

[Prof. P.J. Kurien]

import of these items will only bring down their prices in the market and thus ruin the growers. It may be remembered that majority of the growers are small and marginal farmers who need to be protected. I would, therefore, request the Government to take immediate steps to remove this apprehension from the minds of the growers of spices and rubber.

**(iii) Need to check under payment of minimum wages to graphite mines labourers in Bolagir district of Orissa**

SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA (Bolangir): Bolangir district is rich in graphites. There are many graphite mines in the district. Some are open cast and some are underground. The labour law is clear about the minimum wage of Rs. 17.48 and Rs. 21.48 respectively for open cast and underground mines, against which the labourers are paid only Rs. 5/- and Rs. 8/- per day. There are also four graphite beneficiation plants at Belpara village, Bolangir district. These plants are also making underpayment.

I request the Minister of Labour to act immediately to save this problem.

**(iv) Need for construction of a branch line from the Hazira - Jagdishpur pipeline to enable supply of gas to Marathwada**

DR. VENKATESH KABDE (Nanded): ONGC has been producing crude oil from Bombay High since 1976. Some structures in Bombay offshore like South Basin have been discovered and free gas is available from these fields. It is estimated that oil production is 20 million tonnes per annum and gas around 27 million cubic meters per day. Out of this, 12 million cubic meters gas is transported to Uran through pipelines and supplied to users in Maharashtra. 10 million cubic meters of gas is sent to Hazira and some part is flared. A proposal to make a branch pipeline from main Hazira-Bijaipur-

Jagdishpur pipeline to make natural gas available for industrial users and energy production in backward regions of Marathwada and Vidarbha has been pending with the Ministry of Petroleum. Now under the Western Offshore Integrated Development Programme (WOIDP) proposal for setting up of another gas/oil terminal in 8th plan is under active consideration. The matter is under examination by an expert committee. Marathwada is a backward region of Maharashtra. I, therefore, request the Government through you, Sir, to ensure that the branch line of this gas terminal passes through Marathwada region before onward transmission to South. This will be a boon for industrial users and assist in energy production in this backward region.

[Translation]

**(v) Need to meet the drinking water scarcity of Patna City (Bihar)**

DR. SHAILENDRANATH SHRIVASTAVA (Patna): Sir, Patna City is facing a serious water problem. There has been an abnormal increase in the populations of Patna in last ten years but in proportion to that new water tanks have not been constructed there. The water pipes are also not sufficient to meet the requirement. Due to power shortage people do not get water supply for hours together. The State Government is unable to solve this problem with its own resources. Therefore, I would request the Central Government to take effective steps to solve the problem of drinking water in Patna which is the capital of Bihar and save the lives of the people.

**(vi) Need to declare Bikaner (Rajasthan) a 'B—2' class city**

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR (Bikaner): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir Bikaner city is situated at the North western border of Rajasthan and is surrounded by the irrigated areas of Indira Gandhi Canal. Therefore, this city has rich potential of development. Recently the Central Government have de-

clared this city as a growth Centre.

Being a border district headquarters of Rajasthan Education Department and Indira Gandhi Canal Project, Agriculture University, Divisional office of Northern Railway, several other offices of State and Central Government are situated there. Besides B.S.F. Centre and Army Cantonment are also there. Under such Circumstances, the population of Bikaner has increased by three times in last seven years.

Bikaner is also surrounded by many important religious places such as famous Kapil Sarovar which is a place of pilgrimage for Kolayat Bishnois Gajner Amparanya, famous Karni temple and Ramuev temple at Runova. Lakhs of tourists visit there every year. Due to cantonment area and field firing range, lakhs of Army Jawan come to the city. Bikaner is one of the costliest cities of Rajasthan which naturally affects lakhs of State and Central Governments employees and daily wage workers. Bharatiya Railway Mazdoor Union and Rajasthan Rajya Karmchari Mahasangh have been demanding from the Government for the last two years to declare Bikaner as 'B-2' class city. At present the population of Bikaner is more than five lakh. Rajasthan Government has also recommended to the Central Government vide its letter dated 16.1.90 to declare Bikaner as 'B-2' class city.

Therefore, I would request that the Government should give priority to declare Bikaner a B-2 class city.

**(vii) Need for a through rail link between Sasaram and Patna (Bihar)**

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN ( Sasaram): Even after so many years of independence, historical city of Sasaram has not been directly connected with the Capital city of Patna by rail. It is, therefore, requested that a new train should be introduced between Mughal-sarai and Patna via Gaya. This would benefit more than 50 lakh people in the districts of Rohtas and Aurangabad.

13.15 hrs.

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL)  
1990-91**

**Ministry of Labour**

**and**

**Ministry of Welfare**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up together discussion and voting on Demand No. 56 relating to the Ministry of Labour for which 8 hours have been allotted and also Demand No. 79 relating to the Ministry of Welfare for which 6 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motion to the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Welfare, have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send separate slips for each Ministry to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved.

The lists showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case any member finds any discrepancy in the lists he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officers at the Table without delay.

Motion moved.

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1991, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 56