

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

[Shri Parag Chaliha]

up making cultivation of the reason's main crop paddy impossible thereon, and on the other, large chunks of inhabited and cultivable land all along the two banks of the mighty river as also of its numerous tributaries almost annually eastern-up.

All flood control works so far have been mostly on *ad hoc* basis—permanent measures not being possible to be undertaken because of financial constraints. Even normal protective and flood-relief measures like repairing breaches (in bunds), constructing sluice-gate at vulnerable points all along the vast riverine tracts continue to go by default, due to pruning of the non-Plan allocations for the 7th Plan period for Assam under this head.

With the onsetting of the monsoons, the urgency of undertaking such protective works becomes more pronounced.

Resultant upon extensive erosion, besides other areas, a large populous area known as Deoghariya in Sibsargar (Assam), including an ancient Hindu temple, known as Ramkha Peeth, was recently swallowed by the Brahmaputra and a nearby muslim shrine, known as Hajrat Ajan Peer Sahib Dargah is facing a similar fate, if necessary protective measures are not immediately undertaken.

It is, therefore, to urge upon the Ministry of Water Resources to make available sufficient funds for works proposed by the Government of Assam so as to ensure that adequate protective measure are taken before it is too late.

12.30 hrs.

[English]

DEMANDS FOR GRANST 1987-88 —
CONTD

Ministry of Home Affairs

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 39 to 43 and 88 to 92 relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs for which 8 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Those cut motions only will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case any member finds any discrepancy in the list he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

Motion moved :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1988, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 39 to 43 and 88 to 92 relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs."