

[English]

- (iv) **Demand for paying attention to the miseries of the circus artistes and for discovering new sports talent from among them to be groomed as future sportsmen.**

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): The state of Kerala in general and the District of Cannanore in particular has produced the largest number of circus artistes in the country.

The outstanding performance and the unique acrobatic skill of the circus artistes from Kerala have left a deep imprint in the minds of millions in and outside our country.

One often forgets that behind the glitter and glamour there are pathetic stories of poverty and want. More often than not, it is sheer poverty that leads most artistes to the circus tents. Age and ill health drive the artistes away from the tents and they are left to feed for themselves. Life of a circus artistes is therefore often tragic.

The circus is one of our skillful arts which involves rigorous practice, strenuous work and heavy risk. This art is unfortunately dying for want of proper encouragement and help from the Government. It is for the Government to see that this art is revived. The initial step should be to provide insurance coverage to the artistes. The Ministry for Human Resource Development should discover new sports talent especially acrobats from among the circus artistes, to give them due encouragement, and to groom them as future sports promises of our country.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to pay special attention to Indian circus which will enable us to reach new heights in Indian and International sports.

[Translation]

- (v) **Demand for a Scheme for diverting to Kanpur the Ganga water flowing towards Unnao.**

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kanpur, one of the major industrial and populated cities of North India, is situated on the banks of the holy Ganga. But for the past many years, the Ganga has changed its course and the main stream has shifted from the Ghats of Kanpur to the other side in Unnao district. Consequently, thousands of pilgrims have to walk about 9 kms. in the sand to have a holy dip in the river. Besides, the Kanpur Electric Power House and water works are facing great difficulty in supplying power and water to the citizens.

Therefore, I request the Centre that for solving the above mentioned problems it should get a survey conducted with the help of the State Government with a view to chalking out a programme for construction of a 20 km. long canal from Brahmavart Bithur, the point from where the main stream has shifted its course towards Unnao district, to divert water towards the Kanpur Ghats. This should be done in a planned manner and the work should be started immediately so that the long standing demand of the people is met.

[English]

- (vi) **Steps to increase production of pulses.**

SHRI A. JAYAMOHAN (Tiruppattur): In recent months, prices of pulses have shot up ranging from Rs. 8/- to Rs. 11/- per kg. in the retail markets. The sudden spurt in the prices of pulses is mainly due to the stagnant domestic production for the past two decades or more. According to estimates, it is expected that the production of pulses would be about 13 million tonnes in 1986-87. In view of the prevailing weak monsoon conditions, the current year's production is expected to be well below 12.

million tonnes. This would result in fall in per capita availability of pulses in the country.

Sir, it is contended that the 'Green Revolution' which brought about increase in the productivity of wheat and other cereals, has affected the productivity of rich protein content pulses. It can be seen that the production of pulses suffered most in the major wheat producing States like Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. Similarly production of cotton and sugarcane has been affected greatly due to drought and poor monsoon conditions.

It is, therefore, requested that the Government should take immediate steps to encourage the cultivation of pulses, encourage use of short-term varieties of pulses for cultivation as also for distribution of improved seeds, so that production of pulses is stepped up and import of this item is minimised, thus saving valuable foreign exchange.

**(vii) Demand for looking into the inconvenience being experienced by passenger in trains running between North Bengal and Calcutta.**

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK (Darjeeling): Sir, the most vital train, Darjeeling Mail, linking North Bengal with the capital of West Bengal, Calcutta is always running late causing much inconvenience to the passengers. This train never reaches its destination either Sealdah or New Jalpaiguri at the scheduled time. Its coaches are in very bad condition. Even the first class compartments are without proper lights and fans, doors and windows are damaged, lavatories and bath rooms are always dirty. Condition of second class coaches is horrible. Even the 3 tier reserved coaches are packed with unreserved ticket holders or ticketless persons. Outsiders always create nuisance in the train. Similar is the case with other trains like Tinsukia Mail, North East Express, Janata, Kamrup and other trains originat-

ing from Guwahati and passing through New Jalpaiguri. People are very much disgusted and make serious complaints about these anomalies.

I urge upon the Government to look into these complaints seriously and take appropriate and prompt action to improve the services.

**(viii) Demand for providing financial assistance to Government of Sikkim to meet the situation created by flash floods in the State.**

SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI (Sikkim): The Government are aware that the monsoon was very active in Sikkim from the middle of May, 1987 and it rained heavily and incessantly for weeks which caused considerable damage throughout Sikkim to public property viz. power and water supply installation, Government buildings and network of State Highways linking South and West Districts of Sikkim. The agricultural holdings in the four districts of Sikkim have suffered heavy damages and the crops of Maize, Cardamom, Ginger and Orange were also damaged by flash floods and land slides. In this way, total loss has been calculated worth several crores of rupees. The State Government has provided relief to victims of this heavy damages from its marginal resources available with them. The Central Government should sanction *ad hoc* grant of Rs. 10 crores to Sikkim immediately to enable the State Government to meet urgent expenditure till such time the actual damages are assessed by the Government. I understand that keeping in view of seriousness of situation the State Government has also requested for immediate financial assistance.

12.26 hrs.

[English]

ATOMIC ENERGY (AMENDMENT) BILL

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will