

(viii) **Need to grant early clearance to the Muhane dam and Punpun Irrigation projects in Bihar.**

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Madam Chairman, I want draw the attention of the Central Government to the fact that Bihar is a backward State. It is lagging behind in the matter of agriculture and education. There has not been uniform development also. For the advancement in agriculture, irrigation is necessary.

Two big irrigation projects—one Muhane Dam Project and the other Punpun River Irrigation Projects—have been pending with CWC for the last 10 years for final clearance. Both the projects should be sanctioned and included in the Seventh Five Year Plan and allocation should be made for them so that 2 lakh hectares of land may be irrigated regularly. This will not only increase the national income, but also solve the problem of unemployment to some extent. Therefore, the Central Government should sanction the two aforesaid projects urgently.

[*English*]

(ix) **Need to take appropriate steps to set up the proposed spinning mill at Aliganj in the district of Etah, Uttar Pradesh for the upliftment of people in this backward area.**

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah): The Uttar Pradesh Government had in June, 1985 decided to set up a spinning mill at Aliganj which is a backward area in the district of Etah. It was considered that setting up of a mill in Aliganj would not only generate employment opportunities for Aliganj people but also for the people from the neighbouring areas. It will improve their economic conditions and would solve the problem of growing criminal tendencies among the youth because of unemployment. This laudable decision was welcomed by all.

A survey team visited Aliganj sometime back and was shown vast track of unused land around Aliganj Dhatingra Road and Aliganj Saraighat Road which could be used for the purpose. It is now feared

that the spinning mill may now be set up at some other place in which case it would prove detrimental to the interests of Aliganj people and the very objective of the upliftment of this backward area would be frustrated. Therefore, Sir, through you and this august House I would request the Central Government to take appropriate steps to ensure that there is no deviation from the well considered decision of the Government and it is implemented for the betterment of the people of Aliganj.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1986-87

[*English*]

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS—*Contd.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will now take up Item 13, and continue further discussion on the Demands for Grants under the Control of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav to continue.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): Madam Chairman, I was submitting that the Government by increasing the prices of kerosene oil, diesel, petrol and gas have put a heavy burden on the poor, the farmers and the middle class. The people who had already been suffering because of the soaring prices have been put in a serious situation and their reaction is also forthcoming. The price rise of this type is not only harmful for the people of the country but also to the stability of the Government. I would appeal that you may reconsider the matter and withdraw the price hike.

It is said that the price hike has been resorted to on account of the resource constraint. There can be other ways to mobilise resources. It is not proper for a democratic Government to mobilise resources by burdening the poor and the farmers of the country in this way. You