

displaced persons have not got their compensation so far nor any rehabilitation guide or jobs. The dam has deprived them of schools, roads and hospitals which are yet to be provided to them. I have raised this problem in this House several times but to no avail, causing a resentment among the people in the process.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government of India to complete the work of the project early and solve all the aforesaid problems.

(iii) Need to prepare a pilot project to protect Chilika lake on Orissa from depletion

[English]

SHRI K P SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal) : I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the growing depletion of Chilika, the biggest inland lake in India and Ansupa, the largest fresh water lake in the State of Orissa. The 5000 years old Chilika lake which connects the Bay of Bengal in a narrow mouth was spread over 2200 kms in the beginning has now shrunk to about 915 sq. kms. due to various reasons like heavy siltation, spreading of weeds, over fishing and increasing release of toxic metals from the chloride plant, Chhatrapur. Thousands of migratory birds visit Chilika lake during winter every year and take shelter in the Nalabara bird sanctuary. Apart from the migrating birds the Honeymoon Island and the Breakfast Island draw a large number of tourists. With its bounteous gift of fish, the lake provides succour to thousands of families of fishermen.

Ansupa lake no longer attracts migratory birds or tourists. Heavy exploitation of vegetation around Ansupa accompanied by siltation and increased growth of hyacinth and algae is turning the lake into a swamp.

Unless immediate steps are taken to stop further shrinking of these two lakes they will lose all charms for the tourists. Besides, the people who earn their daily bread from these lakes will suffer untold misery.

I request the Union Government to prepare a pilot project for Ansupa and a similar separate project on the pattern of Ganga Action Plan for Chilika lake with a view to stop any further depletion.

(iv) Need to provide financial assistance for the schemes submitted by the Government of Kerala for undertaking anti-sea erosion works.

SHRI T. GOVINDAN (Kasargoda) : Since 1992, the Government of India has not been providing any Central assistance to States for anti-sea erosion works. While flood control activities are financed by the Central Government, the programme for anti-sea erosion works which is extremely important to States like Kerala with fragile coastlines does not receive the Centre's attention and priority that it really deserves. Government of Kerala with its meagre resources is unable to provide its own funds to finance this massive programme. Government

of Kerala have submitted to the Planning Commission certain schemes for Rs. 27 crores for undertaking anti-sea erosion works as an interim measure. These schemes which are intended for emergency measures will ensure only partial coverage. What is really required is a comprehensive scheme to cover the entire coast lines in the State which remain to be protected and to make improvements to the sea walls already constructed. Such a scheme would be possible of implementation only with the adequate financial support from the Government of India.

I would, therefore, request the Government of India to take immediate action and sanction the amount of Rs. 27 crores for the scheme demanded by the Government of Kerala for undertaking anti-sea erosion works as an interim measures.

(v) Need to clear the proposal for construction of dams on river Subansiri of Assam

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (Lakhimpur) : Sir, a project for construction of Dam on of River Subansiri of Assam, prepared by the Brahmaputra Board for generation of 4800 MW of electricity with an outlay of Rs. 3000 crores was submitted to Government of India during 1984 for approval. Due to opposition from Arunachal Pradesh Government, citing Submergence of few village in the catchment area, the clearance has been delayed. However, on a revised proposal to built 3 smaller dams instead of one big dam for reducing the submergence, the Arunachal Pradesh Government had given its consent. The present cost of the project would be around Rs. 12000 crores with installed capacity of 7500 MW of electricity. Implementation of this project even with associating foreign investment would not only bring revolutionary socio-economic change in the N.E. Region but also would be able to meet the power shortage in West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, U.P. and M.P. The hydro power generated by this project would be the cheapest in the country. Besides, it will reduce perennial flood menace by about 15 percent apart from irrigation facilities and erosion control. Moreover, this project will not involve bilateral understanding with China as may be needed for other projects prepared by Brahmaputra Board.

I would therefore urge upon the Ministry of Power, Ministry of Water Resources and the commission recently formed by the Planning Commission on the basis of Prime Minister's declaration to include this project in the agenda for offering basic minimum services through development of infrastructure facilities in the North East Region.

(vi) Need to provide Central assistance for tourism development in the Eastern Hilly areas of Kottayam district in Kerala.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : The eastern hilly areas of Kottayam district in Kerala in Meenachil