

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after
Lunch at four minutes past Fourteen
of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the
Chair]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the House will take up matters under Rule 377.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) Demand for setting up 'Adivasi Development Authorities' in areas having more than fifty per cent Adivasi population.

SHRI M L. JHIKRAM (Mandla) : In spite of all Government efforts, the development of the Adivasis has not been enough. Our achievements in this direction, till today, has not been as much as it should be. Therefore, in connection with their development, I would suggest that 'Adivasi Development Authorities' should be set up for areas having at least fifty per cent Adivasi population. With the establishment of such authorities, it is certain that the pace of development will get accelerated.

Hence, in Madhya Pradesh or in other States, such 'Adivasi Development Authorities' should be set up in all districts where the Adivasi population is fifty per cent or more.

- (ii) Demand for Supplying Foodstuffs and meals in thalis instead of in aluminium Casseroles to passengers in trains.

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN (Rohara) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under the catering system of many railways, meals were served to passengers in running trains in thalis previously, but now meals are being supplied in aluminium casseroles. It is unhygienic from every angle. Moreover, the quantity of the foodstuff has been reduced and its quality also made inferior whereas its price has been raised two-

folds. The price of the aluminium casserole has been included in the price of foodstuff. Similar aluminium casseroles are used for serving breakfast as well. A number of complaints have been made but no action has been taken by the railway administration. This changed procedure is not being liked by the passengers and, therefore, it is not proving to be attractive. Under this system the contractors are earning profits and the passengers are suffering.

Therefore, I would urge the Railway Minister to immediately replace the present system of supplying foodstuff in aluminium packets with the earlier one.

[English]

- (iii) Demand for making special efforts for overall development of some backward areas like Kalahandi and Phulbani in Orissa and Chhatisgarh in MP.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTHAIK (Kalahandi) : Sir, eradication of poverty and regional imbalances and proper distribution of national growth are the basic norms and philosophy of our socialistic planning. Also this is a commitment in our Constitution.

Keeping this in view special efforts should be made by the Central Government and Planning Commission to have a look into the matter. Areas like the districts of Kalahandi, Phulbani and other western parts of the State of Orissa, Chhatisgarh areas in Madhya Pradesh and some parts in other areas of the country still remain backward in all fields of development education, irrigation, communication, agricultural production, industrial growth etc. Poverty is very much there. Continuous drought adds to the problems of the people.

So, a special effort with adequate financial assistance and technical guidance should be made by the Central Government and Planning Commission to ensure permanent anti-poverty measures and around development of these areas.