

[Smt. Dil Kumari Bhandari]

also. This can be helpful in earning valuable foreign exchange.

I request the Central Government to provide adequate financial assistance to the State Government of Sikkim to encourage bamboo plantation there.

- (v) **Need for conversion of Palamaner Ananthapur Kurnool Chittoor Naidupeta Tirupati and Palamaner Venkatagiri-Kota Roads as national highways**

SHRI M.G. REDDY CHITTOOR: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I wish to bring the following matters under Rule 377.

The length of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh is 2352 kilometres only which falls short by 3188 kilometres to make up 5540 kilometres as per norms. Andhra Pradesh is one of the few States where no State Roads were upgraded as National Highways since inception. The State Government have proposed upgrading the following State Roads as National Highways in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

1. Palamaner to Ananthapur connecting N.H. 4 to N.H. 7;
2. Kurnool to Chittoor - 369 kilometres;
3. Naidupeta - Tirupati - Chittoor connecting N.H. 5 and N.H. 4 - 130 kilometres;
4. a) Palamaner - Venkatagiri Kota - Kuppam (in Andhra Pradesh) Vepanapalli - Krishnagiri (in Tamil Nadu) - 160 kilometres.  
b) Palamaner - Kolar Gold Fields (KGF) - 100 kilometres.

As such I humbly request the Central Government for early conversion of above mentioned State Roads as National High-

ways for the proper development of the backward area.

- (vi) **Need to clear applications for grant of licences for setting up new sugar factories in Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN MISHRA (Sitapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards this important issue under rule 377.

Although, India is the largest sugar producing country in the world, yet from the production point of view India hardly fulfills the domestic requirements. Uttar Pradesh is the largest sugar producing state of India and sugar industry is the biggest industry of the State. Approximately 30 lakh sugarcane growers and lakhs of labourers are directly associated with it, but only 33% of the total sugarcane production is crushed and remaining 67% sugarcane is used in 'Khandsari' units, jaggery, fodder and seeds etc. only. In this way two-third of the total production of sugarcane can't be crushed. At present the Union Government is helping in setting up the co-operative and public sector mills for crushing sugarcane but due to economic constraints the Government is unable to set-up the mills required for it. As private sector is being encouraged to set-up other industries under new-industrial policy, I think, similarly it should be encouraged to set up sugar mills also so that the sugarcane produced by the farmers can be crushed and they can get proper price of their produce. From this point of view only the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent the proposals to the Union Government with its recommendations for setting up sugar mills in private sector which are still lying pending for approval.

Therefore, I submit to the Union Minister of agriculture to immediately issue licences considering all the applications for setting up the with submitted by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, so that crushing