

villages, these villages remain neglected. I, therefore, want to draw your attention towards these villages. I have also written in this regard. I would like to demand here also that these villages should be declared as drought affected areas, their land revenue may be waived off and relief measures be started there.

PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' (Jalesar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you that you have given me an opportunity to draw the attention of the country, through this House, towards the main problem of my constituency. In my constituency also, all the industrial units have either been closed or being closed as per a judgement of the Supreme Court but there is another aspect in it. When the judgement of the Supreme Court was being implemented in my region, it was also stated at that time that my region i.e. Agra, Ferozabad, Etah and Mathura would be provided with uninterrupted power supply for 24 hours in the form of alternative energy and all industrial units would be supplied gas uninterruptedly. But no industrial unit has so far been supplied gas and not to speak of providing power for 24 hours, even at my native place i.e. Ferozabad where the number of factories is the highest and these are running without any foreign assistance, the Government have given no help till today. Sometimes power is not supplied continuously for 24 days in that area.

Sir, through you, I would like to submit that if the Government implement first part of the judgement regarding closing of industrial units, it should implement the second part also which envisages that gas should be supplied regularly and power be made available continuously for 24 hours. Unless the second part of the judgement is implemented, the hope, which was raised by promising to set up gas based industries, among the lakhs of labourers who have been rendered jobless, will not be fulfilled. I am giving an example here. Lakhs of labourers have been rendered jobless in Ferozabad alone and foundry, Sari and other industries are not included in it. Therefore, through you, I would like to submit that the Government should implement the judgement of the Supreme Court there with immediate effect, set up small power stations at a distance of 10-20 kilometer and supply gas to the industries without any further delay.

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT (Hamirpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the news which has appeared prominently in all newspapers of today and that is fodder scam of Bihar. Now-a-days no other news appeals in the newspapers other than scams. All the politicians and officers holding higher Offices are involved in corruption. Some of them have been exposed and others are yet to be exposed. Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government that it should expose those people who are yet to be exposed. I would like to give a suggestion here that the C.B.I. may be directed to make an inquiry into the properties of the present Ministers.

Expunged as ordered by the chair.

former Ministers, Governors, I.A.S. and I.P.S. Officers and all judges. These people may be asked to submit a statement of their properties.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, even Judiciary is not free from corruption today... A former judge has been arrested under FERA. Judges have no clear image so far as corruption is concerned and I.A.S. and I.P.S. officers are already involved in corruption. It is because our Ministers are also involved in corruption. If the leader of the country is involved in corruption, how can we prevent officers from indulging in it. It is a very serious issue, therefore, it should be considered seriously in the House. Supreme Court has exposed many corrupt leaders with the help of the CBI but our Government have not been able to expose even a single Minister and Officer till today. What are the reasons behind it? Is corruption not rampant in the country at present? But the reality is that corruption is prevailing in the country at present also. Why the Government are keeping mum? Our hon'ble Minister Shri Ram Vilas Paswanji is sitting here. He is holding an important Department like Railway. Corruption might have been in that Department also. He should tell as to how many cases of corruption have come to the notice and how many guilty officers have been punished?

Shri Jenaji is also sitting here. What are the reasons for which the Ministers do not consider even a single officer of their Departments involved in corruptions? Can they not fix a target to identify a certain number of corrupt officers every day and to bring them in the dock? Since we have to resolve to do away with corruption, therefore, all of us would have to make efforts. This has become an important issue before the people of the country. Now the situation is that if we come out wearing Khadi clothes, people taunt by saying that Sukhram is going. There was a time when khad was given respect but now it is facing disrespect. Therefore, the House and the Government should consider this important issue seriously. Please tell me what steps are being taken by the Government to do away with corruption?

I want to say one more thing. The Lokpal Bill is likely to be introduced soon. No judge is being associated with the preparation of this Bill. Today, justice is being sold in districts and it is being bought at a price by the rich and the poor are not getting justice. It is the Supreme Court only in which people still have faith.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Some of the words spoken by you have been brought to my notice. I would like to go through them.

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : I want a reply from the Government.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very important matter. The Government of Pakistan have not issued visa to any Sikh living in Kashmir for the last four years. When our Sikh pilgrims who wish to visit Nankana Sahib, apply for visa, their applications are not entertained on the

pretext that they belong to Kashmir which is a disputed area. However, for the last thirty years, people of this area have been visiting Nanakana Sahib. But since the imposition of emergency there the Government of Pakistan are not allowing our Sikh pilgrims to visit the religious places there, particularly Nanakana Sahib. I would like to know the view of Central Government in this regard. The Government should try to solve this problem through International Fora so that atleast, our Sikh pilgrim could be allowed to visit Nanakana Sahib.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, we are glad that though our Prime Minister is very busy, he has visited northeastern States recently. Not only that, he has given a special package of Rs. 6100 crore or something to the people of the northeast. We are unlucky because we are from Barak Valley. We have not got anything except a railway line given by our Railway Minister in the Railway Budget.

But I had hoped that when we met the Prime Minister very recently, he would redress it. But one statement of the hon. Prime Minister has created a lot of unhappiness and confusion and also fear in the minds of the linguistic and religious minorities of Assam. The hon. Prime Minister has declared that they are going to repeal the IMDT Act. This IMDT Act is an Act which is not only to detect, delist or deport foreigners, but it is also a safety valve to protect the real citizens of India who are subject to harassment by the police.

15.00 hrs.

In any part of the country, if there is a foreigner, he is covered by the Foreigners Act, 1946. As per the Foreigners Act, 1946, the onus is on the person on whom the allegation is made to prove that he is not a foreigner, that he is an Indian. But under the IMDT Act, if an allegation is brought by a third party or by the Government, it is also their duty to prove that that person is a foreigner, that he has crossed over illegally, after 1971, without a passport, without a visa, or, if he had come in with a passport and a visa that he has been overstaying.

It also provides that once it is detected by the authorities, he or she would be deprived of becoming a voter for ten years from that date. Subsequently, they would be given nationality provided they fit into the other rules.

Now, I do not blame the Prime Minister. He was either wrongly briefed by his people or he was very keen to continue to get the support of the AGP, which is under pressure from the AASU which insists that the voters' list is not correct. Every time, they get elected with the help of a wrong voters list and they say that it is a wrong voters' list, that it must be reviewed and

recast. But they continue as MLAs and Ministers. This is the funniest part of it. We, the linguistic and religious minorities are subject to so much harassment because of such lists and the foreigners issue. We in the Congress party are totally committed in our stand that no foreigner who has come in after 1971 should stay in Assam, whether he is a Hindu or a Muslim. We have no objection but at the same time we are not willing to see that some instrument is given to the police authorities to harass.

In the past, when there was no Foreigners Act, no IMDT Act, even Assamese with Bhattacharjee, Dutta and Choudhury titles - which are also common among the Bengalis - were served with notices as foreigners. This is a fact. I am representing Assam in Parliament from the '80s. I would make a request to Shri Ram Vilas Paswan who has taken a special interest in the North-East. If there is any amendment to be made anywhere to give some help to the Administration or to the Tribunal, we can discuss that. We are not having a closed mind on that. But by repealing the Act itself or by making some major changes, the thrust of the IMDT Act should not in any way be adulterated. I want to make it clear that if you bring it, one hundred and forty Members of this Party will not vote for you. Our Party's Working Committee has taken the decision and we appeal to you.

I will not blame the Prime Minister. I have also been a Minister and I have also seen that sometimes officials wrongly brief Ministers. So, a similar situation might have arisen and we are ready to forget it. But let this not be pursued.

I am grateful to you for giving me a chance. There are allegations appearing in newspapers regarding Army excesses in Assam in finding out the terrorists. But terrorist activities must be stopped. Recently, Shri Adyani was also there in Assam. On both these issues, he and the Congress party have different views. But they have also said that harassment must be stopped. In the name of detecting ULFA, you should not harass the innocent citizens of the country. It is happening and it must be stopped. I would request Shri Paswan to have a discussion with the Minister of Home Affairs, who sometimes does not know the head or tail of it. He said the other day that it would be repealed and on the next day... (Interruptions) He was accompanying the Prime Minister. This is why I am saying this. He knows the North-East. I am sure he has not briefed the Prime Minister... (Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : Sir, I only support the views expressed by Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we are resuming discussion under Rule 193. Shri K.S.R. Murthy was on his legs.

(Interruptions)