

acceded to the demand of the Muslim community not to give effect to the amended Act of 1984 immediately but to consider further amendments.

Five years have elapsed and extensive consultations have been held with various sections of the Muslim society, including Muslim M.Ps and organizations. An amending Bill incorporating their consensus has now been drafted but it has not yet been introduced in the Parliament. In the meantime, even the non-controversial sections and beneficial provisions of the amending Act, 1984 have not been given effect to and unscrupulous elements continue to take advantage of the existing lacunae.

It is, therefore, submitted that the amending Bill may be introduced at the earliest and the non-controversial sections of the Wakf (Amendment) Act, 1984 be promulgated immediately.

(viii) Need to include Maithili in the Eighth Scheduled of the Constitution

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Sir, Maithili is spoken by nearly six crores of people in India. But it is surprising that despite repeated requests, it has not been included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. It is earnestly requested that in keeping with its importance, the Union Government should include Maithili in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

[Translation]

(ix) Need to allow outright sale of plots and flats in Delhi by abolishing sale through Power of Attorney and to abolish lease system

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has repeatedly stated in the House that the question of abolishing lease—hold system in Delhi is under active consideration. But till date no decision has been taken on it.

In Delhi thousands of persons are selling plots and flats through power of attorney. Plot and flat holders get a fat amount from the purchasers, even then the title of the property is not transferred to the buyer. As a result of which, despite execution of sale deed of plot the original plot holder continues to be the owner of the property on paper. Even after making full payment to the plot owner, the purchaser remains under his pressure and several problems also crop up threatening the loss of hard earned money of the buyer.

Therefore, I would like to request the Government to immediately abolish the lease-hold system in Delhi so as to streamline the sale and purchase of properties.

[English]

(x) Need to provide financial assistance to the Government of Orissa for afforestation of catchment areas of rivers in the State to check soil erosion

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): Rivers like Subarnarekha, Baitarani, Budhabalanga, Brahmani and Indrabati in Orissa, are known for high floods almost every year and cause extensive damages to several hundred villages and crops in millions of acres of cultivated land. Besides, soil erosion and large scale scourings are a regular phenomenon. In the last three years, eight big villages located on the banks of Subarnarekha river alone had been totally submerged and vast areas were completely eaten up due to large scourings. To save further damage to the flood-prone catchment areas of these rivers, afforestation for soil conservation is absolutely necessary.

The State Government of Orissa in spite of their serious resource constraints have spent about Rs. 8.30 crores to protect these catchment areas from scourings and erosion of 1.30 lakh hectares, but several million hectares still remain uncovered.

The State Government have, there-