

In this connection, it is heartening to note that the Government of India constituted a committee on November 30, 1987, which would, *inter-alia* consider the problem of floods due to the rivers flowing from Nepal into North Bihar.

In view of last year's experience, it is requested that the above committee be asked to submit its findings expeditiously and remedial measures taken quickly to avoid the recurrence of devastating floods.

In the mean time, immediate arrangements be made to monitor flood warnings from Nepal to North Bihar. If such warnings are received in time, colossal loss of life and property can be avoided.

The Government of India should grant a substantial amount to the Government of Bihar to enable the latter to plug the breaches on Kamla Balan embankments on a war footing. This has become necessary in view of the reason that the rains will start in the hilly areas of Nepal in a couple of month which will again inundate the rivers of Mithila region.

(vi) Need to bring Cotton under the Comprehensive Crop Insurance scheme

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): The cotton grower in Andhra Pradesh has become the victim of American Boll worm pest which has been responsible for the drop in cotton output to one third or one fourth of the normal yield. During 1985-86 and 1984-85 also white fly meance had ruined the cotton growers. While the outstanding debt has been increasing, the return from the farm is coming down in respect of cotton in Andhra Pradesh. Unable to bear this situation nine farmers of whom three were women, all belonging to Prakasam District have committed suicide in first week of this month. It is high time that the

Government should take immediate steps to issue instructions to the banks not to auction the Gold ornaments pledged by the growers towards the loans received by them. The Government should declare a moratorium on the outstanding dues from the farmers to the financial institutions. The Government should also bring cotton under the comprehensive crop insurance scheme to protect the interests of the cotton growers as well as long range need for increased cotton production for increased textiles exports.

(vii) Need to take over Mavoor Rayons Industry in Calicut district of Kerala

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): Mavoor Rayons in Calicut District in Kerala is not working for more than two years. Similarly some industries in Dalmia Nagar are closed for six years. These closures are on account of industrial policy. Government should take steps to take over these industries under Industries Development and Regulation Act.

[*Translation*]

(viii) Need for early setting up of T.V. Relay Centres in hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh have been totally neglected under the Doordarshan Expansion Scheme. Only 18 per cent people of these border hilly areas will be covered under Doordarshan network by the end of the current plan, which is very much on the lower side if compared to other parts of the country. This is also against the declared policy of the Central Government. It is really sad that the Ministry is not taking any steps to set up Doordarshan Relay Centres which have already been sanctioned for these areas. Doordarshan facilities are not available even to 0.1 per cent