

agriculturists and agricultural labour and the comparative progress made by other countries should be made part of curriculum to inculcate the spirit of national interest. This should also form part of curriculum of adult education programmes.

(iii) Need to remove restriction on the "Inner Line" stretch of the Leh-Manali road.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : The Leh-Manali road has been opened to restricted traffic a couple of years back. A stretch of few kilometres of the said road has been placed under "Inner line" at a point between Upshi and Gia in Ladakh District with the result the foreign and home tourists are not allowed to cross this stretch of few kilometres, although the tourists from Himachal side can travel right upto Gia in Ladakh and from the Leh side upto Upshi. This has been a cause of disappointment and anguish among the tourists who are interested to take a round trip sight seeing tour starting from Srinagar in Kashmir and ending at Manali in Himachal Pradesh or *vice-versa*. By throwing open the Leh-Manali Highway will not only get a boost to the tourist industry of Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh States but also improve the economic condition of the people of Ladakh as a result of short distance and cheaper transports via Manali to Ladakh.

I, therefore, request the Government to remove the "Inner Line" restriction imposed on this Highway to promote tourism and improve the economy of the two States.

(iv) Need to set up an Ordnance factory in Bihar.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : There are thirty-five ordnance factories in India under the Ministry of defence. These factories produce arms, ammunition, tanks, military vehicles and many other items to meet the requirements of Army, Navy and Air Force.

These factories are located in Maharashtra-nine, Uttar Pradesh-nine, Madhya Pradesh-six, Tamil Nadu-four, West Bengal-four, Chandigarh-one, Andhra Pradesh-one, and Orissa-one. But not a single ordnance factory is located in Bihar. Bihar has all the natural resources and all the infra-

structure needed for setting up an ordnance factory.

It is understood that the Union Government is planning to set up a few ordnance factories in the country. In this regard the claim of Bihar is very genuine. Besides, Bihar is a very backward State and the problem of unemployment is very acute there.

As such, the Union Defence Ministry should give immediate attention to the question of setting up an ordnance factory in Bihar.

[Translation]

(v) Need to include the 'Tharu' tribe in the list of Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH (Chapra) : Lakhs of people belonging to the Tharu Tribe have been residing in the eastern and western areas of the Champaran district of Bihar for nearly one thousand years. But it is regretted that they have not been included in the Schedule Tribe list to-date. As a result, they have been deprived of all the benefits available to the Schedule Tribes.

It is also worth mentioning that the Tharu tribe residing in Uttar Pradesh is included in the Scheduled Tribe list and is consequently getting all the benefits.

I would, therefore, like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the Tharu tribe residing in Bihar should be included in the Schedule Tribe list and it should also get all the benefits available to the Schedule Tribes.

[English]

(vi) Need to guarantee social security to active sportsmen and performing artists and also to exempt them from income tax.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : The professional sportsmen and women, athletes, artists of screen and stage, singers and musicians spend the best part of their life for the promotion of national cause in their respective fields. These sportsmen, artists etc., retire from their active life