

by the 9th Finance Commission, the State would have been entitled for additional transfer of Rs. 2,102 crore. Further more, the Commission has not recommended the plan deficit grant. Orissa alongwith Bihar and Uttar Pradesh has been identified as a State with high fiscal stress. Even then, it is a matter of regret that the Commission has recommended debt relief of a meagre amount of Rs. 17.50 crore only during the period 1995-2000.

In view of such an unfavourable recommendation of the 10th Finance Commission, the request of the Orissa Government to write off as a special dispensation of Rs. 2,100 crore from the outstanding debt of the State Government needs reconsideration by Government of India.

(iv) Need to take up mining of Iron ore in Mountain Ranges in Sambuvarayar District, Tamil Nadu

*SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (Tirupattur) : Thiruvannamalai's Kauthi hill and mountain ranges nearby in Thiruvannamalai Sambuvarayar district are found to have large deposits of quality iron ore. As early as in 1960, the geological experts of both the Centre and the State have identified the deposits that could give quality steel. This iron ore deposits could contribute to the raw material needs of the country and we may also export them. This would help us to overcome the problem of inadequate supply of raw material. We can increase production. Taking into consideration all these factors, we must make use of the iron ore deposits found in and around Thiruvannamalai in a big way that will be useful to the country. This will help the nation to increase production and may give rise to employment opportunity in Thiruvannamalai Sambuvarayar district. I wish the Union Government takes up this project soon. Both for mining and setting up a processing plant, enough Government land is available there. Since my district and the surrounding region are industrially backward, Union Government should take up immediate steps. I request the Union Government to take suitable action to build infrastructure facilities there. If need be both Finance and Industry Ministries should draw-up an action plan to give impetus to industrial growth in industrially backward areas like my constituency which have rich and vast deposits of iron ore and other natural mineral wealth.

(v) Need to declare Dumariaganj in Siddharth Nagar, U.P. of flood affected area and provide immediate economic assistance to U.P. Government to combat flood situation.

[Translation]

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI (Dumariaganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the floods have affected my constituency

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

Dumariaganj in Siddharth Nagar district again on 13.8.96 and earlier it was flooded on 14.7.96 as a result of which large scale loss of life and property was suffered and roads got breached. We have hardly recovered from the vagaries of the earlier floods, two thirds of my district again was affected by the floods second time. The Naugarh, Basi, Etawah and Dumariaganj tehsils were totally inundated. There are reports of loss of human life and cattle. More than 200 villages have been submerged. Roads are breached, Communications have been disrupted. More than 25,000 hectre land has been affected but no assistance has come from the State Government. The flood affected people are not getting the supply of wheat, kerosene, salt matchboxes etc. in sufficient quantity. Depsite repeated request from the district administration initial assistance of about Rs. 15 lakh has not reached the district.

It is therefore requested that the Uttar Pradesh Government should be directed to make financial assistance available without delay and the Central Government should send a study team to assess and prepare a report of the loss suffered. The district should be declared as flood prone area and permanent measures should be taken for controlling the floods.

12.41 hrs.

[English]

At this stage, Shri Ilyas Azmi and some other hon. Members sat on the floor near the Table.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KANSHI RAM (Hoshiarpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may be given an opportunity of speak something. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, Mr. Kanshi Ram, you cannot speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Sir, you can hear both the sides. You may hear Samajwadi Party first and then the BSP leader. Otherwise, the House cannot function in this manner... (Interruptions)

12.43 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Ilyas Azmi and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

(Interruptions)