

[Sh. Sobhanadreeswara Rao]

of metal occurred twice, in a span of four days. At Jaggaihpel lime stone pulverizing unit, the quality of execution of works by National projects construction company and Sub-contractors was so poor that the production work came to a halt. It appears the management has failed to take necessary steps to prevent the occurrence of such accidents.

I urge upon the Central government to look into the matter immediately and take necessary steps for preventing the recurrence of incidents in future.

(vii) Need to provide more funds to West Bengal for saving flora and fauna of mangrove eco-systems in Sunderbans

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar): Sir, the Sunderban Biosphere Reserve (SBR), a 9, 630 sq. kms. area covering the mangrove forests of the Sunderbans with a unique ecosystem and diversity, is languishing for want of committed funds from the Centre. This will be evident from the level of funding for the 10-point action plan put on the anvil by the State-level Steering Committee for the Sunderban Biosphere Reserve. Out of the anticipated outlay of Rs. 90.40 lakhs involved on the comprehensive management action plan on Sunderban Biosphere Reserve approved for the year 1991-92, only Rs. 26.90 lakhs have been received. Against an annual expenditure of Rs. 134.30 lakhs on the comprehensive plan on Sunderbans Mangrove ecosystem for a five-year period from 1991-92, a sum of Rs. 72 lakhs only has been received. Then, in respect of third scheme entitled ecological rehabilitation of Sunderbans under integrated wasteland project, still being processed by the National Wasteland Development Board and which envisaged a total expenditure of Rs. 430.27 lakhs, a sum of Rs. 45 lakhs, which was expected during 1991-92 is yet to reach the State Government.

I would urge on the Central Government to provide the committed funds to the State Government of West Bengal for saving the whole spectrum of flora and fauna of mangrove ecosystem in the Sunderbans from the impending calamity.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned for lunch to meet again at 2.15.p.m.

13.13 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twenty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

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[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Vijayaraghavan may continue his speech.

[Translation]

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAAGHAVAN Palghat: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Yesterday I was speaking about some of the problems of my constituency, Palakkad when the House adjourned. Today I do not want to go into other political questions. I will come straight to the problems of my constituency. Yesterday I mentioned about the drought conditions in Palakkad. When the Silent Valley Project Was given up the late lamented Indiraji had assured that the Kurairkutty Karupara Project would be sanctioned. But this too has been shelved due to the opposition from the environmentalists. I would like to request the Government that at least the irrigation part of the project should be sanctioned. This will save the crops. Palakkad is the rice bowl of Kerala. But due to the drought condition the farmers are suffering. When the late

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.