

adversely affect the economy and the economic development of the entire region.

In view of the above, I would urge upon the Union Government to help the State Government of Assam in developing and improving the conditions of the National Highways on a priority basis and thus give a boost to the economic development of the North-East region.

(vi) Need to Establish Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres along the West Coast of Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil) : The Arabian Sea coast of Kanyakumari district is one of the major fish producing centres in the country. Fishermen in large numbers live there. They fully depend on fishing, which is their traditional and the only occupation. Now, the frequent sea erosion which occurs there, has washed away and damaged the natural landing and berthing places of fishing vessels which stand on the way to carry on fishing during monsoon season, and thus during this season for a period of five months, due to rough sea, mighty waves and cruel winds, they cannot operate their fishing vessels into the sea. The only protection to them from these adverse circumstances is the establishment of fishing harbours and fish landing centres along the west coast of Kanyakumari district to enable the fishermen to park, land and operate their fishing vessels. But fishing harbours and fish landing centres have not been established there. So, they go for fishing to the coastal villages of other States throughout the country where they are faced with stiff resistance, harassment and humiliation from local fishermen. So, their survival is threatened.

I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps for the establishment of fishing harbours and fish landing centres along the west coast of Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu.

(vii) Need to set up a Hostel in Ghaziabad (U.P.) for the students pursuing higher education

[Translation]

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Ghaziabad district is an important industrial town and since long people of scheduled castes are living in the village of this district. There is a long standing demand for opening a Dr. Ambedkar students hostel in Ghaziabad because in absence of a students hostel people belonging to far-flung villages from the rural areas find it difficult to impart higher education to their wards and therefore, many children stop their education at primary level. They have to face financial difficulty in meeting the daily bus fare to and from the far flung villages and hiring rented rooms in city. Therefore, there could not be any increase in the percentage of education in the area. Therefore, the Central Government is requested to accord immediate approval for opening a Dr. Ambedkar students hostel in Ghaziabad.

(viii) Need for early implementation of Rengali irrigation and OECF assisted Water Supply Projects in Dhenkanal District of Orissa to overcome drought situation

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal) : Sir, the State of Orissa is now reeling under the grip of a severe drought. The State Government of Orissa has declared 12 out of 30 districts in the State as drought-hit districts on the basis of the first crop cutting report. But there are several more districts where drought of severe nature has been prevailing.

The situation in western Orissa is very critical. The people of the tribal dominated districts are fleeing to the neighbouring States in search of job.

The situation in undivided Dhenkanal district is also very critical as the district is facing an acute drought situation. The crop situation became worse in September due to scanty rainfall in Dhenkanal area. The rate of rainfall was only 30 milimetres. About 50 per cent of the people in that district depend on rain water for cultivation. But due to scanty rainfall 90 per cent of the farmers in Dhenkanal constituency are facing severe drought situation. So, the entire district and the area should be declared as drought-affected.

Unless immediate steps are taken to complete the Rengali irrigation project and also to implement the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund assisted water supply project in Dhenkanal it will be very difficult to control the drought situation. At the same time, I would urge the Union Government to provide adequate funds to all the drought-affected areas in Dhenkanal and other drought-hit districts in the State so that the labour intensive work and projects for the provision of drinking water are started on a war footing. Funds should be sanctioned to complete all the on-going projects in Dhenkanal constituency expeditiously.

Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you as you have allowed me to raise a very important issue. In the morning, during Question Hour, some Members had raised the issue of sugarcane prices whereas the question was related to the sugar mills. At that time also, the hon'ble Minister of Food could not give a satisfactory reply. As far as I know, payment of Rs.7.5 crore of sugarcane growers is outstanding in Uttar Pradesh alone and the sugar mills in the entire Uttar Pradesh have started functioning in the last week of this month i.e. on 22th. However, some of these mills have not started functioning as yet. Farmers have suffered a loss for one month as their fields have not been vacated for the next crop. Besides this, sugar mills owners are gaining time in starting their mills. They are not ensuring that the entire crop of sugarcane will be purchased by them. All these things are

happening due to lack of farsighted policy of them. All these things are happening due to lack of farsighted policy of the Governments. As a result, the sugarcane producers, particularly in Uttar Pradesh are facing many problems and it seems that their condition is likely to be worsened in the coming time whereas it was considered that the sugarcane crop is a cash crop. Earlier, farmers used to get good prices for their sugarcane and their expenses used to be met with this money but now cost of production is increasing whereas the farmers are not getting good prices for their sugarcane. It seems that the central Government is certainly acting in connivance with the industrialists and it is not concerned about the problems of the farmers of the country. Though, the hon'ble Prime Minister considers himself as a well wisher of the farmers, yet he has also not resolved this problem. In spite of his promises made in the election manifesto and his visit to Uttar Pradesh, the problems of the farmers have remained unsolved.

Through you, I would like to urge upon the Central Government to find a firm and permanent solution to this problem. In case, the Government does not resolve this problem this year, sugar mills will not function next year and the farmers will certainly have to burn their sugarcane crop this year. The Government should ensure that the entire sugarcane crop will be purchased and the outstanding payment of the farmers will be made in this very season otherwise it will be very painful thing to the farmers of Uttar Pradesh. We have been raising this point continuously since this Government come into existence but it is unfortunate that the Government is not deciding any clear directives in this regard. I would like to submit to you that you should issue instructions to the Government in this regard and a clear picture of the case should be presented before the farmers of Uttar Pradesh as well as the whole country. Thank you very much for giving me time...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will call names of those Members who have given the notices.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to raise a very important issue. Recently, houses of many people have been demolished in Delhi due to which they have become homeless and come on roads. These people are staging a 'dharana' on Janter-Manter road for the last 40 days. First of all, I would like to tell the Government that the land in question belongs to the Government of Delhi and the houses constructed on that land are 20-30 years old. The Government should have taken steps at the time when these houses were being constructed as it was Government land and all the concerned officers were present there and all the Departments were functioning. Why did the Government not stop it? The fact is that earlier, this land was sold by the landlords to the Government and when even after passing of 40 years, the Government did not make a use of this land, it was further sold to the poor people and they made their houses on the land and thereafter the Government had awakened. The Government has

demolished thousands of houses and as a result, thousands of peoples have come on roads and they are staging dharna on Janter Manter road for the last 40 days. Sir, my submission is whether the Government would assure the people who are staging dharna that no further demolition would be done and compensation would be given to those people whose houses have been demolished. Thousands of people, including women, children and youngsters are sitting on dharna. My submission to the Government is as to why the houses of poor people have been demolished when the Government claims that it is the Government of the poor and that it would protect the interests of the poor?...*(Interruptions)* I have said that the Government of Delhi is not able to protect the interests of the people. This is the State subject. I would like to submit that claim of the Central Government to be the Government of the poor should be put through its facings in this very House. If it is really a Government of the poor, it should ensure that it would not do such acts in future.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not repeat anything. Only those Members will speak whose names have been included in the list.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai-North) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Railways Shri Ram Vilas Paswan went to Ahmedabad on 16th November ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not speak until your turn comes. When I call you, then only you speak. If I allow you to speak others will also start speaking.

[English]

Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is very necessary. The people are sitting on dharna for the last 40 days...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. No, it will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Please give directives to the Government...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Have you given notice? Please sit down.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Yes, Sir, I have given notice.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your name has not appeared in the list.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Railways Shri Ram Vilas Paswan went to

* Not Recorded.