

[Translation]

**SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, around three thousand labourers have been retrenched in the Forest Department during the last years in Uttarakhand region which also includes the employees of Forest Corporation who have been continuously serving in the Forest Development since the last 15-20 years. An agitation is going against the retrenchment of these labourers, they are staging relay fast and fast unto death. All of them are poor labourers and due to retrenchment they are on the verge of starvation. Not only this, around 2000 labourers of Water Corporation have been retrenched on the pretext that the Corporation does not have any funds to give them salary. Thus, due to retrenchment of 5000 labourers of Forest Department, Forest Corporation and Water Corporation of Uttar Pradesh and their families are on the verge of starvation. On the one hand, the Government like of providing security and social justice to the labourers but on the other hand, labourers are being retrenched in Uttaranchal region. I had raised this issue yesterday also and the hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has also noticed this issue. I want that the Government should intervene in this matter immediately as there is President's rule in Uttar Pradesh at present and how long it can continue but I want that the Government should issue necessary directions in this regard to save the labourers from starvation there. All these labourers had been working for the last 10 to 15 years on the wages of Rs. 35/- per day. I urge upon Government that their outstanding wages should be paid without any delay and action be taken to reinstate them.

**SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN (Sri Ganganagar) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to raise the voice of lakhs of farmers of my constituency in this House. In my Parliamentary constituency Sri Ganganagar, on Indo-Pak border there are such areas like Tibbi, Rawatson, Pilibaga Tehsil Headquarter where dampness has developed in the entire land of the farmers due to which life of the farmers is ruining. The houses of farmers have submerged in water. The Govt. of Rajasthan has provided an amount of Rs. eight crore for this problem but it is not sufficient. I urge upon the Government that an amount of Rs. 50 crore may be provided to the Government of Rajasthan without any delay to save the farmers of my constituency so that dampness in land can be checked and water can be collected at one place.

**SHRI TILAK RAJ SINGH (Sidhi) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to thank you as you have given me an opportunity to raise my point in the House. Due to uncertainty of monsoon, Kharif and Rabi crops have been badly affected during this year in the entire Sidhi district of Madhya Pradesh. The people of several Tehsils

like Churhat, Rampur Naikin, Singhawal, Devson, Gopadvatas etc. of Sidhi district are migrating to Bihar and Uttar Pradesh to earn their livelihood. I would like to submit the Government to declare Sidhi district as famine affected district and relief work should be started there. Famine affected people may be given employment immediately and instructions should be issued to the State Government to waive of the land revenue of the farmers of Sidhi district.

[English]

**SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, as you are aware, we are on the threshold of the Ninth Five Year Plan. In spite of the eight Five Year Plans having been implemented so far covering a period of more than four decades, the very noble purpose underlying the planning process, that is, elimination of poverty and regional imbalance, has not been achieved to our satisfaction.

On the other hand, the regional imbalance is on the increase. There is more and more poverty in some States like Bihar and Orissa. Because of the inability of certain States to raise required internal resources, even such States are not able to avail of the Plan outlay fixed by the Planning Commission and the Government of India. This is a very funny and tragic situation obtaining in our country. National unity is much more needed for our country. In fact, it is threatened. Unless poverty is eradicated and growing regional imbalance is contained, this cannot be done. We are on the threshold of the Ninth Five Year Plan and last evening, as reported in the Press, the Cabinet has considered the 9th Draft Plan Approach Paper. Parliament being supreme and sovereign, it is essential that this Approach Paper is discussed in this House before finalisation of our Plan by the Government of India and the Planning Commission. It is very essential that this House should discuss different aspects relating to the Approach Paper of the Ninth Plan. This way, we will get an opportunity to express our views. That would also help the Government to finalise the Plan, in right perspective. Since the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is present here, I would request the hon. Minister to see that this is debated in Parliament.

**DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (Lakhimpur) :** I want to draw the attention of the House about the recent meeting convened by the Minister of Agriculture which was convened for identifying low productivity areas in the country in terms of agricultural output. It is unfortunate that the map presented by the Expert Committee in that meeting, did not contain the North-Eastern region.

You know, the North-Eastern region is an economically backward area. This is also industrially backward because of lack of adequate infrastructural facilities. But unfortunately, the map which was provided

by the Committee headed by an eminent agricultural scientist Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, did not show the North-Eastern region. It was missing from that. I request the hon. Speaker to make an immediate inquiry to know why this type of indifference was shown. It was done by the Expert Committee who are responsible for making the perspective planning for the entire country.

SHRI A.C. JOS (Idukki) : I have also given a notice but I do not find my name.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will have to get it approved.

SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS (Karimganj) : Sir, Hailakandi sub-post office of Hailakandi district of Assam remains neglected for years together. There has been a shortage of staff for the last five or six years. It depends on the Silchar post office of Cachchar district for its whole financial affairs. Hailakandi district is one of the districts of my constituency Karimganj (SC). It has three MLA segments. It has got at least five lakhs of people and only a sub-post office cannot fulfil the aspirations of five lakh people.

Sir, I have tried my best through Zero Hour, through Matters Under Rule 377 and through other correspondents to make this sub post office as one post office but till date, there has been no effect.

So, I urge upon the Government, particularly, the Ministry of Communications to kindly look into the matter and update the sub post office of Hailakandi as a post office at a very early date so that the aspirations of five lakh people of that area could be fulfilled.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, for last many days I was trying to raise this matter in zero hour. I thank you for giving me time to speak. First of all I want to say that in one region of Our Prime Minister who has been called the son of soil.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have put up about Scheduled caste...

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Two youths have been killed in your constituency, you have given notice about that.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : I am saying the same thing that he has been called son of soil and in Jahanabad constituency in Bihar poor Harijan people had been murdered by the landlords.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This matter relates to your State.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : This is not the matter of State. This is the matter of Harijan.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Not Harijan you say Scheduled Caste.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : You please listen with patience as to what is happening. You belong to Bihar. You are living near our border. The question is that there is a Police Station in Dihori village. Two youths of Dihori math have been murdered by kidnapping them from their houses on 15th. They have been murdered after involving them in the false case of theft. I would like to submit that such murders have been committing there continuously. Some times ago, a 24 years old youth, Arjun Kahar was caught and his throat had been chopped in that village another youth Raja was also murdered there. DLP Saurabh Kumar is behind these murders. He has filled the case after getting money from landlords. I would like to submit that both the youths were our supporters that is why they had been murdered. They did not want to be destroyed by these landlords. They were demanding their wages both the youths were termed as a leader by these landlords and they were murdered. I demand from the Govt. of India that Rupees two lakh should be given to the parents of the youths as a compensation and murderers should be punished because such type of murders are being committing in connivance with the Police. With these words I conclude.

SHRI SOHAN BEER : I would like to draw your attention towards the power pilferage in Uttar Pradesh...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Hazarika, you will get a chance to raise your issue if your name is there in the list. But then, you will have to keep patience.

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, I also want to raise a very important issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jos, how will you get a chance when your name is not there in the list?

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, I have also given a notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you had given a notice, it would not have been accepted.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jos, do not waste time and now please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI SOHAN BEER : Mr. Chairman Sir, country's 70 percent population are rural and there is no power in the villages from 7 P.M. to 7 A.M. There is no power at the time of milching the cattles due to which people feel inconvenience in milching the cattles. I would like to say that power supply should be maintained in villages from 7.00 P.M. to 7.00 A.M. The second point is that the transformers of the farmers have burnt. They have to wait upto six months for their replacement. You should fix a time limit (4-5 days) for the replacement of the burnt transformers. The officers in the electricity