

President in this regard are not being implemented properly. The officers show an indifferent attitude towards them by saying that these persons are not deserving and therefore, they do not appoint them. Our leaders like Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi always made efforts to extend full benefits to the people of these categories, and as a result the people of these communities were benefited very much. I can say that even today, our Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, is undertaking welfare measures for the poor by meeting them in far flung areas so that these poor people could march forward.

I would like to urge the Government of India that stringent action [should be taken against those officers who do not comply with the instructions of the Ministry and a survey should be conducted to find out the backlog in all the Corporations and Undertakings whether it is under the State Governments or the Central Government and the backlog should be cleared within six months. I hope the Government of India would take immediate action in the matter so that the persons of these Communities could derive the benefits which have been guaranteed to them under the Constitution.

[English]

- (vi) Need to formulate a scheme for laying pipeline for natural gas in Assam and make provision for adequate funds.

SHRI M. R. SAIKIA (Nowgong) : Large quantities of Natural Gas are being flared up in the Oil India Ltd. and Natural Gas Commission's oil fields in Assam. This is a wastage of natural assets. A scheme should be formulated to lay a natural gas pipeline from Duliajan via Moran Galeky, Nazira, Sibsagar, Jorhat, Nagaon, Guwahati, Goulpara and Dhubri along the National Highways. This life-line would cater for a refinery-cum-petrochemical complex at Mezenga and a fertilizer plant each at Jorhat, Nagaon, Goalpara and Dhubri. There could be one petrochemical complex and a fertilizer factory at suitable site in Kamrup, Nalbari and Barbeta districts. Again, from Jakhlabandha (in Nagaon District) a branch line can be taken to the

North Bank though the Bhomoraguri Bridge over Brahmaputra. Another fertilizer plant could be set up in the jute areas of Mongoldoi and a stripping (LPG) plant at Bangia. Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to formulate a scheme and make provision for adequate funds for its implementation.

- (vii) Need to have a separate division for proper management of Coalfields in Orissa State.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, Orissa produced 6.6 million tonnes of coal from the two coalfields of the State, viz., Talcher and Ib valley during 1986. This is rather low when one considers the large reserves of coal located in these two coalfields. With the full commissioning of the captive power plants of NALCO and Rourkela Steel Plant, and increase in the supply of coal from Talcher field to the power plants in South, the total production of coal will exceed 10 million tonnes annually by the end of the 7th Plan period. In view of the dispersed locations of the two coalfields, for better control, it would be desirable to set up a separate Divisions of South Eastern Coalfields Ltd for the two coalfields of Orissa without further delay. The interests of the State were not being adequately safeguarded by the erstwhile Western Coalfields Ltd. which was looking after Ib Valley and by Central Coalfields Ltd. which was administering the Talcher Coalfields. By creating a new coal company (S.E. Coalfields Ltd.) with headquarters at Bilaspur in M. P., there has been no spectacular progress yet as far as integrated development of the coal coalfields of Orissa is concerned. It is, therefore, of paramount importance to have a separate Division, in Orissa for administration, supervision and expansion of activities of the two coalfields of the State.

- (viii) Need to provide sufficient funds to the State Government of Assam for undertaking permanent flood control measures.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA (Jorhat) : Recurring floods and erosion by the Brahmaputra have resulted on one hand, in extensive areas getting very thickly silted