

- (iv) Need to sanction Rs. 50 crores to Andhra Pradesh for relief measures in the flood affected areas and need to start an institute of "Disaster Management" in the State.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati) : The death toll due to the unprecedented cyclone hit caused floods in Godavari last week has risen to about 150. Thirty lakh people have become homeless and the loss of property is about Rs. 900 crores. Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Tamil Nadu coastal areas have been very prone to floods, cyclones and drought since 1976. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Central team and the Prime Minister visited the flood affected areas. There should be revolving fund to meet such disasters. For providing immediate relief, another about Rs. 50 crores may be sanctioned to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. An institute of 'disaster management' may be started at Tirupati for training the personnel for rehabilitation of the victims.

- (v) Demand for more financial assistance to Assam for implementing flood control projects.

SHRI M. R. SAIKIA (Nowgong) : Sir, Assam has been suffering from serious problem of floods and erosion since long, which has been badly affecting entire economy of this backward State. The great threat being posed by erosion to the existing flood control structure as well as habitation and cultivation areas around Deorighat Matmara, Singra, Muklamara, Howlight Chunari, Baliukuchi, Fafirganj, Sough Salmara, Deogharia and also some other parts of the State call for immediate anti-erosion measures. But with the present trend of annual allocation of Rs. 13 crores under loan assistance for flood control works of the Brahmaputra Valley, it is not possible for the State Government to venture upon costly projects to prevent erosion and floods. Lack of funds is the only constraint in confronting this problem of erosion and floods in the State. The economic development of this backward State depends upon the solution of the problems of erosion and floods.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to extend more financial help for implementation of some flood control projects to tame and harness the extensive river system of Assam.

- (vi) Necessary measures needed to improve the condition of cotton growers.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH (Surendranagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, despite the fact that it has been admitted that India produces more cotton than what can be absorbed in the national or international market at economic rates, no real steps have been taken to ameliorate the conditions of the growers. No cash compensatory scheme has been given for exporting cotton nor any real incentives given to those farmers who will switch to growing other types of crops. Therefore, I request the Government to take necessary steps in this regard.

[Translation]

- (vii) Need to start drilling at Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Bikaner in Rajasthan for discovery of oil and gas.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377, I would like to draw your attention towards a matter of public importance. 28600 sq. km. area of Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Nagaur, Ganganagar and Jodhpur districts in Rajasthan has been assigned to the Oil India Limited for drilling and discovery of oil and gas.

The Oil India Limited has conducting a seismic survey of this area in collaboration with a French Company. The latest method of "bibroesis" was adopted to carry out the said survey.

This survey reveals that there is every possibility of the availability of gas and petroleum under a depth of 3500 metres below the ground level in Rajasthan.

The Indian Oil Limited has to start the drilling of wells for exploring crude

in the month of September this year in Rajasthan, but till today they have not procured the requisite modern drilling machine. Earlier there was a provision of Rs. 13 crores for the purchase of the said machine but now even that provision is not there.

It is also learnt that the World Bank has refused to grant loan to the Oil India Limited for this purpose.

The Petroleum Department of the Central Government is indifferent towards it and is not taking any interest. As a result of it, the drilling work for the discovery of oil in Rajasthan is in doldrums.

The exploitation of oil and gas from Rajasthan can completely transform the condition not only of the desert area but of the entire country.

Hence, I request the Petroleum Department of the Centre to start the drilling work on war-footing in September, 1986 in Rajasthan as seismic survey of this area has already been completed.

(viii) Need to construct a fly-over at Saifabad Railway crossing in Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT (Barabanki): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the Saifabad Railway Crossing in district Barabanki. Both the broad gauge and the narrow gauge lines pass through this Crossing. Hence, the gate at this Crossing is generally found closed, thereby causing jam of heavy vehicular traffic resulting in a lot of inconvenience. It is a very busy route. This railway crossing on the Lucknow-Faizabad road remains very busy because it connects Lucknow with Faizabad, Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria, Bihar State, Gonda Behraich and Nepal. Therefore, a fly-over bridge should be constructed over the Saifabad Railway Crossing.

(ix) Need to recognise 'Dhobi' Community in Madhya Pradesh as a Scheduled Caste Community.

SHRI K. N. PRADHAN (Bhopal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the following matter of public importance.

Even today, there are certain castes which are recognised as scheduled castes in some district of a State but are not recognised as such in the other districts of the same State. The commission appointed for the schedule castes and schedule tribes has also recommended that all such communities should be declared as schedule caste communities in the entire State.

In Madhya Pradesh, the "Dhobi" community is recognised as a schedule caste community only in Bhopal, Raisen and Sihore districts and in the rest of the districts of the State it is not recognised as such. The "Dhobi" community is the most back-ward community from social and economic point of view and every member of its community is equally poor in all parts of the State. Therefore, I request that the "Dhobi" community should be recognised as a scheduled castes community in the entire State of Madhya Pradesh.

The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has already written to the Central Government in this regard. Therefore, it would be better if the "Dhobi" community is declared as a schedule caste community in the entire State of Madhya Pradesh. Immediate action should be taken in this regard.

11.21 hrs.

NATIONAL SECURITY GUARD
BILL—Contd.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: We will now take up Item No.10—Further consideration of