalinadi Hydro-Electric Project Stage-II there is no solution for the power problem in Karnataka. Therefore, I request the Government of India to complete Kalinadi Project Stage II immediately.

[Translation]

- (iii) Demand for effective measures to put an end to dowry system.

SHRIMATI USHA RANI TOMAR (Aligarh) : Mr Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House to the following matter under rule 377 :

The dowry system in our society is spreading like cancer. Many girls are falling victims to the monster of dowry as they are not able to meet the demands for more dowry. Inter-caste marriages should be encouraged to eliminate this evil practice from the society completely. The Anti-Dowry Act will be effective only when feelings against dowry system are created in the minds of the people. Such news about dowry victims