MARCH 18, 1992

[Sh. Bhagwan Shankar Rawat]

exchanges in Agra and Foundry Nagar, Agra is very bad. It causes a lot of hardship to the foundry industry earning foreign exchanges worth crores of rupees, to the approximate number of 2 lakh tourists visiting Agra every year, to the shoe and carpet industry, to the collage industries making handicrafts, to the traders and telephone subscribers. Old telephone equipments have become obsolete and started deteriorating. They are not working well. Due to lack of proper maintenance, the general telephones have lost their credibility. As such, all the old telephone equipments should be changed. It is also necessary to repair the lines after making a thorough check of the same.

A list of about 12,000 applicants seeking telephone connections is pending. Applicants have been waiting for several years even after depositing money under "own your telephone by depositing Rs. 8000/ - scheme." The Government has not formulated any scheme to provide telephone connections in sufficient numbers to people waiting for the same. Only 5,000 telephone lines are operating in Sanjay place telephone exchange out of the proposed 10,000 line capacity. All the 10,000 lines should be made fully operational at this exchange. I would like to request the Central Government to prepare a time bound programme for installing telephone equipments with modern technology by replacing the old equipments and providing new connections to people waiting for the same.

(v) Need to provide more funds to the State Government of Bihar for proper development of Jahanabad area in Bihar.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jabababad): India is a country with a federal character. Where people speaking different languages live. Bihar is an economically, socially and educationally backward State. The number of terrorist organisations are growing very fast in this State and innocent people are being massacred. Youth belonging to down-trodden communities, backward castes and poor classes of society are joining the ranks of these organisations. The Jahanabad Parliamentary Constituency has fallen a victim to these maladies. Backwardness is the main reason behind this.

Only backward castes and dalits live in hundreds of villages having population of 500 to 1000, in this constituency. There villages are even devoid of primary education. The people drink unsafe water containing soil, in these villages. These are the reasons. I would, therefore, request the Central Government to provide adequate funds to the State Government to complete all these work so that proper development of the area could be done and the youth could be prevented from joining extremist ranks.

[English]

(vi) Need to generate more employment by hastening the process of delineating the rocks in Kapadwan] and Thasara Taluka of Kheda district, Gujarat

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE (Kapadwanj): Sir, the Kapadwanj and Thasara Taluka of Kheda district, Gujarat are backward areas. Because of the scanty rainfall and bleak irrigation resources, a large number of village youth are unemployed. The only source of providing some employment is to delineate the rocky areas which are rich in different minerals. As per the reports this area has good potential of reserves of minerals like bauxite, limestone, bentonite, gravel and sand. The present work in progress is able to engage about 1,100 workers only, which is not encouraging.

It is very much necessary to accentuate the efforts to further delineate the rocks and hasten the process of getting more minerals which can generate sufficient employment and revenue in this needy area.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take some serious steps in this direction.

(vii) Need for early completion of Gandak and Kosi Irrigation Projects, Bihar.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVA SHARAN SINHA (Vaishali): The main problem of northern Bihar is occurrence of devastating floods, water logging in nine lakh hectares of land and lack of irrigation facilities. As a result thereof, the condition of 4 crore people in this area has become very depiorable. The Government of Bihar has already expressed its inability to deal with the problem. As such, it becomes the responsibility of the Central Government to find an early solution to the problem. Effective steps should be taken to control flood and steps should be taken to clear out water logging in the area so that the farmers could produce fifty lakh tonnes of foodgrains every year easily. In the first phase the lower and upper Noon water drainage projects in Bhava Command area should be implemented so that local farmers could produce 66 lakh quintals of foodgrain every year. It will be a major step for increasing agricultural productions. Apart from this, the Gandak and Kosi Irrigation Projects, which remain half done, should also be completed during the Eighth Five Year Plan. Gandak project is an important inland and international irrigation project. I would like to draw

the attention of the Central Government towards this.

15.05 hrs

[English]

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF REPRESENTATION OF PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) ORDI-NANCE AND REPRESENTATION OF PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL

As Passed by Rajya Sabha.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we shall take up further discussion on items No. 11 and 12 together. Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat was on his legs. He is not present.

Dr. Sudhir Ray.

15.06 hrs

[Translation]

Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bangla.

[SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARAYA in the Chair]

⁴ DR. SUDHIR RAY (Burdwan)*: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to oppose the bill as this bill casually approaches the problem of election and tries to solve them casually. Sir, there is no serious effort, whole-hearted aproach to solve the election problem. When the first general election wad held in 1952, a vast section of the population in India was illiterate and there had been apprehensions in many quarters that election would not be held smoothly. But that election was conducted by late Sukumar Sen in such a manner

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bangala.