

Sir, this year again there is a loss of Rs. 500 crores. 31 human lives have been lost, 1200 Cattles have died and 1,500 houses have collapsed. In addition to this, three lakh hectares of land has been affected. In Solan district, one whole village Ramshehr has sunk. Villages like Bontha and Kanala have also collapsed. Hindustan-Tibet road is not functioning. Kangra-Jamna roads has collapsed and because of this vehicular traffic has stopped there. Fruit growers are facing a lot of difficulties. Their goods will perish if proper action is not taken immediately. Similarly, Manali has also totally collapsed. Rivers Beas, Yamuna, Sutlej and Ravi are on spate and people have started shifting from their banks.

I request the Central Government to send immediate relief to Himachal Pradesh, otherwise we are going to face a lot of difficulties.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a serious matter. One United States-based Human Genome Diversity Project is clandestinely procuring human genetic resources from indigenous Indian communities through several hospitals in the country.

Sir, it is reported that the controversial three billion dollar project is collecting about 1,00,000 human genome from all over the country. The biological samples including blood, semen, perspiration, bone marrow, hair and the like from the targeted communities are being quietly exported to the US. A Hyderabad-based hospital, for instance is exporting blood samples drawn from certain individuals who are believed to be carrying genes responsible for the eye disease *retinis pigmentosa* to the National Eye Institute in Washington.

Sir, the targeted Indian communities are Gauds, Thakurs, Nairs, Cholanaikayans and Kadars, Lohanas and Jats as well as endangered tribes like the Onges and Shompen from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

We can understand if turmeric is being patented in the US but if a Thakur or Jat is patented in America then what will happen to this country! This is a serious matter. There is no check on such exports but for an Indian Council of Medical Research Committee which, in turn, is pathetically inadequate to protect the country's rights. We have no regulatory body to monitor them.

I demand that export of human material should be with the knowledge of the Government and that should be checked. This is a serious matter. The Government should take a note of it and make a statement in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Hon. Mr. Speaker, I want to draw the attention of the Government and the country to the Agra Heritage Project which was prepared to attract tourists to Taj Mahal. In the name of keeping the surroundings clean and removing encroachments, people who were settled there in the time of Shahjehan are being uprooted. But no efforts are being made to remove filth from the city of Taj and to provide civil amenities to the people. The administration is also not properly putting before the Supreme Court the matters relating to the Taj Protected Area. As a result, a situation of great uncertainty is prevailing there. The people are in a sorry plight and they are being exploited. The interests of the Taj Protected Area are not being served. The Agra Heritage Project envisages setting up of a Development Authority for Taj Protected Area and an all round development of that area. I therefore, appeal to the Tourism Minister to implement the Taj Heritage Project immediately and make a statement in the House in this regard. I request the hon. Minister that huge sums amounting to crores of rupees that have been spent by the Government of India and America on this ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa): Sir, I am on a point of procedure. I am seeing for the last 15 days that Shri Chandra Shekhar is shifting from the Congress benches to the Congress benches. He is not sitting in the original bench. A call has been given to the Congressmen who left after 1969 to come. Had he accepted it? I do not know. The Working Committee has given a call. Had he accepted it?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is an aspersion and I shall like to explain it. My friend, Shri Rajesh Pilot, is a little demoralised. He wanted a morale booster. So, I said those things ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra): Sir, I have not yet completed my point. The hon. Minister is present here ... (Interruptions). He wants to give a response ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, you please sit down. Kindly listen to Shri Jena.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, the hon. Member from Agra has raised the issue of Taj Mahal and the Mother Heritage Centre. I fully appreciate his feelings. I had a detailed discussion with him.

On the Mother Heritage Centre, I am going to call a meeting. I hope, whatever has been recommended by the Heritage Centre, after a high-level meeting, can be implemented. I also invite the hon. Member to that meeting so that we can take a view on that.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Thank you.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani): Sir, it is a matter of grave concern that a major part of Orissa, that is, mostly the Western Orissa including Bolangir, Phulbani, Sonpur, Boudh and Ganjam districts have been affected by severe and acute drought. This is very much an unprecedented one. There has been rape, murder and so many other things because of the migration of women, men and children due to drought condition. Therefore, I seek your indulgence to give a direction to the Government that they should send a delegation to Orissa to take stock of the situation, to provide necessary relief operation and also to give report thereof.

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagarkurnool): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that in the recently constituted Planning Commission, there is no representative from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Previously there used to be one representative from the Scheduled castes and one from the Scheduled Tribes. By this action, 25 per cent of the total population of the country is going unrepresented. Sir, through you, I request the Government. As there is no bar, there is no limit on the membership—to select one candidate from the Scheduled Castes and one from the Scheduled Tribes and to include them as representatives in the Planning Commission.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh): Sir, incessant rains during the last two or three days have caused great damage in the centrally Administered Area of Chandigarh. It has a population of eight lakhs ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Katheria, you have not given any notice.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Out of a population of eight lakhs, nearly two lakh people live in Villages and colonies. They do not have electricity and water connections. Heavy rains have resulted in accumulation of two feet deep water and there are no means of draining out the water. The English paper 'Tribune' has printed a photo on its front page. There is a colony named Dr. Ambedkar Nagar near Dhanas Village where the nullah is over-flowing endangering the entire colony being washed away.

Sir, I am making two demands because the Centrally Administered area has no income of its own. All the

finances come from the Central Government. I request the Government that a grant of at least Rs. 5 crores may be sanctioned so that the people of that area may get electricity and water connections because the electric connections have been cut off and the people are living in darkness. The streets are under two feet deep water, but the people are not getting water to drink. Houses and *jhuggis* are crumbling due to the effect of rains. I request that they may be paid compensation for this loss. I again urge upon the Government to sanction a grant of at least Rs. 5 crores to save the Administration from the burden.

[English]

SHRI M. KAMALUDDIN AHMED (Hanamkonda): Sir, I wish to bring to your notice the serious violation of human rights going on in my State. Ever since the ban has been re-imposed on the activities of People's War Group and its associated organization by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, there has been a tremendous increase in the number of killings of the young political activists in the so-called encounters with the police. It is a common knowledge of the people that those encounters were all fake and the young men are simply picked up from the villages and killed by the police. It is a sheer violation of human rights. This is happening all over Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh and more so, in my constituency, Hanamkonda. I urge upon the Government to see that these above-said killings are stopped forthwith.

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the 8th August, 1996, the C.B.I. registered a case under section 8 of the Prevention of Corruption Act against the corruption king Sukh Ram and on the 16 August, they recovered Rs. 3.76 crores from his Delhi residence kept in a suit case in the workshop room. Since then, from 8th August till today, he has not been arrested by the Government and we were deceived into believing that he would be arrested before the end of the Parliament session. The Supreme Court has today Charged C.B.I. with deliberately delaying ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You have made your points. Please give chance to your colleagues.

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA: Mr. Sukh Ram should be arrested today itself, before the end of the session of Parliament. He should not be given time ... (Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record. We have still seven minutes and seven Members can speak.

*Not recorded.