

which we are unable to control. Would he like to say something on it ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : The Calling Attention pertains to support price for agricultural produce. If the hon. Member wants to get further information, let him put specific questions, and we shall reply.

SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA : I have been writing to you, without any purpose.

14.16 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

MR. CHAIRMAN : We now take up Matters under Rule 377. Shri Chintamani Panigrahi.

- (i) Provision of Oriya teaching facility in Schools and Colleges in Seraikela and Kharsuan areas and restart M.A. course in Oriya language in Ranchi University

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar) : Sir, the Government of India has laid great emphasis on protecting the interests of linguistic minorities living in different parts of the country. Necessary guidelines have been sent to the State Governments to take all possible steps to boost education, including providing education in mother tongue to the minorities. But it is unfortunate that due attention has not been paid in providing education among the Oriya-speaking minorities students living in Kharsuan, Seraikela and other parts in Singhbhum, Bihar. It is regrettable that the Oriya teachers working in various schools in Seraikela and Kharsuan areas are transferred to the schools where there is no provision of teaching Oriya. Many Oriya teachers have been given compulsory retirement. The most unfortunate thing is that the teachers from North Bihar are absorbed in the posts against the Oriya teachers. Previously, the official language in the offices situated in Seraikela and Kharsuan was Oriya, which has now been done away with. Oriya M.A. course has also been discontinued in Ranchi University. Many students from Orissa, att-

racted by the healthy climate of Ranchi were also coming to study M.A. However, the M.A. course has not been re-started in Ranchi University, despite repeated demand.

In view of this, I urge upon the Central Government to direct the concerned authorities to provide Oriya teaching facility in the schools and colleges in Seraikela and Kharsuan areas. Oriya M.A. course should be opened in Ranchi University forthwith.

- (ii) Hunger Strike by employees of U.N.I.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South) : Employees of United News of India are on relay hunger strike for the past 16 days, and will go on an all-India strike on August 16 to press for their share in the news agency's increasing revenue and for stoppage of financial irregularities and wasteful expenditure. The Government should institute an inquiry into the financial affairs of UNI to investigate why despite 10 per cent increase in revenue in just four years, the agency is repeatedly defaulting in payment of salaries, refuses to accept the just demands of the workers for house rent, conveyance and medical allowances, and plans to close down 12 offices over the next one month.

The Government has the legal right to order audit of UNI's accounts for Government grants and loan since 1978. The Government should also write off the P and T arrears, and the development loan totalling Rs. 65 lakhs, or at least give moratorium of five years and six instalments for payment over the next 15 years. This alone will give confidence to over 750 UNI workers fearing imminent unemployment, for no fault of theirs.

- (iii) Need to check indiscriminate felling of trees and damage caused by grazing of cattle

SHRI R.P. GAEKWAD (Baroda) : The Gir forest of Gujarat which is the only habitat of the Asiatic lion, and has been declared a Wildlife Reserve Forest, is being destroyed by indiscriminate felling of trees and extensive grazing of cattle. The purpose of increasing the lion population by protect-

[Shri R.P. Gaekwad]

ing them in this wild-life reserve, has not been served. There is constant fight between the voluntary wild life organizations and Government about the upkeep of this sanctuary ; and recently, one prominent naturalist has resigned from the Wildlife Advisory body because of difference of opinion. The Government may consider taking proper steps to ensure that the sanctuary is not destroyed by the carelessness of officials not connected with wild-life preservation. The simple questions to be answered by Government are : Why are ever-green trees along the rivers badly lopped ? Why has the lion population not increased to the extent expected ? Why are the rules and regulations applicable to other sanctuaries like Kanha or Bandhavgarh not enforced in Gir forest ? Why are crop protecting guns being issued ? Are guns necessary to scare away the deer ? Do lions destroy crops and whether the cattle population within the gir forest reserve has increased ?

I would request the Government to look into these matters for necessary action.

(iv) Need to take back in humanitarian grounds the G.R.P.F. personnel removed from service in 1979 for their agitation

श्री जेनुस बशर (गाजीपुर) : सभापति महोदय, सन् 1979 में सेंट्रल रिजर्व पुलिस फोर्स के जवानों ने अपनी मांगों के समर्थन में एजिटेशन किया था। इसके लिए उनमें से सैकड़ों जवानों की सेवाएं समाप्त कर दी गई थीं, और कइयों के विरुद्ध अपराध के मामले दर्ज किए गए थे। उस समय की सरकार और उस समय के सी० आर० पी० एफ० के अधिकारी इस मामले को ठीक प्रकार से निपटाने में असफल रहे थे।

वर्तमान सरकार की उदार नीति के कारण कुछ संख्या में हटाए गए जवानों को फोर्स में वापस ले लिया गया है, बहुत से ऐसे जवान जो सेवा से हटाए गए थे और जो अपराध के मामलों में अदालतों से बरी कर दिए गए हैं, फोर्स में वापस होने का निवेदन कर रहे हैं। बेरोजगारी के कारण

यह लोग बहुत परेशान हैं। इनका परिवार भुखमरी के कगार पर खड़ा हो गया है।

सरकार ने हमेशा उदार नीति अपनाते हुए रेलवे, तथा अन्य सरकारी विभागों एवं प्रतिष्ठानों के निकाले गए हड़ताली कर्मचारियों को सेवा में वापस लिया है, मेरा सरकार से आग्रह है कि वह इन लोगों पर भी दया की भावना से कार्यवाही करके इनको फोर्स में वापस ले ले। इससे एक तरफ जहां इनके परिवारों को आर्थिक संकट से छुटकारा दिलाया जा सकेगा, वहीं दूसरी तरफ कठिन परिस्थितियों में भी बहुत अच्छा और सराहनीय काम करने वाले सी० आर० पी० एफ० के जवानों में प्रसन्नता होगी और उनका मनोबल बढ़ेगा।

(v) Opening of Divisional Headquarters of Railways at Chopan (Mirzapur)

श्री राम प्यारे पनिका (राबर्टसगंज) : सभापति महोदय, मैं अपने संसदीय निर्वाचन-क्षेत्र राबर्टसगंज (मिर्जापुर) के अन्तर्गत चौपन नामक स्थान में पिछले कई वर्षों से प्रस्तावित डिवीजनल हेड-क्वार्टर स्थापित करने के सम्बन्ध में माननीय रेल मन्त्री का ध्यान आकषित करना चाहता हूँ।

चौपन में सारी अपेक्षाएं, जो कि एक डिवीजन के लिए आवश्यक होती हैं, उपलब्ध हैं। रेलवे डिवीजन के लिए रेल मन्त्रालय ने यहां पर पर्याप्त मात्रा में भूमि अर्जन कर रखी है। अन्य आवश्यक आधार संरचना (इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चरल) सुविधाएं भी तैयार कर रखी हैं, परन्तु खेद है कि अब तक डिवीजन खोलने के सम्बन्ध में रेल मन्त्रालय का निर्णय घोषित नहीं हुआ है।

चौपन के आसपास कई सरकारी औद्योगिक संस्थान हैं, जैसे ओबरा में 1500 मेगावाट क्षमता का पावर-स्टेशन, डाला में सीमेंट फैक्टरी एवं गुरमा में सीमेंट फैक्टरी तथा क्रमशः उसके लिए रा-मैटीरियल (कच्चा माल) लाइम स्टोन की खान आदि हैं। यही नहीं, चौपन से सोन नदी गुजरती है और उससे आवश्यकतानुसार पेयजल