

[Shri Ashok Pradhan]

and Jewar dam are two such dams, which were flooded last time with water. Last time in Sikandra tehsil 22 villages were submerged under Yakoobpur dam and 28 villages were submerged under Jewar dam water. At that time Mr. Jena gave me an assurance that this will not recur in future but almost the whole year has passed and only after two months, the rainy season would set in and nothing has been done so far there.

Last time army was called there. My elder brother Shri Rajesh Pilot also supported me in this matter. The situation is very bad there. This time also, if flood comes again 22 villages will be submerged under Yakoobpur dam water and 28 villages will be submerged under Jewar dam water, because these dams have breached. Last time Government gave the assurance but nothing was done. Shri Jena ji specially mentioned but nothing has been done, the whole year is passing.

I would like to request you to kindly draw the attention of the Government in this regard which is sitting with its eyes and ears closed. This time also fifty villages of my area will be submerged under water. I would request to Shri Rajesh Pilot also to say something in this matter.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Last time, the hon. Minister had promised that he would check up with the U.P. Government and certainly see that needful was done. Now one year has passed. You ask the U.P. administration to take action . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wait

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Balua) : Mr. Chairman Sir, the question raised by hon'ble member was raised last year also vociferously. U.P. suffers heavy losses due to floods in the rivers. Not only floods occur in the Ganga, Ghagra and Yamuna rivers but soil is also eroded by them. All the districts situated on the banks of the rivers beyond Kanpur face problems. Government undertakes its work at the time of flood and consequently all the money goes waste.

In our districts there has been erosion by both in Ghaghra and Ganga rivers. The village of Shri Jai Prakash is in the danger. I have been requesting the Govt. for the last three years and Govt. promises every year but they

don't undertake the work until there flood and crores of rupees will either go waste or remains only on the papers. Why does it happen. I fail to understand. Why Govt. does not start work in time. You are requested to exercise your power. Shri Jenaji is here. You ask the Government that they should be conscious of it and do the needful for the purpose.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Chairman, Sir Shall I add something to it. Last time when we visited the spot Hon'ble Prime Minister was also with us. The seniors officers told us about the certain amount of money spent on it. At that time junior officers were also there. When I asked them as to why some concrete work is not in sight when so much amount has been spent on it ? Half of the village was submerged under the water and perhaps a child also died there. Later on action had also been taken against that officer. Thereafter the higher officers of the area had assured that next time we would form a special task force and get the job executed well in advance.

I would like to tell the minister that these things should strictly be enquired by the Govt. and ascertain the facts. If no accountability is fixed, the matter would be raised and dropped without any positive result. Last time, you had given an assurance here that you would get it done expeditiously through the U.P. Government. Please inform the House about the action taken so far by Govt. of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs may please bring this matter to the notice of the Minister of Water Resources and may inform the hon. Members who have raised the matter in the House. Let them be sent a reply.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar) : Mr. Chairman, most of the time, part-time correspondents employed by the Regional news unit of AIR, Calcutta on contract basis at a remuneration of Rs. 500 per month are rendering their service on regular basis as they are covering as many as 13 news bulletins which are regularly broadcast through AIR, Calcutta including rural news bulletins.

Since they have got no other means of sustenance, I would suggest that the Minister of Information and Broadcasting may consider the expediency of creating the post of part time correspondents on a permanent basis in view of the fact that it is a full-time job.