

assure us about it.. (Interruptions). Either you should discontinued it or provide it to all .....(Interruptions)

DR. SHAFIQR RAHMAN BARQ (Moradabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Members of Lok Sabha should also be given these coupons.....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please allow the House to be conducted peacefully.

.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am to repeat it again. The hon. Members should know that we, who sit here, are also to work under certain constraint. The Speaker's office has given me a list. Naturally, I have the least scope for discretion.

SHRI SUKH RAM (Mandi): The people are suffering on account of earthquake.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can raise that issue under rule 193. There can be a discussion because it is a natural calamity.

I shall have to call certain Members till 1.30 p.m. I shall go by the list. Now, Prof. Prem Singh Chandumajra .....(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, would there be lunch hour today ?.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, there would not be any lunch hour today.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, you please make that announcement here .....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can go and have your lunch.

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : It does not matter if I miss the proceedings of the House!.....(Interruptions)

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : What is the ruling on the disparity of providing gas connection and .....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, though I would like to speak on different subject, I would also take part in the subject that is being discussed. As you are well aware that the Members of Rajya Sabha are given coupons for LPG and telephone connections and the Members of Lok Sabha are deprived of the same, I am of the opinion that the Members of Lok Sabha should be given LPG and telephone connection as well.

I would like to bring a important subject to the notice of the Government through you regarding grave condition of

the country caused by flood. The flood is damaging the crops, destroying the houses and affecting the public life. Particularly the floods in Jhajhar, Narkanda and Tangri rivers have resulted in heavy damage recently 20 villages in Mona sub-division and 15 villages in Ghinnaur sub-division in my area are still submerged in water due to flood. We had demanded that there should be a long term scheme to check the flood and the damage caused therefrom. For instance, we can check the water of the river by building dam in hill areas. We can utilize the water for irrigation purpose, prevent the damage caused by the flood and produce electricity.

When I went to Bihar, somebody told me there that two crops were grown there-first Kharif, second relief. If the first crop was damaged by the flood, the people depended on relief. And even this relief is not distributed fully. It happens every year. There should be some measures to prevent the damage by the flood. The Crop Insurance Scheme should be implemented as the Government has provided in its Common Minimum Programme. But it is a matter of sorrow that it has not been implemented so far. While there is insurance in industry, there is no insurance in agriculture sector nor the farmers are given full relief.

I would like to request the Government that Crop Insurance Scheme should be implemented and permanent measures should be taken to check the flood.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit briefly that some days ago I had raised the matter about the court's decision regarding the installation of the statue of Gandhiji at India Gate and the directive to the Government to take a decision by 4th August in that regard. So far the Government has made no response. Shri Narasimha Rao had proposed to build a August Kranti Udyan and the whole House had expressed its unanimity on it. I feel sorry that neither there has been a reaction from the Government nor a single line about this matter has appeared in the newspapers of the country. On the other hand, what is appearing in the newspaper is that was right thing to kill Gandhi. Not only that an interview of a gentleman has appeared in leading newspapers stating that a man like Gandhi would be killed if he were to be born again. Such news items are appearing at a time when the country is celebrating the Golden Jubilee of its independence. I would like to submit .....(Interruptions) Nothing positive will come out by saying 'shame' I would humbly submit to the members that we are being ashamed in the country for what we are doing. But either the Government should take decision in regard to build the park before August 15th or it should make clear through a statement that there is no place for Gandhiji. In this golden jubilee of the freedom fighters, just because some intellectuals assert that the architectual beauty of the Lutyens will be lost.

The documents have been submitted in the High Court stating that the statue of Gandhiji is nothing but a caricature. It has been stressed that if the statue of Gandhiji is installed, it will be an aesthetic vandalism. Though the Court has given

its verdict, yet I do not know whether the Government would be able to take decision in this regard by the 15 August or not.

I would like to tell the leader of the Opposition as well as the Leader of the House that it is very serious matter. We should protect against every move that goes against the image of the country and attempts to erase the symbols of the country.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as the Leader of the House is present and as we are discussing the matter which is related to the sensibility of the country, that is celebrating Golden jubilee of its Independence, you are requested to inform the House to whether the statue of Gandhiji would be installed there before the 14th August and what bottleneck the Government is finding in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Respected Shri Chandra Shekhar had raised this point a week ago just after the session of the House had started and we had assured him that he would be informed of the situation as soon as the Government took action in this regard.....(Interruptions)

That is why I said an immediate decision could be taken on the matter after consulting the Leader of the Opposition and the Hon. Speaker. I would like to assure you that I myself would try to find out whether the assurance about the implementation of the decision has been fulfilled and that the Government would take immediate decision in this regard .....(Interruptions)

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH (Aonla) : What is being said about breaking of the statues of Gandhiji .....(Interruptions) Some other statues are being installed by the side .....(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr.

Chairman, Sir, the question which Shri Chandra Shekhar raised, was raised in this House earlier also. We have also written to the Prime Minister about it. Court judgement has also been delivered, therefore, there should not be any further delay in this regard.

There may be some controversy on the matter as to where statue should be put up but it is really very unfortunate for the country if the statue of Mahatma Gandhi is not put up any where in that complex on the occasion of Golden Jubilee of our Independence. Controversies can be resolved. It is very necessary to maintain beauty but there should not be unending discussion on beauty. Sometimes, tough decisions have to be taken and this is the right time to do so. I do not know whether the Prime Minister can take such decision or not. Decisions are not being taken in regard to major issues. They are being postpone but this matter is not so. This matter relates to the feelings of the people and to the Golden Jubilee. There should be no further delay in this regard and a decision should be taken immediately. The statue of Mahatma Gandhi should be put up on such a proper place in that complex which may be acceptable to all.

DR. LAXMINARYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Mr. Chairman Sir, all units of Cement Corporation of India throughout the country are on the verge of closure due to mismanagement of the Corporation. Some of Cement units have already been closed. Similarly, two cement plants situated at Nayagaon a little farther from Neemach in Madhya Pradesh are also closed for a week to lack of power- because they have not paid the arrears of electricity bills to Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board due to which cement units have become unable to function.

In such a situation, I demand from the Government that the Minister of Industry should direct the Cement Corporation of India to ensure the supply of power otherwise thousands of labourers are likely to be rendered unemployed there. Today, labourers are on strike there. Today is the third day of strike. It will be better that the Minister of Industry should intervene in the matter and get the management of Cement Corporation of India set right and warding off the agitation of labourers by accepting their demand before any agitation or law and order problem is created, so that these units could revive. Thank you.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Ulluberia) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise this question with great sorrow because since 1980, I have been elected for the fifth time to Lok Sabha and I am raising this question also fifth time but it has not been resolved till date. As you know that we had made a promise to enact legislation for the agricultural labourers. We are going to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of our independence. But even after fifty years of our independence, no legislation has been made for one third of the population of our country. It is a matter of shame for us to ignore the interests of those people who live below poverty line, most of them belong to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and minorities, who do not get work for more than 100 days in a year and who do not have sufficient food to eat and without whom we can not produce food. Though, we have made laws to protect the life of dogs, cats and other animals and to check deforestation but we have not made any law for the population of 30 crores. This is a stigma on Parliament. What is the use of such Parliament which could not provide legal protection to the poorest class of our country. This is a stigma on our society. A meeting of State Governments was also covered in this regard. Ministers of six States had opposed this law. They are supporters of Zamindars. They do not want to make a law for agricultural labourers to protect the zamindars. Today, there is law for agricultural labourers except Tripura, Kerala and some other States. Even after fifty years of independence, nothing has been done for fixation of their wages and mode of work and if their wages are not being paid, how would the dispute be settled. We have not thought ever the problems as to whether their children should go to school or not, his house should be built or not. It has also been clearly mentioned in the Common Minimum Programme but nothing has been done even after expiry of one year. I condemn it and request the Government that a Bill may be brought forward and passed in this very session for agricultural