

[Shri Brajamohan Mohanty]

Financial assistance may, therefore, be provided to desilt and develop this area as a tourist centre.

- (iv) **Need to fill up all the vacancies reserved for Ex-servicemen particularly in B.S.F. by amending rules suitably**

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur): The Central and State Government have reserved vacancies for the resettlement of ex-servicemen in various sectors. However, Government departments are not implementing Government instructions in regard to utilisation of these reserved vacancies and a large number of the vacancies are permitted to lapse. As a result a large number out of the 60,000 defence personnel retiring every year are unable to find alternative employment.

For example, over 1500 vacancies in the Border Security Force lapsed last year because of a rule which requires an ex-serviceman to be inducted into the Border Security Force before two years of his retirement. The selection procedures of Border Security Force are long and often take over a year, thus making it impossible for retiring personnel to join the Border Security Force within two years of retirement.

It is of urgent public importance that vacancies reserved for ex-servicemen are properly utilised and the rules regarding re-employment in the Border Security Force in particular are suitably amended to so that vacancies reserved for ex-servicemen are utilised in time by them

- (v) **Demand for more Central assistance to Orissa in view of recent damage by cyclone and rains**

SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK (Kalahandi): Sir while the State of Orissa, unlike many other parts of the country, is under the grip of severe drought, the recent untimely rain and cyclone has caused severe damage to the Rabi crops.

Taking the latest situation in view, the entire planning for 'anti-drought' measures

and Central assistance should be reviewed. The State of Orissa will need more funds to meet the situation.

- (vi) **Need to sanction special ad hoc grants for the development of Konkan region of Maharashtra**

SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI (Ratnagiri): Sir, Konkan is a neglected backward coastal region right from the days of what was known as the Bombay Presidency. When the new linguistic State of Maharashtra was formed in 1960, part of Madhya Pradesh known as Vidarbha region and part of former Hyderabad State known as Marathwada region were added to Maharashtra. At the time of reorganisation of the State of Maharashtra, Nagpur pact was signed, in which an undertaking was given by the Government to the people of those two newly added regions to the effect that they would be given economic backlog for their development so as to bring their development on par with the rest of the State.

Though Konkan was more backward and economically neglected region of the original Bombay Province, no reference was made about it in the Nagpur Pact. When the Konkan Vikas parishad held its first conference in Bombay to agitate the gross neglect of Konkan region, the then Chief Minister gave an ad hoc grant of Rs. one crore for the development of the region. This token grant was too inadequate to meet the huge requirement of the backward region.

Today, looking to huge backlog of disparity in development of this backward region and the other advanced areas, a minimum ad hoc grant of Rs. 1,500 crores is required for the development of this region in order to bring the development of Konkan region on par with the rest of Maharashtra.

As our Prime Minister has been personally taking keen interest in removal of economic disparities of various States and regions, the people of Konkan region have, in their development conference, unanimously demanded an ad hoc grant of

Rs. 1,500 crores for removal of their developmental disparities. The Government of India should sanction such special ad hoc grants for development of very neglected backward region of Konkan in its next financial budget.

**(vii) Need to convert the existing unmanned railway crossing gate at Jatlananupur village in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh into a manned level crossing**

SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH (Nellore): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the village Jatlananupur in Manubale Mandalam, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh is situated on western side of the railway track and the G.N.T. Road. There are several villages with several institutions located on western side of the railway track and the G.N.T. Road.

The people who are coming from the above-said village, have to cross the unmanned level crossing for everything, like getting essential commodities, chemicals, fertilizers and other daily necessities of life.

At present, there is no safety to the people at the time of crossing the gate and also several accidents have taken place at the existing gate.

Hence, I request the hon. Railway Minister to convert the existing gate into a manned level crossing gate, so as to provide safety to life and transportation.

**(viii) Need to complete the Gerukamukh Project to control floods and supply power to Assam**

SHRI GOKUL SAIKIA (Lakhimpur): Sir, the unprecedented flood in Assam has greatly affected human life, cattle and crops. No doubt, Central Government has released funds to some extent for relief, and the State government machineries have also been engaged in flood relief programmes, but the relief has been inadequate.

In my opinion, the river bed level of Brahmaputra is becoming high gradually.

The most practical work that can be done by the Central government is to dig the river bed of Brahmaputra which will no doubt involve great expenditure so that the water of the tributaries can be absorbed by the river itself.

If the Gerukamukh Project is completed soon, than the flood will be controlled to some extent and it will also contribute to sufficient power supply to the people of Assam.

So, I earnestly request the Central Government to allot a huge amount of finance and provide expert manpower to relieve the people of Assam from regular flood havoc year after year.

12.30 hrs.

**CONSTITUTION (FIFTY-SIXTH AMENDMENT) BILL**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will now take up the next item, that is, Item No. 11, regarding the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India. The time allotted for this item by the Business Advisory Committee is two hours. The discussion will close at 3.30 P.M. and the Minister will reply after that. I would therefore request the hon. Members to be brief in their submissions. Now, Mr. Chintamani Panigrahi to move the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

Sir, the Constitution is the fundamental source of the polity of any country and provides basic features of its administration in accordance with the hopes and aspirations of the people. We have adopted our Constitution with the lofty objectives of strengthening the unity and