

them this year due to which there is a growing discount among them. Sir, through you I want to draw attention of the hon'ble Home Minister to resolve their resentment. I am not in favour of giving them right to form their association. They should not be given right to form their association. But there should be a forum where they may express their grievances so that the police personnel may be satisfied....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your name is there in the list I shall call you later on. Please sit down.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Sir, I hail from Sitamarhi, Bihar. Sitamarhi is the tourist spot of national level importance. We have raised this issue many times in this House during different sessions of the Tenth Lok Sabha. We have drawn the attention of the Government towards this during question hour and zero hour as well but no attention has been paid towards this till date. Sitamarhi is the birth place of Jagat Janani Sita. People are coming here from every corner of the country, not only from Bihar but from other countries of the world including Maaritious, are visiting Sitamarhi.

Sir, through you I want to urge the Government that to include Sitamarhi in the tourist map of the country. It is necessary to develop tourism there. We had a meeting with the Minister of Tourism. Though he had assured us yet nothing has been done so far to develop tourism by setting up infrastructure there. Rail facility is not available there. Though funds have been provided for laying rail lines from Muzafferpur to Sitamarhi yet release of fund is being delayed. Similarly it is necessary to construct the broadgauge railway line from Darbhanga to Narkatiaganj. Construction of Sitamarhi-Patna national highway via Muzafferpur is also necessary.

I request the Government through you that we can protect our culture and can earn foreign exchange by developing tourism infrastructure there and the pace of development is also accelerated, so please issue directions the Central Government to include the historical place Sitamarhi in the tourist map of the country. And also kindly construct roads and railway lines there. Thank you

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE (Jabalpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Jabalpur is industrially a backward area. Britishers set-up many defence production units there from defence view points. Today 39 factories are running in the country out of which half a dozen are in Jabalpur. After independence, our Government opened a new factory in Jabalpur. In all 39 factories, recruitment is closed since 1984. Thousands of the employees have since retired, died and medically rejected by the board. But not a single employee has been taken in their place.

I have a request to the Central Government that the bank imposed on recruitment be lifted so that unemployed should get work and the decline in the defence production may be removed.

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT (Nandurbar) : Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Union Government towards the policy of Government of India to provide land to the villages likely to submerge under a project and Khargaon and Akulkula tehsils are the areas which have been affected by Sardar Sarovar Project. Now five tribals of Doob area is being given 10 hectares of land with Bawri and Borwell. The pump with the capacity of 7 hundred and fifty horse power for 10 hectares of land is not going to fully irrigate the land. Therefore, my humble request to Union Government is that the M.I. tank survey done there, the survey of three tanks is Valeri, Ambabari and Appapur, should be cleared by Forest and Environment Ministry. If it clears it early then the affected farmers may get the water for irrigation.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Finance to the prices of titanium dioxide. The Kerala Metals and Minerals Limited and the Travancore Titanium Products, the two major indigenous companies in Kerala, are now facing a severe crisis. This is due to the gross reduction of import duty on titanium dioxide during the last many years. Thousands of workers are engaged in these two major companies and they are also contributing crores of rupees to the public exchequer. It is seen that in the year 1993-94, the import duty on titanium dioxide was 85 per cent. In the year 1994-95, it had been reduced to 65 per cent and in the year 1995-96, it had been reduced to forty per cent. Now, in the 1996-97 Budget, the import duty on titanium dioxide has been reduced to forty per cent. As a consequence of this, the companies are forced to sell their products at less than the cost of production, benefiting multinational companies like Du-Pont in America. During the Budget discussion also, the hon. Minister of Finance had assured the House that the matter would be reviewed if it is adversely affecting the indigenous industry. But so far nothing has been done. So, I urge upon the Finance Minister to reconsider the issue and to review the position arising due to reduced import duty on titanium dioxide in order to save this industry and the workers also.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the subject which I am going to raise, I very well know what the Government will do or not do. I am pursuing this campaign for the last six months. I wish if you could listen to me even for two minutes, I shall be satisfied because in this regard I have lost faith completely in the Government.

There is a sugar mill in my areas which is a Government of India unit. Till last year four crores of rupees of farmers was outstanding against that mill, this year in the month of December, farmers are told that it

will not take their sugarcane. They are going to close down the mill. My request is that if Sugarcane was not to be taken, then they should have told the farmers one year back that they are going to close down this mill. People would have sown paddy, wheat and other foodgrains in place of sugarcane. Sugarcane worth Rs. 5 crores is standing in the field today. From here, the Government says that it will not run the mill in December month. There is Kanpur Sugar works in Saran district and comes under the Textiles Ministry of the Government of India. Apart from this, there is no sugar mill in the vicinity of 200 kilometers. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I also want to say that there is already an areas amounting Rs. four crores. What will happen to that Sugarcane worth Rs. five crores Bihar is ruled by Janta Dal Government.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Rudyjee, listen for one minute. I allowed you because you mentioned about farmers, but your subject was something different. You have written about private insurance.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : You are sitting on this chair, that is why I said so.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is why I have allowed this.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : You kindly tell the Government to do something in this regard.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This was not your subject, despite that I allowed you, now you sit down.

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to bring a matter to the notice of this House which is about the need to pay our heed to the backward classes. 27 percent reservation have been made for the backward classes in the central services. But when I.A.S. examination results were out for 1994, 707 candidates were selected for the 707 posts. Out of them, 204 belonged to the backward classes. Out of them 31 competed in the general quota. Therefore they were elevated 173 were left out, but all could not be accommodated in the Government services. It was said that there is no place for them. Out of 173, 15 successful candidates are still unemployed today and are wandering from pillar to post, there is no hearing for their problems. I have also written to Ministry of Personnel in this regard. But they have replied what they get ready made answers from the lower hierarchy. They have not given any thought to it or gone into the facts to find out reality in this regard or as to what difficulty they have undergone this connection. My demand is that proper inquiry should be conducted in this regard and 15 left out but successful candidates should be given proper place. This may be pointed out that 27 percent of 707 is atleast 190, out of which only 173 candidates have been considered against the reserved quota and even 15 from among them, have been left out. Therefore, the quota of 27 percent should be filled up.

[English]

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI (Amreli) : Thank you, Sir. I want to raise this issue. Under the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, the hon. Tribunal has given its final award in 1978 that the height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam in Gujarat over the Narmada river would be 455 feet. Over this decision of the Tribunal, no review or any change is allowed or permitted by anyone.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nobody should read anything in the Zero Hour. So, please be brief.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Yes, Sir.

However, certain vested interests and Madhya Pradesh State Government are trying to have change in the height of the said dam. The people of Gujarat oppose this malicious device of these vested interests and they will not tolerate any change in the height of Narmada Sardar Sarovar Dam. The Central Government should make its stand very clear over this point.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Narmada River Water Dispute Tribunal has given an award stating that the height of the Narmada Sardar Sarovar Dam should be 455 ft. Despite that, the Prime Minister made a statement in the Press on 9.12.96 regarding that. It is reported in the Press as follows :

"The Prime Minister Shri H.D. Deve Gowda on Sunday said that the height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam recommended by the Narmada Tribunal was not final and Centre would take a decision on it in consultation with the affected States. Talking to the reporters at the Indore Airport, Shri Gowda said that the Union Government would put up its view before the Supreme Court."

[Translation]

Honourable Prime Minister when comes to Gujarat, says that the height of the dam will not be lowered—even by one feet and when he goes there he tells something different. I want that honourable Prime Minister and Central Government should clear the position.

[English]

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (Lakhimpur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I stand here to raise an important issue regarding the shifting of the Corporate Office of the Oil India Limited which was decided in 1991. As per the decision of the Oil India Limited, the Deputy Commissioner of Kamrup District was requested to acquire a plot of land measuring about 300 *bigas* in Greater Guwahati area. That plot was in Mirzapur Village, Polashbari Circle of Kamrup District and Oil India Limited decided to shift the Corporate Office from New Delhi to that place. Since then, Oil India Limited did not take any action. The cultivators cannot use that land either for agricultural purpose or for commercial purpose. They are not paid the compensation also nor