over-emphasised. Unless unproductive expenditure is kept under strict control, the resources for sustaining a viable development programme cannot be found. Even in regard to developmental expenditure we have to take action to ensure that the outlays on different programmes are laid out in such a manner as to maximise the rate of growth of the economy and promote the socio-economic objectives of Government. But the pursuit of economy in the broadest sense of the term should be accepted as a normal, legitimate task of the different Ministries and agencies of the Government of India. In fact, realistic suggestions for effecting economy in expenditure can emerge largely from within. The contribution which an outside organisation like the Commission on Public Expenditure can make can have only marginal impact. Government have therefore decided that the Expenditure Commission should be wound up with effect from 31st January 1980 and the Ministries asked to put forward on a continuing basis suggestions for effecting economy in expenditure keeping in view the objectives as outlined in the terms of reference of the Expenditure Commission. The work of Ministries in this regard will be monitored by the Ministry of Finance as part of its normal functions. Meanwhile, attemps will also be made to make use of the data collected by the Commission and any other suggestions that may have emerged in the course of the deliberations of the Commission.

Government wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Commission on Public Expenditure for the kind services in this behalf.

12.45 hrs.

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

(i) REPORTED RELAY HUNGER STRIKE BY UNEMPLOYED COMMERCIAL PILOTS TO PRESS THEIR DEMAND.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh): Unemployed commercial pilots of India have been on Relay Hunger Strike near Airlines House, New Delhi since 1st November, 1979 in support of their demand for jobs as pilots in the Airlines, National Airlines have been denying them jobs in spite of the fact that they are the most eligible candidates for the same. So many commercial pilots remain unemployed because Indian Airlines virtually stopped recruitment of Pilots for the last ten years. Before going on hunger strike Commercial Pilots had taken up their case with Government. To-day it is the 95th day of their Hunger Strike. Will the Government wake up do justice to unemployed Commercial Pilots who have been suffering for the last many years? Their demand is that they should be given employment in Airlines as per the Seniority based on date of issue of Commercial Pilot's licence to them in order to make the selection free from corrupt practices. It is now high time that Government take immediate action to provide gainful employment to unemployed Commercial Pilots. According to the statements issued by the high officials of the Airlines, requirement of Pilots in Airlines is not less than 350 pilots in the next two years. Will the Government issue the orders to Airlines to take these unemployed Commercial Pilots to fill these vacancies.

(ii) REPORTED REFERENCE TO KASHMIR BY THE PRESIDENT OF PAKISTAN IN ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

श्री राम विलास पासवान (हाजीपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नियम 377 के अधीन निम्नलिखित विषय की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूं :

"पाकिस्तान के राष्ट्रपति जनरल जिया-उल-हक द्वारा इस्लामिक विदेश मंत्रियों की कान्फ्रेंस में विश्व की समस्याओं, में फिलिस्तीनी समस्या और अफगानिस्तान में सोवियत हस्तक्षेप के अलावा काश्मीर का भी उल्लेख किया गया है जो एक चिन्ताजनक स्थिति है । अमरीका और पाकिस्तान सरकार द्वारा बार बार यह आश्वासन दिलाया जाता रहा है कि पाकिस्तान को दिये जाने वाले हथियारों को भारत के विरुद्ध प्रयोग

[श्री राम बिलास पासवान]

नहीं किया जायगा किन्तु इस बात का क्या विश्वास है कि जब जनरल हक काश्मीर को विश्व की एक समस्या मानते हैं तो वह उसे हल करने के लिए भारत के विरुद्ध हथियारों का प्रयोग नहीं करेंगे ।

मैं भारत सरकार से जानना चाहता हूं कि इस विषय में क्या किया जा रहा है और क्या विदेश मंत्री ने पाकिस्तान से इस सम्बन्ध में स्पष्टीकरण मांगा है ।

(iii) SPREADING OF JAUNDICE IN PATNA and Aramgarh

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नियम 377 के अधीन निम्नलिखित विषय की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूं :

बिहार की राजधानी पटना और उत्तर प्रदेश के आजमगढ़ जनपद में पीलिया रोग का प्रकोप—

बिहार की राजधानी पटना के सब से बड़े आबासीय उप-नगर कंकड़बाग में रहने वाला हर पांचवां व्यक्ति पीलिया रोग का शिकार है । उस क्षेत्र की आबादी हजारों की है । अत: स्थिति की भयंकरता का अनुमान आसानी के साथ लगाया जा सकता है ।

पत्रकारों के एक दल द्वारा किये गये सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार नमूने के तौर पर जिन 39 परिवारों से उन्होंने पूछताछ की उन में 30 परिवारों में पीलिया के रोगी पाये गये । एक परिवार में चार चार व्यक्ति तक पीलिया से ग्रस्त देख गये । लोगों में भयंकर आतंक है ।

उत्तर प्रदेश के आजमगढ़ जनपद में भी पीलिया रोग का भयंकर प्रकोप है । दस हजार से अधिक लोग इस घातक बीमारी से ग्रस्त हैं । खबर है कि पांच सौ से अधिक रोगियों की मृत्यु हो चुकी है ।

(iv) SILENT VALLEY PROJECT SCHEME IN KERALA.

SHRI K. A. RAJAN (Trichur): I beg to mention the following matter of public importance under Rule 377:

One of the most important Hydro Electric Project Scheme in Kerala, called 'The Silent Valley Project Scheme' is at a standstill because of the stay ordered by the Governor of Kerala on the eve of Kerala Election.

The earlier Government of Kerala had already invested nearly two crores of rupees and already under a statute all protective measures were taken to see that any ecological imbalance should not occur.

Sir, my only submission is that this deadlock over the project must be put an end to in the best interest of the Kerala State and the project may be given clearance.

(v) PURCHASE OF ONIONS BY NAFED IN MAHARASHTRA.

SHRI RAM KRISHNA MORE (Khed): I beg to mention the following matter of public importance under Rule 377:

The policy following by NAFED in Maharashtra regarding purchase of onions from agriculturists has resulted in great injustice to agriculturists and consumers. While the agriculturists do not get remunerative price, the consumer has to pay about Rs. 3 per kg. for onions. The benefit of this policy goes only to the middle men wha are exploiting both the agriculturists and the consumers. It is, herefore, necessary to give proper directions to NEFED to amend its policy in such a way that it will benefit both agriculturists and the consumer.

(vi) NEED TO INCREASE QUOTA OF DIESEL, KEROSENE OIL AND COAL FOR UTTAR PRADESH.

श्री हरिकेश बहादुर (गोरखपुर): अध्यक्ष महोदय मैं आप की अनुमति से नियम 377 के अधीन निम्नलिखत विषय की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूं :

हमारे देश में डीज़ल, मिट्टी के तेल और कोयले का अभाव पिछले कई महीनों से चल रहा है जिस के कारण उत्तर प्रदेश में लोगों के दैनिक जीवन पर गहरा प्रभाव पड़ा है । इन दिनों उत्तर प्रदेश में लोगों को इन कठिनाइयों के बढ़ने की आशंका है ।

अत: मैं केन्द्रीय सरकार से यह अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि उत्तर प्रदेश को डीजल, मिट्टी का तेल और कोयले का जो कोटा इस समय दिया जा रहा है उस में वृद्धि की जाय तथा राज्य सरकार द्वारा संचालित बितरण व्यवस्था जो पूर्णत: दोषपूर्ण है, को सुधारने के लिए उचित प्रयास किये जायें ।