

Act is specially meant for supply of essential commodities to the community at large and that is why, a special provision has to be made in this Bill.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What about the blackmarketeers and the hoarders ? Would you take any action against them ?

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parbathipuram) : What about the producers of essential commodities ?

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN : I think, these were the main issues. About the rest of the things, when the Bill is being considered by the House, certainly you can put forth your point of view and I will reply to the debate. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : *Rose—*
(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will not allow anybody. Please sit down.

The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Essentials Services Maintenance Act, 1981.”

The motion was adopted.

15.34 hrs.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI AND SOME OTHER HON. MEMBERS THEN LEFT THE HOUSE

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

1. Need to make necessary amendments in the Freedom Fighters' Pension Rules for the benefit of ex-servicemen of Indian National Army and Indian Independence League

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, sir, I want to draw the attention of Government to the diffi-

culties being experienced by the Armed and Civilian personnel connected with the Indian National Army and Indian Independence League in getting Freedom Fighters Samman Pension. Like other Freedom Fighters, these people are also required to produce certificates of detention upto six months or certificates of co-imprisonment. The difficulty in their case is that the personnel who joined the above organisations belonged to different parts of the country and they were detained in different camps/jails after categorising them into different categories of officers, Soldiers and civilians. In a situation like this, it is very difficult to produce certificates of co-imprisonment. Records indicating the terms of their detention are also not available. The personnel belonging to the Indian Independence League were not mostly detained in any camp or Jail, but they were kept under detention in their civilian quarters by the police.

The personnel belonging to Military wing were able to get pension to some extent on the basis of records of the Army Head Quarters, but a large number of civilians have not been able to get pension so far. There is no possibility of their records being made available. If in any case, the records indicating their association with the I.N.A. and Indian Independence League are available, the same can certify their association with these organisations, but it is very difficult for them to produce certificate of co-imprisonment for six months.

The fact is that the fortures, undergone such as imprisonment, absconding, detention, extradition and loss of means of livelihood fixed in Freedom Fighters Samman Pension Rules as eligibility for pension, have all been undergone by immigrant Indian merely, for joining the I.N.A. and Independence League. Inspired by these facts, Government of Uttar Pradesh have removed restrictions for this category of personnel from their Rules and have decided to grant pension on the basis of certified membership only.

In view of these facts, I request the Government that with a view to removing

[Shri Zainul Basher]

the difficulties being faced by the people belonging to this category, the Central Freedom Fighters Samman Pension Rules should be so amended as to make these people eligible for pension on the basis of the certificates of their having formed these organisations only.

[15.38 hrs]

[English]

[SHRI ZAINUL BASHER *In the Chair*]

(ii) Need to Provide Central Assistance to drought-affected farmers of Balasore and Mayurbhanj districts of Orissa

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): Sir, very serious situation is arising in the nine C.D. Blocks comprising 5 Assembly Constituencies of Balasore and Mayurbhanj districts in the State of Orissa, due to unprecedented draught condition. The only kharif crop grown in these areas is paddy. In the absence of rains till the middle of August, 1985 the paddy plants in the fields are almost dried up even though the plants could be grown by the farmers in more than four lakh hectares of paddy fields, comprising in these nine blocks, and this has disappointed millions of farmers who are mainly from small and marginal categories. There is no flow irrigation in these Blocks. Only very few Lift Irrigation points exist in some places and even those who are not operating as these poor, ill-fated farmers have no means to deposit the water tax in advance executing agreements with the Orissa Lift Irrigation Corporation Ltd as per the existing procedure. Besides, drinking water scarcity in these areas which are mostly situated in saline belts is posing a great difficulty. What to speak of human beings even the cattle are not getting water to drink as almost all ponds, tanks, water channels and rivulets in these areas have mostly dried up due to very scanty rainfall till today. Even if there are adequate rains within a day or two, it will not serve any purpose, as the time for agricultural operation and transplantations of paddy crops is almost over. None of the farmers of these areas have insured their crops

due to various factors like ignorance, poverty and lack of initiative by the authorities resulting in the farmers sustaining very heavy losses.

In such chaotic and very pitiable situation prevailing in these areas, I would request the Agriculture Ministry to come to the rescue of these millions of poor farmers to provide them all sorts of help, subsidies and grants to grow other crops in their lands and to compensate them for the losses they have sustained due to such draught, as the State Government alone is not capable to compensate the losses, due to constraint of resources.

(iii) Steps needed for completing the proposed bye-pass for the National Highway in Quilon Town in Kerala during Seventh Plan

SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR (Quilon): Sir, the action to construct a bye-pass for the N.H. in Quilon Town in Kerala was initiated as early as in 1959. After considering four different alignments, the present alignment was finally approved by the Government of India in May, 1978.

The bye pass is to start from KM 488/972 of the National Highway at Kavarad near Sakthi Kalayara in the north and terminate at KM 502/804 near Thattamala at the south end. The entire land through which the bye-pass is aligned, except the portions where it crosses the backwater, is owned by private parties. Hence, land acquisition is a major hurdle in the construction of the bye-pass. The approximate cost of land acquisition as per present land value will be Rs. 350 lakhs and the cost of works will be approximately another Rs. 350 lakhs. Thus the total project estimate will be approximately Rs. 700 lakhs. Estimate for land acquisition has already been submitted to the Government of India, and the same is pending sanction with the Ministry of Shipping and Transport. As the extent of land to be acquired is spread out over 13 and odd kms., the time required for acquiring the same will be considerable. Hence, if the sanction for the land acquisition estimate is accorded early, acquisition can be started and proceeded accord-