

13.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Chairman, sir, efforts are being made all over the country to protect the environment and it is a welcome step. Under environment protection the questions of checking air pollution and sound pollution are also included. We all know that how badly the sound pollution affects the people. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you also have its experience.

Recently the Calcutta High Court has given a landmark judgement regarding sound pollution. It has been said that no loud speaker would be used in any public worship place from 6.00 p.m. to 7.00 a.m. The High Court has also said that it should not be viewed from religious aspect. The Chief Minister, Shri Jyoti Basu has also agreed to it and he has said that he would sort out this issue by calling a meeting of religious leaders.

In this regard I would like to urge upon the Home Minister also to call a meeting of the leaders of all political parties and religious leaders and take a decision that loudspeaker would not be used in any place of worship from 6.00 p.m. to 7.00 a.m. It would provide relief to the people and the sound pollution could also be checked. The Government should come out with a statement in the House as to what it intends to do in this regard.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : Mr. Chairman, sir, every Government is in a hurry to lay foundation stones. IN 1995 a foundation stone of a branch of Indian Institute of Mass Communication was laid down in Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh but till now no further work has been undertaken there. In that branch videography management and communication development works were to be started. Therefore, I would like to request that either the work should be started immediately on the place where foundation stone was laid or if there is any difficulty, my constituency Indore is a well developed area where this work can be undertaken and I assure that all sorts of assistance would be given in this regard.

[English]

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Sir, the law and order situation in my border district of Karimganj in Assam is serious. Everyday dacoity, robbery, looting of public and private buses and smuggling of cows and buffaloes are going on unabated as if there is no administration at all.

The district police authority is hopelessly inactive to tackle the situation and what is most surprising is that dacoities are committed under the nose of the police.

The role of the State Government in this regard is, so to say, passive. Therefore, I would urge upon the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India to look into the matter and to do the needful immediately.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the CBI has instituted an inquiry against some of the officials of the Vijaya Bank, including two ex-Chairman, Shri Sadanand Shetty and Shri Shivaram Shetty, for causing loss to the tune of more than Rs. 200 crore to the bank by illegally lending money to some of unscrupulous borrowers. Due to this reason, there is a great panic in the minds of the customers. There has been a paid withdrawal of deposits from the Vijaya Bank. The employees of the Vijaya Bank are also demoralised.

I demand from the Government that very stern action will have to be taken against all these erring ex-employees and the entire money should be recovered. It is understood that today the financial position of the Vijaya Bank is not in the red. So, to remove the panic from the minds of the customers, let there be a statement from the Reserve Bank or the Government that the Vijaya Bank is out of danger and stern action will be taken against all the erring officials including two ex-Chairmen for recovery of monetary loss which is caused to the Bank.

[Translation]

SHRI GULAM MOHD MIR MAGANI (Srinagar) : Sir, due to militancy in Jammu and Kashmir, the number of educated unemployed youth has increased to a great extent. They are not getting employment there. They are very disappointed. Therefore, I would request the Central Government that they should be given employment in the Central Government departments located in the State so that their unemployment problem could be solved.

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar) : Mr. Chairman Sir, there is acute shortage of drinking water in the entire district of Kolar in the State of Karnataka. There is no water to the cattle also. The ground water level has gone down to 500 to 600 feet. The ground water contains fluoride and it causes dental and bone disorder. The first step for the Government is to bring the level of ground water to at least 100 feet level. It can be done by desilting the tanks in the district which will favourably affect the underground water table. Then the water has to be purified before supplying it to the people. An experiment was conducted in this regard at two places, Muttur in Shidtaghatta Taluk and Chatra Kodahalli in Kolar Taluk. It was a great success. Water is available there at 100 feet ground level.

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

The Deputy Commissioner Shri Sanjaya Das Gupta has forwarded a detailed project to the State Government regarding the immediate need to desilt the tanks in Kolar district.

The State cannot provide sufficient funds for this purpose and the drought situation is taking a serious turn. The farmers and the cattle have to be saved and the people have to be provided with drinking water.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to release about 500 crores of rupees immediately to the district authorities to take up the desilting work of all the three thousand tanks in the entire district of Kolar.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur) : Chairman Sir, the matter regarding problem of textile mills have been raised a number of times here. Even personally I have raised this matter a number of times. There are 11 textile Spinning Mills in Uttar Pradesh out of which 5 mills are located in Kanpur. The Government had formulated a Scheme to rejuvenate these mills after modernisation and a provision of Rs. 2005 crore was made for this purpose but these mills have not yet been started again. Workers are not getting their wages in time. Out of five mills located in Kanpur two mills viz. Laxmi Ratan Cotton Mill and Mayur Cotton Mill are in better condition. These mills have machines as well as generating sets. Therefore these mills require less funds. They have got land also. Mayur Mill has 16 acres of land. Artherton Mill has 19 acres and Laxmi Rattan Mill has got 5 acres of land. It is a prime land. These mills can be regenerated after selling this land. Their workers did not get payment of Rs. 27 crores towards their P.F. and E.S.I.

I urge the Government that these mills be started again after modernisation and payment of Rs. 27 crores towards their P.F. and E.S.I. should be made to the workers without further delay.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Chairman, Sir, I just want to say that in the morning today we received an envelope containing bill on Aqua-culture. These was a Supreme Court decision on the subject which should be implemented before 31 March and it seems that there is no intention of the Government to implement it. This is regarding those small fishermen who fish near the sea coast.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It has been decided that it would taken up after 3.30 P.M.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : It will not be taken up.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It not, it will be taken up after 6.00 P.M.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : No, Such Law should not be taken up after 6.00 P.M. We are deadly against that law. The decision of the Supreme Court should be implemented and we should not take any such step like issuing an ordinance when the parliament is not in session.

SHRI SHYAM BEHARI MISHRA (Bilhour) : Chairman Sir, in my parliamentary constituency of Bilhour in Kanpur Dehat there is large production of Potato this year but there is no space available in the cold storages. There has been a ladhi charge and firing on the farmers. I request the Government that they should start procuring potato and give priority to Store it in the Cold Storages Besides, Cold Storage facilities should be provided in my constituency so that the farmers may be benefited and not suffer infuture.

[English]

SHRI BADAL CHOUDHARY (Tripura West) : Mr. Chairman Sir, there are reports that NSCN (I) and other insurgent groups in the North Eastern region like ULFA, UNLF, ATTF, NLFT etc. have been enjoying training and other facilities in Bangladesh and Myanmar. The NSCN (Khaplang) is having its training camps in Myanmar. The NSCN (I) supreme Shri Mouiah has been staying Thailand for a long times. They are smuggling arms through Indo-Bangladesh border in Triupra, Assam, and Megalaya and also through Indo-Myanmar border in Manipur and Mizoram. The extremist groups have threatened the Chittagong Port authority that if they are not allowed to do their jobs, they will demolish the Chittagong Port with explosives. I urge upon the Central Government to take up the matter with the Governments of Thailand, Bangladesh and Myanmar so that the insurgency problem is tackled jointly.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Gridin) : Chairman Sir, I would like to draw attention of the Government through you towards starting of Captive Power Plant located in Kathora area under the Central Coal fields Limited. This power plant is being constructed for the last 17 years and a sum of about Rs. 84 crores has already been spent and but this plant could not be started because of the negligence of D.V.C. I urge the Government to get this plant started.

SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA (Beedar) : Chairman Sir, the problem of freedom fighters has not been