

owner should make necessary arrangement for containing the effluence inside the factory premises and treat the same with the plant available for this purpose and then remove the wastes to far off places in solid form. I would request the hon. Minister for Industry to issue necessary instructions to the industries in this regard. Otherwise, people in these areas are prone to suffer from some contagious disease. Government should take urgent action on this matter in order to see that cultivation and other plants and trees in the surrounding areas are saved from decay and ecological balance is maintained in the District.

[Translation]

- (iv) Need to direct the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to take up preventive measures to check the recurring menace of floods in these States.

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gorakhpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Under Rule 377, with your permission, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the following matter of urgent public importance.

This year also the country is facing the problem of floods. Each and every part of the country is affected by floods and there is a demand for succour. Our Government is spending crores of rupees every year to solve this problem but it is regretful that steps are taken only when the floods have already come. For example, Deoria district of Uttar Pradesh is frequently affected by floods as the Bihar Government has not constructed an embankment on the western side of the Burhi Gandak river. Although the Government of Uttar Pradesh has already spent Rs. 35 lakhs to check soil erosion yet large areas of Gorakhpur and Deoria are under the threat of floods because the Government of Bihar is not paying any attention to this problem. The Uttar Pradesh Government has earmarked Rs. 32 crores this year also, to meet the situation created by the floods and for relief work. Similarly, Bihar Government must have earmarked funds to meet the situation created by floods. If timely action and preventive measures to check the recurr-

ence of floods are taken, then lakhs of rupees can be saved. Besides, we can get rid of the recurring menace of floods for ever.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to direct the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to jointly undertake suitable time bound programmes and measures which would solve the problem of floods in Burhi Gandak and Ghaghra rivers permanently so that there is no wastages of money.

- (v) Need to sanction schemes for the development of the backward tribal areas of the country.

SHRI MANKURAM SODI (Bastar): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, today if any backward area of the country is to be developed, then it is necessary to provide facilities like metalled roads, potable water, educational institutions, medicines, power supply, irrigation facilities and marketing of agricultural produce. After so many years of independence, it is now only that emphasis is now being laid on this aspect in our Five Year Plans. The people belonging to the backward areas are dreaming of joining the mainstream of Indian life but contrary to their expectations it is the environment of the country which proves to be the stumbling blocks. Today if any steps are taken to connect the inaccessible areas with the main road then somehow that work is stalled; similarly, if a source of potable water is located, it is not tapped on the plea that it is a forests area; and again in a similar fashion, if people want to construct a school or college building somewhere, then that place is also shown as a forest area in the records. Rural electrification schemes are often dismissed on the pretext of presence of thickets in the area. Small irrigation projects are also not sanctioned on similar grounds. Thus all these projects are held up in the name of protecting ecology. The Bodhghat project of Bastar is an illustration of this sort of reasoning. Environment cannot become an obstacle where the political leaders are strong enough. In those areas every small and big scheme is being implemented properly.