

ernment are not able to control the disease. I, therefore, request the Central Government to come forward and help the affected farmers in these two districts and part of South Arcot District.

- (ii) **Need to restore the special Central Assistance to the Adivasi dominated areas of Ranchi, Bihar**

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the condition of Adivasi dominated area of Ranchi is very pathetic. National Commission for Rural Labour in its report has stated that about 30 per cent of the Adivasi people are landless. About 17 per cent have one acre of land only and about 34 per cent have 1-2 acres of land. Only about 12 per cent people of this area are able to manage their livelihood for the whole year. Though enriched with natural wealth, this area has not been developed till today. The main problem of the Adivasis is exploitation and illiteracy. The Central Government has been providing assistance to this area for the last several years, but this amount is not sufficient to start any appropriate developmental scheme for this area. Even this help has also been discontinued from this financial year. Therefore, I would urge the Central Government not only to restore the Central assistance to this area but also to increase the amount adequately so that a project may be started there and the exploited and suppressed people of that area may also be able to lead good life.

- (iii) **Need to revive the broadcasting of Hindi songs from Manipur Akashvani Kendra**

SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH (Manipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, 15 languages including Hindi have been given recognition in the Constitution of India. Our Constitution clearly makes provision for developing Hindi as a link language in place of English. Our Parliament itself passed Official Languages Act, 1963 in accordance with the spirit and intention of the constitution and its regula-

tions were framed during the period 1976-78. A clear provision has been made that Hindi will be promoted in all the Central Government offices and institutions. However, recently the broadcasting of Hindi songs from the Manipur Kendra of Akashvani has been discontinued; whereas under the Official Languages Act the whole country has been divided into three zones-'a', 'b' and 'c'. Aims of broadcasting Hindi have been given in it.

Sir, if the broadcasting of Hindi is discontinued, it would raise a question mark not only on the dignity of the official language Hindi but also on the dignity of the nation. Therefore, through you, I would like the Government to pay attention to it immediately and revive the broadcasting of Hindi songs from Manipur Akashvani Kendra.

- (iv) **Need to Connect Thiruvannamalai and Chinnasalem in Tamil Nadu by rail**

[English]

SHRI P.P. KALIAPERUMAL (Cuddalore): Thiruvannamalai Railway Station is situated in the Villupuram-Katpadi meter gauge line of Southern Railway. Chinnasalem Railway Station is situated in the Viruthachalam-Salem meter gauge line of Southern Railway. There is no Railway line in between Thiruvannamalai and Chinnasalem. In between these two stations there are three towns namely Moongilthuraipattu, Sankarapuram and Kallakurchi. Moongilthuraipattu is having a cooperative sugar mill. Sankarapuram is a business town. Kallakurchi is a taluk Head Quarters and also a business town. There are hundreds of villages around these towns. This area comes under three constituencies of Lok Sabha namely Cuddalore, Vandavasi and Rasipuram. The people of this area are pressing for a new Railway line for decades. If this new line is constructed, it would be commercially viable and would also render yeomen public utility service. Therefore, I plead for the construction of the above Railway line at the earliest.