

the Parliament of that area are informed about the visit so that they could meet him in regard to local problems. The practice was being followed till recently but the hon. Prime Minister or Minister of the New Government do not inform about their visits.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whenever the hon. President or the Vice President visits any place, the hon. Members are informed about it. Recently the hon. President visited Maharashtra and he had informed all the Members of Parliament of Maharashtra through a letter. I presume that everyone would be following this practice. I would request you, to kindly advise all the hon. Minister and the hon. Prime Minister to inform the local members of Parliament whenever they go on tour. It is very difficult to visit Delhi again and again. I demand that the new Government should also follow the old healthy practice. It would be better if you give a direction in this regard. Sir, there was an exception when Shri Chaturanan Mishra had informed about his visit to Mumbai but his letter reached us after his visit ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (BARH) : You also did not inform us ...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : We are not informed whenever anyone visits West Bengal.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER) : The hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Ministers visited Ajmer four times but we were not informed.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH (JAHANABAD) : Are you not going to call me to speak ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am going to call you just now.

*[English]*

SHRI MADHUKER SARPOTEDAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST) : I would like to add to what the hon. Member Shri Ram Naik has said. Whenever we write letters to Ministers, it is necessary that first we get an acknowledgement of that and then we should get the reply. This is the practice prevailing everywhere. But some of the ministers are not following this practice.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please ensure that the four programmes of the ministers and the Prime Minister are sent to the MPs.

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGNUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : I assure that the hon. Members will be informed about the four programmes in future.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH. : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, a serious accident took place in my constituency. Thirty youths, both male and female, were crossing some river by boat near Masadpur village on 26th. Their boat capsized and all of them died due to drowning. They were all labourers and were engaged in nation building works. It was a very painful incident. All the members of their families are aggrieved. I demand from the Government of India to grant compensation to the bereaved families so that they could get some of relief in the hour of distress.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (BAREILLY) : Mr. Deputy Speakers Sir, I want to raise an important problem of sugarcane farmers of Uttar Pradesh and would like to request the Government, through you, to consider the problem seriously. The hon. Prime Minister visited Uttar Pradesh time and again. He admitted twice that Rs 500 crore as outstanding amount of the farmers in U.P. was still to be paid. But unfortunately, the promises proved to be election promises only. So far as I know, only Rs. 429 crore have been paid in the form of Indira Vikas Patra. It is not doing any good to farmers. Rs. 500 crore are still to be paid to farmers as sugarcane dues. The farmers are worried. The heavy rain has become a stumbling block in finding a solution to the problems of the farmers and their dues of sugarcane are also not being paid. Surprisingly, all sugar mills are running into losses and I doubt if the sugar mills will function properly in future. I would like the Government to be serious about this and ensure timely functioning of the sugar mills and cash payment of farmers dues. Issuing Indira Vikas Patra will not solve the problems of the farmers. On the contrary, it will aggravate their problems.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir the villages have come in the grip of flood due to heavy rain this time. It has multiplied the problems of the farmers. The houses have been washed away in flood and it has created the housing problem. Yesterday, around 500 people gathered in my city. They didn't have any penny and the administration is also not giving them any sort of assistance. The ruling party is only making election promises keeping an eye on ensuing election. It is not going to benefit the farmers of Uttar Pradesh. Therefore, I request you to ensure payment of outstanding amount of sugarcane farmers.

*[English]*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA) : Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the house a matter which has been reported in the Press, a matter of great shame for all Indians, especially for women of India.

It has been reported that in one nursing college, a virginity test is being insisted for those students who are

seeking admission there and it is also reported that a virginity test was conducted on some students. I do not know whether it is true. It has reportedly taken place in Andhra Pradesh. I have also seen some reports that some action has been taken by the Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard. So, it appears that it is a true fact. Two teachers have been suspended.

We have heard only now that some two or three years back, the Indian ladies who went to London were subjected to test like this, which will tell upon, it is very shameful. As far as the Indian culture is concerned, I think, this is something which should be responded and something on which action has to be taken. I think, the culture of India is being invaded like this. Therefore, some very serious note should be taken by the Government of India and action should be taken on serious atrocities against women like this ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (RAMTEK) : He Speaks daily. You are not calling me inspite of having given notice for the last eight days.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall call everyone. Nobody will be left out....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You will also get a chance. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No cross-talks please. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (CHHAPRA) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the flood situation in Bihar. I am raising this question again and again because the hon. Prime Minister had gone to Hazipur last Friday to inaugurate the zonal headquarters of Railways. Hardly 10 kilometer away from there lies Sonepur Diyara area under Saran district which is a flood affected area. The Central Government has provided Rs. 20 crore as relief but it is not known as to how the State Government is distributing the relief material and money. I myself visited the flood affected areas and during my visit I found that the district administration had demanded 950 quintal of wheat from the state Government but till then only 50 quintal of wheat was despatched : No arrangement for fodder was made for ten thousand cattle in the flood affected areas. Not only this the areas where the water level is receding, are witnessing outbreak of diseases. I also toured the diarrhoea affected areas. 22 diarrhoea affected children had been hospitalised in a private hospital. I, through

you, would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards it and demand to keep a strict vigil on the expenditure made on the flood relief schemes in the entire Bihar and particularly on the grant given by the Central Government. The Central Government should take effective steps to complete this works of State Government.

SHRI SAYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (MURSHIDABAD): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to point out as to how a conspiracy is being hatched to finish off the Public Sector Undertakings. Hon'ble Finance Minister is also present here and he too should pay attention.

Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation was incurring losses till 1991-92 however, now its position has improved somewhat. Earlier Goswami Committee was set up which had recommended that its Calcutta and Mumbai units should be sold whereas at present both the units are making profits. Out of eight units, five are making profits and three are incurring losses. But the problem is that the Chief General Manager is not being allowed to handle the day to-day administrative functioning independently and the Finance Ministry and the Economic Advisors of the Ministry of Civil Supplies are hampering the day to day functioning. The Vanaspati unit of Delhi does not have a production turnover of even one tonne.

An official posted in this unit for the last ten years is not being transferred. No funds are being provided by the Ministry of Finance. Now attempts are being made either to sell the land of this unit or to privatise it. My submission is that the S.T.C., M.M.T.C., the oil barons and Economic Advisors are involved in this conspiracy. Their intention is to prevent it from making profits and to render it as a losing proposition so as to close it down later on. As the land belonging to the unit is in the Kirti Nagar Area of Delhi, such a conspiracy is being hatched in order to sell that land for personal gain. I am giving you this information in advance. I believe that if the Management is given a free hand in the functioning and no interference is made in the day-to-day administration, this unit can be revived within a period of two-three years. Reviving a sick industry in such a manner could prove to be a milestone in the history of this country. The Finance Minister is busy in conversation with some other Members and he has not paid any heed to my submission. Whether he pays attention or not, what would follow later on is that there would be another scam like many scams unearthed earlier. Thereafter a House Committee or Joint Parliamentary Committee would be set up ...*(Interruptions)* That is why I am bringing this matter to the notice of the Government through you ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your names are there in the list. I will sit here with you. I am prepared to sit here