AUGUST 18, 1989

[Sh. Chintamani Jena]

fore, requested the Union Government to take up these river valley projects under cent per cent central assistance with 50 per cent as grant and 50 per cent as loan for afforestation and soil conservation of these floodprone catchment areas of these rivers.

I would, therefore, request that the Government may kindly sanction these schemes at the earliest and funds may be provided in the current financial year, without delay.

[Translation]

(xi) Need to ensure supply of same quantity of sugar to villagers of U.P. in ration as is given to the residents of cities

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN (Kairana): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the rural areas which are given step-motherly treatment under the public distribution system in the country. On the one hand, the Government is making sincere endeavour to develop rural areas, on the other, they are being provided only 250 gms of sugar per unit under the public distribution system as against one kilogramme per unit in the urban areas. During the tour of my constituency, I forwarded many such complaints to the hon. Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and the District Magistrate, but no action has been taken on them.

Therefore, I would like to submit to the Government to give up this discriminatory policy and they be treated on equal footing in the matter of supply of sugar with the residents of cities.

[English]

(xii) Need to provide modern equipment to Cuttack Doordarshan Kendra to improve its programmes

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cut-

tack): Doordarshan Kendra at Cuttack is at present producing 2 hours 40 minutes of Oriya programme including 40 minutes of area specific programme. The Kendra was earlier producing programmes for telecast. from Sambalpur and equipment available there was for black and white picture. Later on these equipment were made colour compatible, either by modification or by replacement. Since July 1988, news in Oriya is also being telecast, the duration of which has now been increased to 15 minutes. But it is regrettable that the programmes are of very poor quality and are often repeated. Inadequate equipment are responsible for poor quality of the programmes produced by the Cuttack Doordarshan Kendra. The News Bulletins go without the required visuals as ENG cameras are not available most of the time for news coverage. Therefore, I demand that adequate number of ENG cameras and other equipment should be provided to Cuttack Doordarshan Kendra. Government of India had a proposal for the introduction of Vidhan Sabha Samachar in Oriya in the regional network of Cuttack Doordarshan Kendra. This programme can be introduced during the time when the Assembly is in session as is being done on the national network both in Hindi and English. Therefore, I demand that Government should introduce this programme from the next session of the Orissa Legislative Assembly and permission may be granted to Cuttack Doordarshan Kendra.

(xili) Need to amend the Constitution to provide representation of Parsi community in Lok Sabha and in Maharashtra and Gujarat Legislatures

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna): The Parsi Community is an ancient, civilized and progressive community of India. Posterity can never forget the historical role of the Parsis in the industrial, intellectual, educational, social, political, cultural and philanthropic and other public activities of India and the great heights of progress to which the Parsis have taken India in all these spheres.

This small and prestigious community