

immediately and supply of essential commodities can be restored to our fellow countrymen living there.

[Translation]

SHRI SOHAN BEER (Muzaffargarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw attention towards a very serious problem. (Interruptions)

[English]

MAHARANI DIVYA SINGH (Bharatpur) : I have given notice in the morning.

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI (Belgaum) : I have been giving notice everyday, Sir. My name is there in the list... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him speak who has been called just.

SHRI SOHAN BEER : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, many Members with criminal background have found their way in this August House. Many cases relating to scams of crores of rupees are in the process of trial against them yet they are moving freely in this August House. Many F.I.Rs pertaining to murders are lodged in various Police Stations. There are many people who have been fined 50 to 60 lakh rupees by the Supreme Court yet they enter into the House. It is a matter of shame for the people of this Country. I request you to maintain the sanctity of this august House which was once donned by leaders like Sardar Patel, Lal Bahadur Shastri and Ch. Charan Singh. Today, it is a serious question before the House. Such persons should not even be allowed to move even in the vicinity of the House.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, another point which I would like to raise is that the people of this Country have fallen in the grip of Corrupt policies. Corrupt politicians, corrupt officers and corrupt businessmen. They have no facility for getting employment. Their Children do not get even the basic facilities like electricity and water. It is said here that a farmer's son is the Prime Minister of this Country but what sort of farmer's son is he when the children of this Country do not get electricity from seven O'Clock in the morning to 7 O'clock in the evening. When children of this Country would not get even the basic facilities like this, then what would happen to this Country it's a matter to ponder over. A corrupt Government only gives corrupt administration. Unless the Government is honest the administration cannot be expected to be honest. I want that the Government should pay attention to it. I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : Rajkumari Ratna Singh

(Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please allow her to speak.

(Interruptions)

RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH (Pratapgarh) : Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to your notice that all the roads after the heavy monsoons in Northern India are indeed in a very dilapidated condition and the roads need money to carry out repairs. When you leave Delhi you go through my State, Uttar Pradesh, whether you want to go to Bombay or whether you want to go to Calcutta or you want to go to even Madras. Because we have President's rule in Uttar Pradesh, all our National and State Highways are in a very dilapidated condition. The Grand Trunk road between Mathura and Agra is under repair for over two years. Travelling is very difficult. The Delhi-Lucknow Highway is in a very bad condition. Lucknow-Allahabad Highway is in a very bad condition. Delhi-Mussorie Highway, which is going right up to the border, is all in a very bad condition. We would request the Central Government to release Rs. 300 crore to repair the State Highways and the National Highways in Uttar Pradesh.

We want the Minister of Surface Transport to discuss this matter because we are being ruled by the Centre. We do not have a Government in Uttar Pradesh. As there is no Government in Uttar Pradesh, it is the responsibility of the Centre to repair the roads in Uttar Pradesh and all the National Highways... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude.

(Interruptions)

RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH : I would request the Minister of Surface Transport to make a statement on this.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards an important issue. This issue may not seem to be so important in the present scenario but it would act as a slow poison if we do not pay attention towards it right now.

Today, improvements are being carried out in the field of genetic body organism throughout the world. There has been an increase in the yield of crops as compared to the past.

13.00 hrs.

Improvements were made in our country for better yields of the crops but I would like to say that the improvements that are being carried out today are experiments carried out by the department of Biotechnology in Cooperation with multinationals. Many a time it is a welcome step but sometimes the desired protective measures are not being observed. Now, improvement work is being carried out at two places in our country, one in the South and another in the North. With the Support of Belgium and America but one thing has come to our notice. When a meeting of I.C.A.R. was held in Pusa, one thing came to our notice that improvement works are being carried out at two places. Our Government and officers too had the knowledge of it, but one astonishing matter came to light when officers

of the United States Development Agency started that improvements are being carried out in India at four places instead of two places. When experiments are carried out in Genetics then many types of such bacteria are injected into plants which needs perfection so that the same may not spread in the surrounding areas because such type of plants affect the plants growing hereby and we cannot say that it also affects the blood groups and blood cells of the persons working there. This issue is important because here we were not aware of it and not only that similar experiment of improvement is being carried out somewhere near Delhi. Experiments are being carried out to improve the breed of brinjals. An ad-hoc Committee was Constituted for this purpose. Members of this Committee are changed from time to time. Therefore, due attention is not paid on it as it should have been.

Another thing is that there is no mention of the on going experiments being carried out for Genetic modified genes in the Annual report of the department of Bio-Technology. It is very important to have transparency in view of the people of India, its flora and fauna as many Chemical factories that are running here which are prohibited in foreign countries. Everything is possible in our country. Thus, if things go this way ultimately the experiment on Gene would affect the soil and people of our country. My request is that it is a very important issue. Since the Prime Minister is holding the portfolio of Science and Technology he should make a statement in this regard. Transparency should be ensured in it and people's representatives of people may also be the ad-hoc Committee alongwith the officers. The Committee too should have transparency in its functioning reviews be given such astonishing facts should not come to light so that there is no adverse impact on the people and environment the on-going work for Gene's improvement is good but I would request that some consideration be given over it to ward off its adverse impact.

**SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) :** Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I belong to the State of Bihar where there is acute crisis of Power. My district Aurangabad is very backward and I am drawing the attention of the Government through you towards it. Tenders were invited by Ponla Grids Corporation of India on 30.8.1996 on behalf of ministry of Power for Setting up of a Coal-based 2000 MW Capacity Thermal Power project in Nabinagar region of my constituency. But not a single tender has been received. Agencies involved in developmental works have not submitted any tenders so far. Therefore, I am drawing the attention of the government through you that work on Nabinagar thermal Power project be started after including it in 9th five year Plan.

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER :** I would like to tell one thing before calling the next Members to speak that it would be better to raise matters of national interest during zero hour. I agree that you should raise matters relating to your Constituency, it is a good sign, but if matters of national interests are raised during zero hour

then some of its importance would remain. It is a request and it would be better if the speech is brief.

[English]

**DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) :** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir I would like to bring this to the notice of the entire House, including our great leader Shri Vajpayee. Our country's economy is being shattered now. No industry is going to come shortly. The capital market has totally phenomenally failed and no institution or bank has either the inspiration, spirit, courage or the guts to come forward to encourage any industry with the fear that it will be harassed and found fault. With the result, today our country's position has unbelievably become weak.

Perhaps, till now, in Indian history it has never happened like this. At this rate, if things keep on going like this, I do not know what is going to be the future of this country. Therefore, my request is that the entire House should feel concerned about this situation. I am calling upon the Government that they must make hectic efforts and take effective measures to improve the situation.

They must give a big moral support to banks and other institutions to come forward. The banks and the financial institutions should be given a clear cut understanding that people who work with integrity and honesty will not be harassed and will be given support by the Government.

On the question of how the capital market is going to be improved, I would say that by giving more confidence in the public, Government must make efforts to improve it.

Lastly, in the Budget, MAT has been introduced. That has also become a very big problem for the growth of industry. Recently, our hon. Prime Minister came out openly that he has also understood the mistake of the Government by introducing MAT. Even in my Budget speech, I objected that MAT should not be introduced in the corporate bodies. I am very happy that, at least, the Prime Minister has come forward openly and has agreed in a public meeting that he is going to call all the captains of the industry of this country and discuss with them the MAT problem and try to improve the industry in this country.

I welcome this and I request the Government to take quick and strong action to abolish the MAT system so that the economy is given a new life by giving new inspiration for improving the industry.

Here, I would, once again, like to draw the attention of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee that he must take personal interest to see that industry is improved in the country. Thank you.

[Translation]

**SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN (Sri Ganganagar) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I had raised the matter on 19.11.96 during zero hour and Government has taken