

versions) of the Twelfth Report of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry on Industrial Growth: Trends and Problems.

13.11 ½ hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to continue the Haj Pilgrimage by Ship

[Translation]

SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): 'Haj' pilgrimage is one of the five duties mandatory for the followers of Islam. The decision of the Central Government to stop allowing 'Haj' pilgrimage by ship has affected adversely the dream of many aspirant pilgrims. The present view of the Central Government is that 'Haj' pilgrimage should be allowed by air only. This will in effect, deprive the middle-class people of their chances to go on 'Haj' pilgrimage. The obvious reason is that the air fare is above Rs. 12,000, whereas the ship fare is around Rs. 4,000 only. Generally, those who prefer to go by air are people who do not wish to spend much time there. But those who go by ship will get enough time for performing 'Haj' and other rites. Therefore, I request the Government to reconsider the decision to stop ship way 'Haj' pilgrimage.

(ii) Need to take immediate measures for ameliorating the lot of village health guides

[English]

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): I would like to draw attention of the Union Government to the Village Health Guides who are enriching medical facilities in rural areas since October 1977. They are conducting immunisations, polio camps, and working towards motivation for family planning for population control, eradication of malaria and other diseases, collection of birth and death reports. Though they are playing a vital role in health care in all rural areas in our country, but it is quite unfortunate that the allowance given to them is a partly sum of Rs. 50/- per month. This amount does not commensurate with the task/responsibility performed by them. Even the payment of meagre allowance has been irregular since 23 months till now.

In view of the responsibilities assigned to village Health Guides, the allowance of Rs. 50/- per month should be enhanced to Rs. 750/- per month which is the minimum wage to a daily labourer per month. Secondly, their services should be regularised immediately. The medicines being supplied by Government of India should be continued.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to take immediate necessary steps to redress the grievances of the village Health Guides.

(iii) Need to take immediate steps to repair the National Highway No. 47 between Kanyakumari and Thiruvananthapuram

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil): Tamil Nadu Section of the Kanyakumari Thiruvananthapur National Highway

47 is not in proper condition and is full of pits, pot holes and cracks. The recent monsoon rains have worsened the condition. Maintenance work on this very busy road is not up to the mark. There is no adequate provision for side drains. So, during rainy seasons, the road is inundated. The heavy traffic, the hilly terrain and the presence of rains throughout the year necessitate special attention to prevent deterioration of riding surface and to keep the road in a traffic-worthy condition.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to carry out the improvement works on this road which is in bad shape due to inadequate and sub-standard quality work.

(iv) Need to provide more telephone facilities at Ferozabad, Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad): My constituency, Ferozabad is famous for glass items not only in our country but in foreign countries also. The glass items are supplied from here to various parts of our country and abroad. Foreign exchange is earned by export of glass items, but due to the negligible communication facilities here, both the businessmen and the common man have to face many problems. Telephone facility at Ferozabad is made available under Agra Division (Tele.), which seems to be the sole reason of this disorder.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to set up a T.D.M. office at Ferozabad itself and it may be disconnected from Agra so as to provide better telephone facilities to the residents of Ferozabad.

(v) Need to re-open and increase the capacity of Farenda (Anand Nagar) Sugar Mill in Maharajganj District, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY (Maharajganj): The crushing of sugarcane in various parts of the country has started. Uttar Pradesh is a leading sugarcane producing State and sugarcane in very large quantity is produced here. The farmers here, have to suffer a lot of inconvenience every year as there is no proper sugarcane crushing facility. Maharajganj in Uttar Pradesh is not left unaffected by it. The farmers there, could not get the price of sugarcane. Farenda (Anand Nagar) Sugar Mill in Maharajganj district has been lying closed. The Government of Uttar Pradesh had sent their recommendations to the Central Government on 30th March, 1993 for reopening this Mill and enhancing its capacity upto 2500 T.C.C. but no action has been taken thereon so far and the sugar cane growers are likely to suffer heavy losses as a result of it. Farenda (Anand Nagar) Sugar Mill is one among those four mills which are under the administrative control of the Textile Ministry. The economic condition of this mill is so bad that not only crores of rupees of sugarcane growers are outstanding against the mill but it is on the verge of closure. Thousands of workers of this Mill will be rendered jobless. The attention of the Ministry has been drawn towards it so many times but no action has been taken till date.

Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Minister to take

immediate steps for re-opening this mill and for increasing its capacity so that the problems of the farmers could be brought to an end.

(vi) Need to Place Adequate Orders To Jamalpur Rail Workshop To Make It Viable.

SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL (Monghyr): The condition of Jamalpur railway workshop has been worsening day by day. The P.H.O. of 6 diesel engines only is being carried out. The work load is not adequate. Temporarily 50 box wagons are repaired and 30 containers are being manufactured in a month. In spite of the Central Government's repeated assurances that keeping in view the importance of the Jamalpur Factory, the work load of the factory will be increased and it will be modernised. Provision for it was made in the budget but neither the estimates have been approved nor the work has been undertaken.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to approve the estimates for modernisation of this factory and arrangements should be made for repairing box wagons and manufacturing containers regularly. The P.H.O. of diesel engines should be increased at least to ten. P.H.O. work of electric engines should also be started there soon.

(vii) Need to set up a Telecom Civil Division at Salem In Tamil Nadu

[English]

DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM (Tiruchengode): Sir, I raise this matter under Rule 377. There is a lot of Telecom expansion work going on in Periyar, Salem, Dharmapuri Districts of Tamil Nadu. At present, there is a Telecom sub-division at Erode and Salem, having its Divisional Headquarters at Coimbatore. In this connection, I urge upon the Government to establish one Telecom civil Division at Salem so that people in Tiruchengode, Erode and in Salem District will have better telephone facilities.

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.20 p.m.

1321 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Twenty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

1423 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twenty-Three Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(SHRI P.C. CHACKO In The Chair)

[English]

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): When are we going to take up this discussion on Gian Prakash Report under Rule 193?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please resume your seat. Let us start the business.

.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rsera): Sir, we would like to now when the discussion on the Gian Prakash Committee on sugar will start since the A.T.R. will be laid at 2.30 P.M. (Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARN SHUKLA): What was decided was that the ATR would be laid today in the House and the debate on it will commence tomorrow, that is, on 21st. Today before taking up the discussion on Gian Prakash Committee Report, we will finish off the remaining Government business which is not too much. There are two Supplementary Demands and one Ordinance, which should be over, if the hon. Members cooperate, within one and a half hours or so. Around 4 o'clock, we can start the discussion on the Gian Prakash Committee Report.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The exact time should be fixed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Achariaji, now it is very clear. The earlier we finish the Government business, the earlier we can take it up. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: At 4 o'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us not confuse.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The discussion under Rule 193 on Gian Prakash Committee Report should be taken up at 4 o'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Achariaji, there is an understanding. Please resume your seat. There is an understanding, I may remind the hon. Members, that the Government business will be completed. Immediately after that, we will take up the discussion on the Gian Prakash Committee Report.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: No Sir. The exact time should be fixed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us not go back on our assurances.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: There is no such agreement.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): If the Government business can be finished by 4 o'clock, it is all right. Otherwise, at 4 o'clock, the discussion on this Report will be taken up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then it becomes very difficult. The hon. Speaker has given the ruling in the morning already. We have all agreed.....(Interruptions).....There is no confusion.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: There is no agreement.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: It never happens like this.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: If you would go through the Speaker's observations, he said that it is up to the House.

[Translation]

The hon. Speaker had said that it was upto the House.