

I urge upon the Central government to include medical services under clause 2(o) of the said Act to protect the interests of doctors.

- (v) **Need to Include Punpun-Dardha Irrigation Project, Bihar in the Eighth Plan**

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the Central Government has been making declaration to launch a Special Region Development Programme for the rapid development of the terrorism affected areas. But it is an irony that the Central Government has not included Punpun-Dardha Irrigation Project, which is beneficial to the terrorism affected areas of Central Bihar in the annual plan of 1992-93 despite the requests made by the Bihar Government.

Pun pun-Dardha scheme is the most useful project for irrigation and flood control. Every year heavy damage to crops, roads and of other properties is caused in Central Bihar by floods in Punpur, and Dardha rivers. Besides it, enormous water goes waste. With the implementation of Punpun-Dardha Irrigation Project the flood problem will be solved and there will be adequate provision of irrigation in the large areas of Central Bihar.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central government to include Punpun-Dardha Irrigation Project in the Eighth Plan in the interest of the people.

- (vi) **Need to drop the proposal of sale of vacant lands belonging to Defence**

SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE (Aurangabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through this House I would like to draw the attention of Ministry of Defence towards the proposal of sale of vacant lands belonging to defence establishment. As per reports in some news papers the Ministry of Defence is understood to be working on a scheme of

collecting additional amount by selling the vacant land of the defence department. At present the Ministry of Defence has 21 lakh acre land, of which 10% is proposed to be sold at market rate. This land will be sold to the builders and co-operative Housing Societies in the big cities. There is a proposal to sell 300 acres of land at Hapur and Kanpur being used for military camps.

Sir, after a lot of consideration extra land has been given to Defence and Railway departments. These lands are used for the future schemes. Now such lands are being sold in the name of developing new technique by declaring them vacant. As serious danger will also arise to our security system with the sale of these lands. Secrecy of defence institutions will be at stake by constructing residential houses in the military areas and there will be a possibility of increasing foreign interference.

Therefore, I urge upon upon the Ministry of Defence that this scheme should be given up.

- (vii) **Need to clear the ash of Thermal Power Plant Farakka accumulated in cornfields along Kangloli river bed in Murshidabad district, West Bengal.**

[English]

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN (Jangipur): The ash of the Thernal Power Plant at Farakka in Murshidabad District, West Bengal deposited earlier in the Kangloli river bed escaped during the floods in October last year. While being carried by flood water it accumulated over the corn fields measuring about five thousand acres of land at a stretch of ten kilometers along the said river. This ash has, in fact, resulted in the formation of a two to three feet thick layer on the surface of the land. In this situation if one is to continue cultivation in those pieces of land the ash has to be removed. But the removal of the ash is too expensive to be borne by the poor farmers. It will cost about five thousand

[Sh. Zainal Abedin]

rupees per acre which is quite a difficult proposition.

Besides, the ash deposited in the Kangloi river has inflated the river-bed at a stretch of 10 kms reducing the capacity of the river to contain water. Hence people are apprehensive that due to this diminishing capacity of the river they would have to experience recurrence of floods in future affecting extended area of cultivable land and hitting hard larger number of farmers if measures for removal of the ash are not taken expeditiously.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to bear the financial liability of removing the accumulated ash from the affected land also to adopt measures to check the recurrence of floods.

- (viii) **Need to reconsider the proposal to form Mahanagar Telephone Nigams in Madras and Calcutta and review the continuation of it in Bombay and Delhi.**

SHRI VJAYNAVALPATIL (Erandol): It is understood that the Government is considering formation of Mahanagar Telephone Nigams for Madras and Calcutta on the lines of M.T.N.L. at Delhi and Bombay. The main source of revenue for Telecom Department is from metropolitan cities. The surplus income generated from here is spent on development and expansion of telephone network in rural areas. The compartmentalization of telecom services in M.T.N.L. will be dangerous and the development of telephone services in rural areas and small towns will suffer.

The salaries paid to MTNL employees will be disproportionately higher as compared to salaries paid to the different employees working in the rural areas in difficult climatic conditions. Moreover, because of extra spending on salaries and five star office culture can expect very small surplus income from MTNL.. If survey is conducted

it will be observed that the improvement in services in Delhi and Bombay are not due to MTNL's extra efficiency. The improvement can only be attributed to the automatic and multifarious work of electronic telephone exchanges.

Therefore, I urge upon the Minister of Communication to reconsider the proposal of forming MTNLs for Madras and Calcutta and further to review seriously the continuation of MTNL at Bombay and Delhi.

12.50 hrs

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE  
PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS-*CONTD.*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion on the President's Address moved by Shri P.M. Sayeed.

Shri K.V. Thomas to continue.

PROF. K.V THOMAS (Ernakulam): Sir, the present Congress Government, which came to power eight months back, inherited an economic structure which was completely in shackles and a political system which was in chaos. Moreover, the global political scenario showed that many of the Communist and Socialist countries are disintegrating under the new pressure of freedom and independence. Our time tested friend, Soviet Union, withered away into small republics. So, these changes, in the global political system, have its impacts on the political and economic system of our country.

The ever lowest foreign exchange reserve, the spiralling rate of inflation, the skyrocketing of the prices of essential commodities put a formidable task before the new Government. The turbulent situation created by Shri V.P. Singh's Reservation Policy, communal violence and tension prevailing in many parts of the country, escalating terrorists and secessionist activities in