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Title: Regarding alleged harassment meted out to some small traders from Karimganj, Cachar and Hailakandi districts of Assam in Aizwal, Mizoram by some organization.

SHRI RADHESHYAM BISWAS (KARIMGANJ): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a very important issue related to the people of Assam. Many small traders from Karimganj, Cachar and Hailakandi districts of Assam have been doing business in Aizawl which is the Capital city of Mizoram. Unfortunately, for the last few days, members of some organizations like the MZP and the MTP etc., of Mizoram are unlawfully and forcefully harassing these traders. Many of these traders are being forced to put their shutter down. These sort of illegal activities are being predominantly carried out in localities like Khatla, Zarkhot, Step and Tuikuwal in the Aizwal city.

The action of these organizations is a pathetic one. They are summoning the outside traders to their offices in the name of checking trading documents, licenses and ILP where the traders are tortured by the members of these organizations. It may be mentioned here that there was a joint meeting between the Government of Mizoram and the Government of Assam on 17.10. 1994. it was opined that the non-governmental organizations will stop checking of trading documents, ILP and harassment of non-Mizo traders and the Government of Mizoram will provide safeguards to the traders. But, it was not followed.

Now the worst part is that different organizations from border areas of Assam are starting agitation and calling for strikes to block roads in places like Silchar and Hailakandi which are the life-line of Mizoram. If these roads are blocked, the supply of essential commodities will be disrupted. Under these circumstances, these traders are living under acute fear while local administration failed to take action against these culprits. Therefore, through this august House, I would request the hon. Home Minister to intervene in the matter and pass necessary instructions immediately to control the situation in the light of previous joint decision.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Gaurav Gogoi is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Radheshyam Biswas.