

(iv) Need to provide financial assistance to State Government of Madhya Pradesh for industrial development of Balaghat district.

SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT (Balaghat) : Mr. Chairman, Balaghat district is a 'no industry' district. Lakhs of educated unemployed youths go from pillar to post in search of gainful employment there. Even after 50 years of independence, the needed industrial Development has not taken place there as a result of which, discontent is brewing among the young people, who are on the verge of revolt and are engaging themselves in numerous activities. Naxalite activities are going on in Balaghat district and a good member of young people are taking part in them.

The district is rich in mineral wealth (copper, manganese, dolomite and marble) and forest wealth (bamboo and fine wood). Government should make efforts to set up industries based on paddy and soyabean there. Government assistance should be provided to encourage industries in the 'no industry' districts so as to solve the unemployment problem and engage the youth in constructive activities.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to provide special economic assistance to the State Government for industrial development in this area ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Mr. Chairman, it is highly improper. These persons may hold their conference outside. We have no objection to that but they should not do so in the House.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members who want to go out, they can go out and talk.

(v) Need to improve the functioning of public telephones in Sitamarhi district, Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the Sitamarhi district of Bihar, about 115 M.A.A.K. system public telephones have been installed in various post-offices and Panchayat buildings out of them, not a single telephone is at present in working order, resulting in a great deal of inconvenience to the people in rural areas. These people have to trek a distance of about 18-20 kilometres to reach the market to be able to contact their relations on phone. Ever since the introduction of M.A.A.R. telephone system, all the instruments have gone out of order after having functioned for about six months or at the most one year whereas an M.A.A.R. phone-set costs the Government about Rs.3 lakhs. Thus crores of rupees have been blocked in this unproductive scheme of the Government.

The officers of the District office of the Telecommunication Department, when contacted, come out with the State reply that they have no means to rectify M.A.A.R. telephones. Besides there is shortage

of technicians. To rectify these telephones, engineers have to be called from Lucknow and Bangalore. For want of engineers, the telephones all over the State and the district have been lying out of order.

I request the Central Government to appoint engineers in every district of Bihar at the earliest in order to get the dead M.A.A.R. telephones rectified in all the districts and provide resources for the maintenance of these instruments.

12.44 hrs.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

(vi) Need to Declare Amravati District in Maharashtra As Industrially Backward District

[English]

SHRI ANANT GUDHE (Amravati) : There are four districts included in the Amravati Revenue Division of Maharashtra State i.e. Amravati, Akola, Yeotmal, Buldhana. Amravati district has one municipal corporation and nine municipal councils. Water, road transportation, air-communication are available there. Amravati district has many good educational institutions, engineering and medical courses are also available there. Amravati city is connected with the main railway junction like Badnera and national highway No.6.

Though these facilities are available, yet there is no major industrial organisation in the district. Unemployment problem has become very acute and more than five lakhs youth are without gainful employment.

I request the Union Government to declare Amravati district as industrially backward district.

(vii) Need to clear Barauni Flood Control Project of Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH (Balia) (Bihar) : Barauni Flood Control Project of Bihar is pending clearance from the Ministry of Water Resources of the Central Government. A severe erosion of the Ganga river is taking place at Barauni Madhuspur. Thousands of people have been rendered homeless. Standing crop in the fields have been destroyed.

The Central Government is requested to undertake rehabilitation of the displaced people and make arrangements for the safety of Barauni Madhuspur and Barauni Junctions, the oil refinery and the fertilizer factory.

(viii) Need to set up Teaching Hospital as a Branch of AIIMS at Biswanath Charali, Assam

[English]

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (Tezpur) : The North Bank of Brahmaputra consisting of six districts of

Assam with a population of nearly one crore is without a full-fledged hospital equipped with adequate modern diagnostic facilities. The hospitals in District Headquarters are small, ill-equipped and overcrowded. There are no facilities or personnel for specialist treatment at all. As a result, serious and chronic patients have to go all the way across the river to Guwahati Medical College Hospital and in most cases to All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Delhi at tremendous cost, inconvenience and, above all, risk of life.

Therefore, the Ministry of Health is requested to consider setting up a Teaching Hospital as a Branch of AIIMS at Biswanath Charali, an hour's drive from Tejpur Airport and nearest to Arunachal Pradesh. Apart from filling a void, this measure will bring relief to thousands of ailing Patients who are making a bee-line to AIIMS, Delhi every month all the way from remote Assam and the North-Eastern States.

12.47 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :-

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 31st July, 1996, agreed without any amendment to the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1996, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 30th July, 1996."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 1976, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 31st July, 1996."

12.47½ hrs.

Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 1996 As passed by Rajya Sabha

SECRETARY GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Bill, 1996, as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 31st July, 1996.

12.48 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL
OF THE BUILDING AND OTHER
CONSTRUCTION WORKERS THIRD ORDINANCE,
1996

BUILDING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION
WORKERS BILL

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL
OF THE BUILDING AND OTHER
CONSTRUCTION WORKERS' WELFARE CESS
THIRD ORDINANCE, 1996

AND

BUILDING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION
WORKERS' WELFARE CESS BILL - Contd.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Members, in the Business Advisory Committee, it was decided that the House will now take up the Building and Other Construction Workers Bill as it has to go to Rajya Sabha.

Secondly, in the meeting with the Leaders of all the political Parties, the amendments were discussed and the Government was very kind to accept the amendments moved by the respective Members. It was decided that since the Government has accepted all the amendments, there would be no further discussion and the Bill would be straightaway passed.

Now I would request the hon. Minister to give his reply to the debate.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Sir, amendments have not been circulated to the Members ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : They have been circulated.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : All the Parties were present and everybody had accepted it. The Government was very gracious enough to accept all the amendments.

Now, the hon. Minister will reply.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SAGAR (Barabanki) : Mr. Speaker, wish to make a submission.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Home Minister has just now made a statement. You talk to him. I will also speak to him later.

[English]

Now, I would request the hon. Minister to give his reply.