

last 10 years is conducted in this respect. People seek permission from the police station or the office of the Divisional Magistrate for using speakers on such occasions but they instead make use of loud-speakers with a false notion that this will add to their prestige and social status.

Therefore, I would like to impress upon the Environment Minister that keeping in view the grave problem of noise pollution and its consequent repercussions, a national level legislation to this effect may be enacted and enforced expeditiously so as to save the rest of the people lest they should fall an easy prey to the side effects of this pollution. Both the Central and State Governments may enforce this legislation with equal zest and vigour and deal firmly with the offenders.

(vi) Need to take steps to save the diamond industry in the country

SHRIKASHIRAM CHHABILDAS RANA (Surat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this country earns an annual income of Rs. 6,000 crores in valuable foreign exchange from the diamond industry which provides employment to lakhs of people. Today, the diamond industry is on the verge of collapse on account of the present policy of the Government. From the declining trend of growth in the diamond industry, it appears that the Government would be able to earn only a meagre amount of Rs. 3000 or 3500 crore as foreign exchange during the year 1990-91 from this industry. Besides, it will also render a large number of people jobless.

Gujarat is the largest diamond producing State in the country. On account of the state of sickness in this industry spreading all over the far flung rural areas of Gujarat, lakhs of workers would be rendered jobless. It is indeed a matter of regret that though this situation has been persisting for long, the Government is not paying any attention to it.

On account of the indifferent attitude of the Government towards the diamond industry, this industry is now developing in

other countries like China and Sri Lanka. So, I would like to request the Government that in order to save lakhs of people from losing their jobs and also to save this industry which earns a substantial amount of foreign exchange worth crores of rupees, they should pay proper attention to this industry. The Government should provide them all the facilities for export, adequate supply of water and electricity and help them reduce the polishing cost and at the same time constitute a committee to go into all the aspects of this industry and implement their suggestions immediately. Alongwith this, an attempt should be made to redress the grievances of the workers and traders associated with the diamond industry after giving them an opportunity to express their difficulties with a view to sort them out.

(vii) Need to take steps to overcome drought conditions in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI CHHAVIRAM ARGAL (Morena): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in order to combat the drought situation in Madhya Pradesh, the Central Government should provide additional financial assistance to State Government. Last year, on account of insufficient rains, and also because of the weakening of monsoon in September, 1989, the Kharif crop in various districts of the State was heavily damaged. Drought conditions are still prevailing in 77 Tehsils of the 29 districts in Madhya Pradesh. Failure of monsoon has adversely affected even the Rabi crop in all the districts of the State. As a result thereof Rabi crop could not be sown in more than one million acres of land in the State. Moreover, the crops already sown in the drought affected areas have been destroyed for want of rains. Taking into account, the state of Kharif and Rabi crops together, it would be seen that drought conditions are prevailing in the 86 Tehsils of the State. On the basis of a cursory evaluation of the Kharif crop damage, the Central Government should provide a financial assistance of Rs. 300 crores to Madhya Pradesh Government for drought relief measures and for supply of drinking water. In case the Central Govern-