

[Dr. Viswanatham Kanithi]

protect the villagers and their properties in the shore. One such measure is to lease the land to the interested parties of the locality of not more than one acre for a family and allow them only to grow the Green Belt, so that the purpose for which the green belt is grown, will be served.

(iv) **Need to take steps to check the growing unlawful activities in border areas of Nepal**

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a matter under Rule 377. I am drawing the attention of the hon. Home Minister towards the northern part of Deoria district in Uttar Pradesh. The northern part of this district lies at the Bihar-Nepal border. Every year the floods in the Barhi Gandak cause huge devastation in Deoria district. Large areas of land are lying vacant on the banks of the river. These areas are occupied by the anti-social elements of the Jungle Party. Incidents of kidnapping of local people for the purpose of getting lakhs of rupees as ransom have become very common on the borders of Deoria district. People in the northern part of Deoria district and other parts of Bihar are terrorised by the Jungle Party elements. Since these areas are on the border of two States i.e. U.P. and Bihar as well as Nepal, it has become difficult to check the terrorist elements.

In this situation I would urge the hon. Home Minister to deploy a Special Police Forces for the safety of the people so as to protect them from the unlawful activities of the Jungle Party. This area is spread over 150 kilometres. If such measures are not taken the situation will continue to remain disturbed and protection of the local people will not be possible.

(v) **Need to establish a University in Purnea, Bihar**

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, North East Bihar, which consists of seven districts—Kishanganj, Araria, Purnea, Katihar, Saharsa, Madhepura and Sapoul—has a population of nearly ten million but almost no institution of higher education is there except a few post-graduate departments in some degree colleges. The region has no medical, engineering, agricultural or teachers' training college. It is presently served by the Mithila University in Darbhanga which is nearly 300 kms. away from Purnea, with no direct rail or road link. The region has remained educationally and technologically backward because it is poor and cannot afford distant education.

Considering the average population served by a university in the country as a whole or in the State of Bihar, the region has a legitimate claim to have a university of its own with faculties of arts, science, commerce, humanities, social sciences, engineering, medicine, agriculture and education.

The legitimacy of the claim has been conceded by successive governments of Bihar in the past but paucity of funds, the ban by the University Grants Commission and the wrangle over the site have held up progress of implementation.

Equality of educational opportunity is a sacred right and an imperative for development. I request that the Central Government and the UGC extend full cooperation to the State Government in establishing the university in Purnea which is logistically the most suitable place, in order to enable the youth of the region to progress educationally and to contribute to nation-building.