

consequence of this development is that the production of pepper will decline and the foreign exchange earnings will come down which will be detrimental to the interest of the country in general and the growers in particular.

I would, therefore, request that export duty on pepper may please be abolished.

- (ii) Need to initiate action to bring the mortal remains of Maulana Barkatullah, freedom fighters from San Francisco to India.

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna) : Maulana Barkatullah of Bhopal was a valiant freedom fighter who, along with Raja Mahendra Pratap, Lala Hardayal and many others, bravely fought the battle of independence abroad. He was the Prime Minister of the first provisional Indian Government in exile of which Raja Mahendra Pratap was the President-founded in Afghanistan in 1915. He, Lala Hardayal and others also founded the Ghadr Party in America and started the famous newspaper "Ghadr" which gave clarion call to Indians to overthrow the British Empire. For this purpose, an advertisement to recruit people was issued in their newspaper Ghadr on the following terms :

|              |   |           |
|--------------|---|-----------|
| Salary       | — | Death     |
| Award        | — | Martyrdom |
| Pension      | — | Freedom   |
| Battle-field | — | India     |

Maulana Barkatullah died in 1927 in San Francisco and was buried with the solemn promise that "when your country will attain freedom, your remains would be transferred and consigned to earth in the free India", still an unfulfilled promise.

The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Arjun Singh, has renamed the Bhopal University as Maulana Barkatullah University which is being opposed by certain forces. Such opposition by the few must be condemned by all. The Govern-

ment of India should also initiate action to bring the mortal remains of Maulana Barkatullah from San Francisco to India and get it buried here with all the honour it deserves.

As N.M. Rashid, the famous rebel Urdu poet has said :

"Apne Darweje khule Rahane Do  
yad ki Aag Dabak Uthi Hai Shayad is  
Raat Hamare Mashhad Aa Jain

Aaj Darwaje Khule Rahane Do"

(N. M. Rashid)

Keep your doors wide open tonight.

Memory's fire is in full blaze.

Who knows this very night our martyrs  
may pay us a visit!

Keep your doors wide open tonight.

[Translation]

(iii) Need to lay a new railway line from Azamgarh to Gunganganj via Atraulia-Basavari Tanda

SHRI R.P. SUMAN (Akbarpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, transport facilities are a must for the development of a region and the Indian Railways are playing a very important role in this direction. But there are some parts in the country where the people face a lot of difficulties for want of railway facilities and there are some district headquarters where only narrow gauge lines have been provided where as thousands of people belonging to these areas live in various big cities and they undertake to and fro journeys between these cities and their home towns.

District Azamgarh and some parts of eastern Faizabad in Uttar Pradesh have remained neglected in regard to these railway facilities whereas thousands of people belonging to Azamgarh and eastern tehsil of Faizabad, Tanda live in Delhi, Bombay, Punjab and other big cities of the country and they face a lot of difficulties while undertaking to and fro journey between these places and their home towns.

12. 14 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I, therefore, strongly urge upon the Government to provide a new train by laying a new railway from the district headquarters of Azamgarh to Gusainganj via Atraulia-Basavari-Tanda for the development of these neglected area and in the wider public interest so that the people of these areas may have full advantage of the railway facilities and the Department of Railways may also earn profit.

(iv) Need to provide assistance to the people of Bihar, UP and Nepal affected by earthquake and floods

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been reported that the havoc created by the earthquake early in the morning of 21 August in the entire North Bihar and most parts of eastern Nepal claimed thousands of lives and caused a heavy loss of property worth crores of rupees. The irony is that these areas were already reeling under floods in rivers due to heavy rains in these parts. There is no doubt about the fact that the Central as well as the State Government paid immediate attention to this frightening situation and the Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi accompanied by the Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad visited the site of the incident immediately and took prompt action to provide immediate succour. But till now a real assessment of the loss of lives and property has been made and in view of the seriousness of the situation, there is a need to provide more assistance. It may also be pointed out here that the impact of earthquake has been a little less in eastern Uttar Pradesh as compared to the impact of earthquake in these affected areas, but the ferocity of floods completed the circle. The Ghaghara, Rapti, Kauni, Taraina, Gouri rivers in Uttar Pradesh caused damage to residential units in addition to the loss caused in their respective areas. The entire area right from Sahajanawa to Gorakhpur city in Gorakhpur district is looking like an ocean.

Therefore, while drawing the attention of the Government to this frightening situation, I request them immediately to get the actual loss assessed by the experts and provide appropriate earthquake and flood relief to the affected people. I also want that keeping in view the extensive damage caused by the earthquake in our neighbouring country, Nepal, the Government should take initiative to provide adequate relief to the affected people of Nepal through their Government.

[*English*]

(v) Need for comprehensive national policy on Indian languages

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur) : Ever since independence was attained in 1947, the Union Government has not formulated any coherent and comprehensive National Policy on Languages, their promotion and recognition. While the Sahitya Akademi and the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, have been giving some impetus to the growth of Indian languages and their literature, yet the resistance of the Government to include any more languages in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution after Sindhi, has deprived many developing languages, like Manipuri, Konkani, Maltbi, etc. which are recognised by Sahitya Akademi and other Pahari of Himachal Pradesh and Khasi in Meghalaya as also the seven major tribal languages pressing their claims for recognition by the Sahitya Akademi and inclusion in the 8th Schedule of their due status. The classical languages like Sanskrit, Pali, Persian and a widely spoken languages like Urdu find their future to be uncertain on account of occasional shift on emphasis on language study to other more lucrative subject groups in the educational system. The three language formula has been interpreted in many convenient ways by State Governments. Some resistance to Hindi still continues.

So, it is high time that a well defined coherent and comprehensive National Policy on Indian Languages is formulated by the Union Government in consultation