

12.30 hrs.

## MATTERS UNDER RULES 377

- (i) Need to provide financial assistance to Madhya Pradesh for construction of hostel and school buildings for Scheduled Caste students.

[English]

KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI (Raigarh) : Sir, it is a matter of great concern that the rate of literacy among Scheduled Castes in Madhya Pradesh is much below the national average. The reason for low rate of literacy among Scheduled Castes is not far to seek. The number of Ashram schools and other educational institutions opened in the Scheduled Caste populated areas in M. P. are only a few. The Government of India has not sanctioned any Central assistance to open any new boys/girls Ashram schools in that State. On the other hand the financial position of the State Government is not sound enough to bear 100% expenditure towards the cost of new Ashram schools.

At present, the Central Government is providing 50% of the cost of construction of school buildings and hostel buildings for Scheduled Caste girls. But no assistance is being given by the Centre for construction of school or hostel buildings for Scheduled Caste boys.

Unless the Central Government provides adequate assistance, the literacy rate among Scheduled Caste boys and girls will not increase. Therefore, I request the Central Government to open more Ashram schools in the Scheduled Caste populated areas in Madhya Pradesh.

I urge upon the Government to provide 100% grant to the State of Madhya Pradesh to open such new schools. The Central Government should at least bear 50% of the total cost towards the hostel and school buildings for Scheduled Caste girls in that State. The Central Government should also provide at least 50 to 60% matching grant to the State of Madhya Pradesh for the construction of hostel and school buildings for Scheduled Caste boys.

[Translation]

- (ii) Need to set up a T. V. Centre at Balasore in Orissa during the 7th Plan period.

\*SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI (Bhadrak) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the television net work provided in Orissa is very inadequate when compared to other States in the country. Only one TV centre has been set up so far at Cuttack and the other at Sambalpur in the State of Orissa.

Balasore is an advanced district in the sphere of education, culture and other fields. It is situated at a distance of 200 kms. from the State capital Bhubaneswar. The TV programmes shown in Cuttack or Sambalpur TV cannot be viewed in the TV in Balasore district. Therefore, there is every justification to set up a TV centre at Balasore. If a TV centre is set up at Balasore, it will go a long way in the promotion of culture of that district. Moreover, the people of Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj districts can also watch the programme shown on Balasore TV. The Government of India has a proposal to set up one TV centre in each district. Therefore, I demand that Balasore district should be included in the above programme and TV centre should be set up there during the Seventh Plan period.

[English]

- (iii) Need to instruct Government of J & K to provide relief and assistance to the victims of flood and cloud bursts in the Karchey valley of Kargil district of Ladakh.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Sir, the Karchey valley of Kargil district of Ladakh is lying in utter neglect and not a single senior district officer has ever visited the valley during the last over ten years. The valley had been suffering due to frequent floods and cloud bursts during the last five to six years which resulted in completely washing away of residential houses, cultivable lands, plantations and pasture land. The Government of India

\* The speech was originally delivered in Oriya.

has released relief money to the flood and cloud burst victims through the State Government but not a single penny has so far been reached to them.

I, therefore, request the Government of India to issue instructions to the State Government to release relief and assistance immediately to the victims of flood and cloud burst occurred during the last five to six years.

- (iv) **Need to reconsider the recent increase in the demand draft service by Banks.**

**SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL** (Chandni Chowk) : The banking sector is rightly considered as the backbone of the whole economic set up of the present day and it has undoubtedly done a yeoman's service particularly after its nationalisation by our Government. In the process, it has also in fact expanded considerably. The deposit investment ratio is now much better. However, the recent increase in the Demand Draft service by the banking sector from the earlier existing rates of 5-6 paise for every 100 rupees to 20 paise for every 100 rupees has created unprecedented problems to the businessmen. They have already represented to the Government on this issue. The Delhi Grain Merchants Association has also written to the Finance Minister in the matter.

I would earnestly request the Finance Minister to please give directions to the banking sector to re-examine this increase which amounts to more than 350 per cent. As it is, if the cost of service charges has to be increased, it could only be a rational one and not an arbitrary one.

[*Translation*]

- (v) **Need to provide free electricity to Harijans and Adivasis in Chambal Division of Madhya Pradesh.**

**SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV** (Morena) : The single-pipe electricity connections provided for Harijans and Adivasis so far in Chambal division of Madhya Pradesh are negligible. It has

caused dissatisfaction among Harijans and tribals while on the other hand the intention of the Government is to install one electric bulb free in their houses. I request the Government to install immediately one bulb in every house of Harijans and tribals of Chambal division so that the poor people may be benefited thereby.

[*English*]

- (vi) **Need to upgrade the Railway Station at Vedayapa in Andhra Pradesh.**

**SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH** (Nellore) : Sir, Nellore is a famous business and cultural centre in Andhra Pradesh. In recent years, it has become one of the foremost industrial Centres in the State. Nellore is expanding very fast. Industries like NIPPO, Textile Mills, a very big industrial estate and an autonagar are located here besides many other State and Central Government establishments.

The present Railway Station at Nellore particularly the goods-shed has become very congested. Thousands of persons have now shifted their residences to nearby Vedayapalem town which is 8 Kilometers away from the Nellore Station. Persons in thousands go from Vedayapalem to Nellore for work. Many new industrial units are also fast coming up there. Besides, the farmers in Vedayapalem have to take their produce like rice etc. to Nellore for marketing. Hence, there is a need to upgrade Vedayapalem Railway Station to a fullfledged one to provide all-facilities to the passengers and commuters. It will also help in easing the congestion at Nellore Station as a station.

Hence I request the Minister of Railways to take steps to upgrade the station at Vedayapalem and also to provide a pacca goods-shed there.

- (vii) **Need to amend the SRC Act to incorporate the recommendations of Mahajan Commission on Maharashtra-Karnataka border issue.**

**SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER** (Bangalore South) : Sir, the Hon'ble Prime