

[Translation]

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH: Madam Chairperson, I have talked about security.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is alright, the honourable Minister has given reply to the question.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Madam, Chairperson, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the government a problem of my constituency. In my Parliamentary constituency, there is a vast area of cantonment where civilian people also live in a good number. Several villages are also connected with the cantonment but it is unfortunate that administrative officers of the cantonment close the passages without any prior notice. My colleagues standing before me who belong to Samajwadi Party are related with it but not listening to me. Recently a road was closed which is near to Bhartul village. The population of that village is 5000. Hundreds of acres of land is cultivated by the people there but they could not produce Rabi crop on that land after the road was closed and they are facing this problem today. This has happened due the approach of commanding officer of the Medical Field unit Ambulance Battalion. I have written also in this regard.

Madam Chairperson, through you I want to say to the Defence Minister that if necessary, the road should be closed, nobody has objection to it but the city people living in those areas have to make to and fro and some arrangement should be made for them. For this, the administrative officers of the cantonment area should be instructed that in the interest of villagers the proper steps should be taken and the road for movement should be opened.

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (SAMBALPUR): Madam Chairman, I want to raise an issue relating to an unprecedented and irresponsible move by the Director-General, National Water Development Agency to shift the Chief Engineer's office located at Bhubaneswar to Allahabad. Not only this move is grossly illogical but it also has vested interest.

The National Water Development Agency is an autonomous society under the Ministry of Water Resources and was instituted in 1982 by the then hon Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. After an expert study, the feasibility report has told that the office of the Chief Engineer should be located in Bhubaneswar and it cannot be shifted. But unfortunately, due to some political reason of something else which has been there, the Director-General has already instructed to shift it to Allahabad.

The Chief Minister of Orissa has written a letter to the Prime Minister and to Shri Janeshwar Mishra telling that the State Government is very much concerned over this news item.

At present, the office of the Chief Engineer (North),

National Water Development Agency, Bhubaneswar is taking up survey and investigation of Manasa-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga and Ganga-Subarnrekha-Mahanadi-Godabari link canals. The above works will take considerable time for completion and for satisfactory progress of these works, it is imperative that the headquarters of the Chief Engineer (North), National Water Development Agency should continue at Bhubaneswar, furthermore there is bound to be severe public resentment if an office functioning for several years at Bhubaneswar is shifted for no apparent valid reasons.

Meanwhile, the former Chief Minister and late lamented leader Shri Biju Patnaik also had written a letter to Shri Janeshwar Mishra. I quote his letter. It says:

"I am enclosing a copy of notice dated 12th March, 1997 regarding shifting of Chief Engineer (North), National Water Development Agency from Bhubaneswar.

Although you had given me personal telephonic assurance on 17.2.97 that the proposal of shifting is cancelled, I will be grateful if you have taken any action in this regard, as assured by you again on 17.3.97 on telephone."

In this connection, the hon. Minister of Water Resources Shri Janeshwar Mishra has received a minimum of 25 letters from the hon. Members of Parliament, from the Legislators of the State, from the Chief Minister and also from the former Chief Minister and late lamented leader Shri Biju Patnaik. But he has not yet acknowledged even to the letter of the present Minister Shri Srikanta Jena also, which is most unfortunate.

Madam, Orissa has, always, been facing drought, flood and cyclone intermittently.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If one person speaks for five to ten minutes then the rest of the members will not get an opportunity to speak.

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Madam, the post of the Chief Engineer (North), National Water Development Agency at Bhubaneswar was sanctioned by the late Shrimati Indira Gandhi. If the headquarter of the Chief Engineer's office is shifted to Allahabad, about 150 workers of Orissa, who are working there in different capacities, will be affected. In addition to that, the catchment area of not only Orissa, but also of West Bengal, Assam and Bihar also will not be taken care of.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Bhoi, please conclude in five seconds. Otherwise, nothing will go on record.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Madam, I am just concluding.

So, I request the present Government and the Minister to immediately give a categorical assurance on the floor

[Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi]

of the House that the order of shifting of the Chief Engineer's office from Bhubaneswar to Allahabad would be cancelled.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should listen to me for one minute. I humbly request you to sum up your speech in two minutes so that everyone should get an opportunity. If one speaks for ten minutes then nobody would get opportunity.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUKHLAL KUSHWAHA (SATNA): I would speak for five minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You sum up in two minutes.

After that this would not go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Kushwahaji, please you speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUKHLAL KUSHWAHA: We do not interfere into others affairs, then how can we speak in such circumstances. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Madam, I want an assurance from the Government. (Interruptions) The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present here and he can respond to this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; he is not required to react to every matter. If he wants to give a reply, he can do so.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Madam Chairman, I would bring this issue to the notice of the Minister of Water Resources, Shri Janeshwar Mishra, positively.

[Translation]

SHRI SUKHLAL KUSHWAHA: Madam Chairperson, after attending the session on 3rd, I went to the tribal areas of Satna of my constituency. The law and order situation has deteriorated there. Parmasia plateau is the land of 90,000 tribals. At the behest of the people sitting at the helm of affairs 'jungle raj' is being run there. I would like to attract the attention of the government towards that situation. The poor tribals of forest are detained under fake charges and when they are detained their children starve. They knock at the doors of administration and leaders, but nobody pays any attention to them. They have a right over the forest's produce. That is the means of livelihood of those persons and their children. In jungle, influential persons like Mahera and Cher are given contract. However, there is no constitutional provision for it and after awarding contracts through illicit means they are tortured and exploited. When tribals oppose it, administrative machinery and power is misused and police visit there, conduct raids

Their crematorium and agricultural land is captured by them and they are called naxalites. I have come after making a seven day's visit there. They do not have water, clothing, bread but they are harassed by calling them naxalites. Therefore the administrative mechanism is not in order there. Therefore through you I want to make a humble request that an investigation team should be constituted over the oppression being committed on them.

The tribals are leaving that area due to the harassment by the Police, and the powerful feudal lords who have been a terror in that area have established their chaotic regime there and usurping the forest produces belonging to tribals which is sole means of their livelihood. They have also captured the mining area. Due to these reasons, the tribals of that area are living in a state of terror.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It can not go like this, please take your seat.

SHRI SUKHLAL KUSHWAHA: Therefore, I would request the august House that an inquiry committee may be constituted and the false trial cases against tribals may be revoked and also the D.M. and S.P. who are Administrative officers of that area must be ordered not to implicate them in false cases and they should be transferred to elsewhere.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record now.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would give opportunity to all one by one.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let men give due share to women only then they will be able to get reservation.....

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Sahib, I shall call your name also.

SHRI MAJOR SINGH UBOKE (TARANTARAN): Madam, Chairperson, I would like to draw the attention of Hon'ble Minister for Railways towards the tragic railway accident and request him to make a statement on it. On 22nd March, 1997 at about 12.15 P.M. a railway accident occurred on Amritsar-Jalandhar-Delhi main line under Northern Railways. This accident occurred at Railway crossing near the Vyas Railway Station. The railway crossing was unmanned. Nobody was knew that any train was to pass through that area at that time. Many people were going to Anandpur Sahib Hala Mohalla by a tractor trolley. As the tractor-trolley approached towards the railway crossing via Baba Bakala, suddenly a train came towards Amritsar killing five persons—Shri Ajit Singh, Shri Kanwal Preet Singh, Shri