

13.47 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Need to establish development boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and Other Backward Regions of Maharashtra.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now we will take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri Banwari Lal Purohit.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur) : I beg to draw the attention of the House towards the excessive delay being caused in the formation of the statutory development boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and other regions of Maharashtra, under Article 371 (2) of the Constitution.

As far back as 26th July 1984, both the legislatures of Maharashtra by a resolution, unanimously passed, recommended to the Central Government to constitute the development boards. The heavy backlog of developmental expenditure in these backward regions is making the people of these regions very restless. May I, therefore, request the Government of India to take steps expeditiously in the matter ?

- (ii) Need to Introduce Daily Air Service to Ladakh.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : The people of Ladakh had been requesting the Civil Aviation Department to increase the frequency of Delhi-Leh Indian Airlines flights, by adding one flight each on the Delhi-Chandigarh-Leh and Delhi-Srinagar-Leh routes, thereby making it a daily flight. However, the Minister of Civil Aviation expressed his inability to increase the frequency of flights for some time, in view of the re-carpeting works in progress on the runway of Leh airport. Now, the re-carpeting works on the runway have been suspended for the winter months, and the runway is available for landing.

Ladakh remains out off from the rest of the country for over seven winter months, and the only communication during winter is by air. In view of the problems being faced by the people for entry and exit

out of Ladakh, I request the Government to introduce daily air service to Ladakh, by adding one flight each on the Chandigarh-Leh and Srinagar-Leh routes, at least for the winter months.

- (iii) Need to Set Up a Branch of All India Medical Institute at Calcutta.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW (Dum Dum) : The eastern region of India is lacking in modern medical facilities and amenities. A growing need for such an establishment is very evident. A geographical survey of the eastern region will show that the establishment of such a nature will serve the need of Assam, Bihar, Orissa, Tripura, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, West Bengal and the part of north-eastern region of India. The modern medical science in India is definitely extensive but no doubt it is very expensive i.e. for beyond the reach of common man of the eastern soil. The eastern region is contributing to the manpower of India whereas the medical facilities are not at par with the population explosion of the eastern soil. The handful of Hospitals with their ancient equipments, poor management and maintenance are unable to cope with the growing medical needs. On the one hand, the expensive nursing homes with latest medical treatment facilities are beyond the reach of the common people, on the other, the journey to Velore, Delhi or Bombay, the only three places that provide modern medical facilities with life saving devices are expensive and totally impractical for the ailing people of the eastern India due to distance. Calcutta being the major Metropolitan City in the eastern region having all infrastructural facilities and also connected by air and rail with all major cities and areas of eastern India. Calcutta will be the ideal place for setting up a branch of the All India Medical Institute like the one in Delhi.

- (iv) Need to appoint a body to monitor the programme for development of tribal of kannanore region of Kerala.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore) : In spite of the various programme initiated by the Government there appears to be very little change in the social status of the tribals of Kerala

State. For 2000 years or more they have been treated as if they were sub-human and today their position has hardly improved. I speak with special reference to a place called Mananthody in Cannanore constituency in Kerala as I have personally seen the situation there.

Isolated as it is by reason of its geographic situation—it is a solely tribal assembly constituency which still retains the age old customs of untouchability and superstitions. The stark poverty, stickness and ignorance among the tribals here cannot be overcome overnight. Lack of medical and educational facilities and even of basic necessities like pure drinking water and sanitation are all apparent in this region.

Much needs to be done and the first step must be to ensure proper implementation of Government programmes for development of tribals to monitor the financial allocation for this purpose and to follow up progress.

I therefore call upon the government to appoint an effective body for this purpose

- (v) Need to take immediate steps to supply special medicines to Tamil Nadu to check the incidence of Encephalitis.

SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): Sir, it has been reported in the press that the incidence of brain-fever, that is, encephalitis, is very much on the increase in Tamil Nadu. The State Government and the people of Tamil Nadu are very anxious and worried over this dreadful disease. It has also been reported that more than 185 deaths have occurred so far due to brain fever in Tamil Nadu, particularly in Madras city, Coimbatore, Madurai and Tirunelveli districts. The patients are finding it extremely difficult to get proper medicine for this dangerous fever from the hospitals as also from the market.

It is therefore requested that the Centre should take immediate step to despatch special medicines to Tamil Nadu to combat this dangerous disease on a war footing before the present alarming situation goes out of control.

- (vi) Need to allot sufficient funds for Executing pedaballi and dorigallu projects in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur): Kadiri Taluk in Anantapur District in Andhra Pradesh is a chronically famine affected area with no irrigation facilities.

Tanks and wells were providing water for irrigation. In the current decade no tank has received water and all the wells have dried up and hence agriculturists, labour, artisans, service sections and other people living in villages have hopelessly been thrown out of work and they are facing miserable situation.

In this taluk two medium projects one at Dorigallu and the other at Pedaballi were contemplated to be constructed so that they may irrigate 30 to 40 thousand acres. Investigation with regard to Dongallu project been completed long time back and the project which is very useful to this area could not be constructed for lack of funds with the State Government.

Pedaballi project is being kept in the cold storage for the past ten years. Funds sanctioned by the World Bank about five or six years back could not be utilised. State Government is constrained to take up construction of this project for want of funds.

The Central Government may take a compassionate view of this chronic drought prone area and the hopless people and allot sufficient funds for the construction of these two projects.

- (vii) Need to consult the teachers of Kendriya Vidyalaya at the time of their pay revision.

DR. SUDHIR ROY (Burdwan): As per newspaper reports the All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers Association has decided to resort to agitation, if their pay scales are not immediately revised in accordance with the recommendations of the Chattopadhyaya Commission whose report is under study by the Empowered Committee. Hon'ble Minister's reply to