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Title : Need to lift ban imposed on timber extraction in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS): I would like to draw the attention of this house regarding serious construction problem arising due to the Government policy of banning timber extraction, collection of sea sand and allotment of stone quarries. It is pertinent to mention that with out the construction materials the people in Andaman and Nicobar Islands are suffering for development work. They cannot get these materials from the mainland, which is beyond their reach. Carpenters have lost their jobs due to non-availability of timber and its products. No where in the country timber import is banned except Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Many a times when marriages are solemnized, the forest staff conducts an inquiry, whether, the forest wood is being used for such functions. This has become nuisance and harassment for the local people. Government of India should immediately get the facts and figures from Andaman & Nicobar Administration on such harassments and it should be stopped forthwith.

* Treated as laid on theTable.