

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Sir, the Calling Attention is over. How can he raise a point of order on that? (Interruptions)

SHRI A. T. PATIL: Let me submit my point of order first.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Calling Attention is over. Now, we are going to the next item.

SHRI A. T. PATIL: I ask your permission to raise a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You cannot raise a point of order now. I am not giving permission to raise your point of order in between the two items. Calling attention is over and we are going to the next item. There is a vacuum now. How can you raise a point of order?

SHRI A. T. PATIL: Rule 376 says that a point of order may be raised in relation to the business before the House at the moment, and then there is a proviso:

"Provided that the Speaker may permit a member to raise a point of order during the interval between the termination of one item of business and the commencement of another if it relates to maintenance of order..."

I am talking about the maintenance of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Provided the Speaker permits and I am not permitting you.

v4.10 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) REPORTED DIFFICULTIES OF AGRO-SERVICE CENTRES

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA (Vidisha): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the scheme of Agro-Service Centres by entrepreneurs was started with laudable intentions, for providing self-employment to unemployed engineers, agricultural graduates and diploma holders and to provide modern farm

service facilities to the agriculturists. The pride of place was given in the scheme to custom hiring of tractors. But due to various factors, the least of which was not the escalation in the price of tractors after the formulation of self employment scheme, custom hiring of tractors has ceased to be quite remunerative and as a result many of these Agro-Service Centres have been lying on the brink of insolvency, while some of them have already wound up their activities.

Over 5000 Agro-Service Centres have been started all over the country, under this scheme, and many of them are in a bad way due to the inherent defects of this scheme. Unless there is large scale diversification of these units, the scheme of self-employment to engineering graduates and diploma holders may fail significantly.

In the half-a-million jobs programme a seed capital of as much as Rs. 50,000/- was provided to each co-operative Agro-Service Centre. Concessions by way of subsidies are also extended to small farmers and marginal farmers. Similar concessions and seed capital should be provided to the Agro-Service entrepreneurs. A sustained attempt must be made to diversify the activities of the Agro-Service Centres.

These Agro-Service Centres should be closely associated with the various National State level developmental agencies such as SFDA, MFDA, IADP, Hill Development Scheme etc. They may be entrusted with the work of providing the inputs needed in these schemes such as seeds, pesticides, agricultural inputs. Even piece-work jobs in the developmental schemes may be entrusted to these centres.

Commercial and cooperative banking institutions which channelise financial assistance to the farmers must be encouraged to use the service of the Agro-entrepreneurs in extending their assistance in kind.

Agro-entrepreneurs can provide such farm fuel outlets which are being launched by the Indian Oil Corporation throughout the country.

Till the massive effort to diversify the activities of service centres is successfully implemented the commercial banks should be advised to exercise greater restraint in recovering loans from the entrepreneurs and their guarantors.

(ii) NEED FOR PROVIDING DRINKING WATER TO KATAK MUNICIPALITY, RANIKHET

श्री हरीश चन्द्र सिंह रावत (अल्मोड़ा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपकी आज्ञा से लोक-महत्व के एक विषय की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

कटक पालिका, रानीखेत, जिला अल्मोड़ा की नागरिक आवादी को पेय जल की भयंकर कमी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। जो पानी उन्हें उपलब्ध हो भी रहा है, वह शोधित जल नहीं है। इस लिए पालिका, डायरिया आदि रोग वहाँ फैल रहे हैं।

रानीखेत में 18 हजार नागरिक व पाँच हजार सैन्य आवादी हैं। पेय जल गंगास लिफ्ट योजना व दो स्थानीय स्रोतों से उपलब्ध होता है। कुछ साढ़े पाँच लाख गैलन पानी इन स्रोतों से उपलब्ध होता है, जिसमें से मात्र सात हजार गैलन पानी सिविलियन जनसंख्या को दिया जाता है, जबकि उसकी न्यूनतम आवश्यकता ढाई लाख गैलन पानी है।

कटक पालिका के नागरिक प्रतिनिधियों द्वारा बार-बार एम०ई०एस० से, जो कि जल-वितरण का कार्य करता है, विवरित किये जा रहे जल की मात्रा को बढ़ाने व शुद्ध जल उपलब्ध करवाये जाने हेतु कहे जाने के बावजूद एम०ई०एस०, रानीखेत के अधिकारी इस ओर ध्यान

नहीं दे रहे हैं। कटक पालिका के नागरिक प्रतिनिधियों द्वारा अपने पदों से त्यागपत्र देने का बात कही गई है। स्थिति तनावपूर्ण है। रक्षा राज्य मंत्री जी का तत्काल इस ओर ध्यान दे कर जल-वितरण को न्यायपूर्ण बनाना चाहिए।

(iii) NEED FOR REGULAR RUNNING OF LOCAL TRAINS IN SEALDAH DIVISION

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, under rule 377, I wish to raise the following matter:

Extreme irregularity in running of local trains in the north suburban sections of Sealdah division (Eastern Railway), particularly those of Sealdah-Bongaon section, as well as of the Sealdah main suburban line is causing indescribable difficulty to lakhs of daily commuters coming to, and going back from Calcutta for their daily work. A very large number of them are Government employees, employees and workers of various essential services, students and teachers. Consequently, considerable part of Government activity and other essential activities of West Bengal are seriously affected. For the last few months, there was hardly a day on which all the trains ran on scheduled time. In the last few weeks, there were several clashes between the daily commuters and the railway staff, as the whole situation is absolutely unbearable for the daily commuters. Inadequacy of men and material, improper management and bad planning are responsible for almost total break-down of train services in Sealdah division suburban section. The Railway Minister must immediately intervene to set matters right, or else there will be serious trouble in the region in the near future.

(iv) NEED FOR PROVIDING TRADE AND OTHER BUSINESS FACILITIES TO PEOPLE LIVING IN CERTAIN CANTONMENT HILL AREAS OF HIMACHAL PRADESH

श्री कृष्ण दत्त (शिमला) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नियम 377 के अन्तर्गत पहाड़ों पर स्थित छावनियों के निवासियों की 1947 के बाद दयनीय दशा की ओर सरकार का ध्यान दिया चाहता हूँ।

अंग्रेजों के भारत से जाने के बाद कसौली, डगशाई, जतोग तथा अन्य जितनी भी सैनिक छावनियां पहाड़ी इलाकों में स्थित थीं, वहां रहने वालों की आर्थिक दशा बहुत बुरी तरह से खराब हो गई है। मकानात खाली पड़े हैं, क्योंकि वहां पर कोई बड़ी आबादी नहीं है, जिससे उनका व्यापार चल सके और न ही कोई रोजगार के साधन है। अ. सरकार का नैतिक कर्तव्य हो जाता है कि वह इन छावनियों की तरफ विशेष ध्यान दे तथा वहां पर कुछ बड़े उद्योग आदि लगाये जाये। साथ ही इन शहरों में रहने वाली आबादी को ऋण सुविधा तत्काल प्रदान की जाये, जिससे वे अपने मकानात आदि ठीक रख सकें तथा सरकार वहां पर अपने कार्यालय खोलें, ताकि लोग अपना व्यवसाय कर के गुजारा कर सकें।

(v) NEED FOR AFFORESTATION IN HILLY TRIBAL AREAS.

श्री बिलीप सिंह भूरिया (झाबुआ) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नियम 377 के अन्तर्गत एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय की ओर सरकार का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

देश के आदिवासी इलाकों में जंगलों की अवैध कटाई से जंगल नष्ट हो गये हैं। इन क्षेत्रों के आदिवासियों के जीवन-यापन एवं रोजगार का प्रमुख स्रोत जंगल ही थे। विशेषकर पहाड़ी इलाकों में जंगल कट जाने से आदिवासी बेरोजगार हो गये हैं एवं अपने गांव छोड़ कर हजारों मील दूर मेहनत-मजदूरी करने जाते हैं। आदिवासियों में

इस कारण बहुत ही भयंकर असंतोष व्याप्त है। यदि आदिवासियों को मजदूरी के लिए अपने गांवों से इसी प्रकार पलायन चलता रहा, तो भारतीय आदिम जाति संस्कृति भी नष्ट हो जायेगी।

अतः शासन को आदिवासी पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में ऐसी विशेष योजनाएँ बना कर बन लगाने चाहिए, जिससे वन नष्ट नहीं एवं आदिवासियों का रोजगार उपलब्ध हो सके।

(vi) NEED TO ERADICATE PARTHENIUM WEED IN THE COUNTRY

SHRI T. R. SHAMANNA (Bangalore South): Parthenium is a pernicious weed. In recent days its menace is spreading uncontrolled in different parts of the country. In Karnataka thousands of hectares of valuable agricultural land (more than 50,000 hectares) is covered by this weed causing damage to food crops. Experts are of the opinion that this weed is a health hazard to human and domestic animals also.

It is said that the weed got into India with imported grains about 20 to 25 years back. The weed is rampant in uncultivated lands and is now making its ugly appearance in cultivated lands in a large measure. It flowers profusely and lakhs of seeds are distributed. This pest weed deprives plant nutrients and moisture available to cultivated crops causing loss of several thousand quintals of grains.

It is very necessary that this monstrous pest plant is to be removed. Rainy season is the best period to eradicate this plant. If it is allowed to grow and spread, this weed will rise in an unimaginable proportion and magnitude polluting the whole environment.

The plant will have to be removed with its roots and burnt before it diffuses. A plant is capable of sending to atmosphere 15,000 to 20,000 seeds.

Chemical control, chemical method weed control may be necessary where