

to work in adverse circumstances in hotels, shops, factories etc. extracting more and more work from them and paying the least possible wages to them and thus violating the Child Welfare Act. As per the available statistics, the number of such child-labourers is 1,36,40,872. Children are the future of a nation. In a welfare state like India such type of employment, obsession and exploitation of children of young age by the employers are nothing more than absolute atrocities on them. Therefore, the Government should take stringent measures in this regard to check the exploitation of child labourers and ensure the implementation of the Child Welfare Act strictly.

**PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamir-
pat):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Central Government provide a specific amount of relief every year to various states to compensate the loss caused by natural calamities. But how can the loss to be caused by these calamities be estimated in advance. My submission to Central Government is that relief should be provided according to the loss suffered by the states. During January, 1991 there was heavy snowfall in Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir and as per Central Government, it took 34 human lives, 2085 animal heads and 4132 houses were destroyed. However, despite repeated requests made to the Central Government, no financial aid has been provided to the State so far. This year too, the State has been hit by severe drought due to delay in monsoon. Crops have been destroyed and there is acute scarcity of drinking water as well as fodder. I submit to the Central Government to provide at least Rs. 25 crores as special relief to Himachal Pradesh immediately so that they may be able to face this crisis.

**DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PAN-
DEYA (Mandsaur):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the Bhopal Gas Tragedy. No

relief has been provided to the remaining about 30,000 gas victim families by the Central Government as a result of it the State Government is finding it very difficult to provide aid to them. Gas victims are not confined merely to 36 wards, but they are being treated in many other wards too. Due to this the entire city is in the grip of the problem. My submission to the Hon. Prime Minister is that he should make immediate arrangements to provide interim relief and assistance to them.

[English]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the acute drinking water problem in and around Pune City. The project of bringing drinking water from Khadakwasla Dam to Parvati Reservoir through closed cement pipe is pending with the Central Government and unless the Central Government gets the approval and assistance from the World Bank, the project cannot be started. Since 1986, it is pending with the Central Government and through you I urge the Central Government to look into the matter and get it expedited.

[Translation]

**SHRI KAMLA MISHRA
MADHUKAR (Motihari):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, poor rainfall in eastern Champaran and Bihar has resulted in drought in these areas. The paddy crop has not been even sown and if in any case it is sown, it is drying due to the scarcity of water. There is no adequate water flowing in canals. Due to power shortage private pumping sets are not working properly. Though the Government of Bihar has been making efforts to combat the situation, get the situation is beyond its control. Therefore, it is the need of the hour that the Central Government should provide maximum aid to the Bihar Government to enable it to meet the drought situation and undertake relief measures without delay.