

newspapers criticise the Government. Freedom of press is imperative for the functioning of democracy in India. 'Daily Ajit' published from Jalandhar has also been writing against the Government for which the newspaper management is being discriminated and harassed by the police.

Even when the news released by the UNI and PTI is published, the paper is forced to delete the columns.

Any discrimination against any particular paper which carries news against the Government is unfortunate.

I request the Central Government ensure uniform policy for all the newspapers and check discriminatory attitude against papers who are bold enough to write against the administration.

(iii) Need to open more coking gas agencies in the District of Jhansi and Lalitpur in Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHORTI(Jhansi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the people of Lalitpur area of Jhansi district in U.P are facing a lot of difficulties due to prevailing crisis of LPG (cooking gas) in the area. The main reason of this crisis is that the Home Delivery System is not working properly as it should work. As a result of it the consumers are not getting their cooking gas in time. The Home Delivery System does not cover the area of Mauranipur of district Jhansi. So the cooking gas is not available to all the consumers. It is therefore requested that the Home Delivery System should be strictly enforced particularly in Jhansi, Lalitpur and Mauranipur. Besides, 15000 new gas connections in Jhansi, 5000 in Lalitpur and 2500 in Mauranipur which are pending for the last 10 years should immediately be released and the number of agencies should also be increased because the existing number of Agencies is inadequate to meet the growing demand of the popula-

tion. It is necessary to open agencies in Chirgaon, Ranipur, Barua Sagar, Gursarai and Maahrauni and Talvehat in Lalitpur district in order to overcome the prevailing crisis.

(iv) Need to ensure supply of its share of Ganga-Yamuna Water to Rajasthan

SHRIMATI KRISHMENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) (Bharatpur): A number of cities and towns in Rajasthan have been facing acute water problem for a long time. This problem was aggravated particularly in Bharatpur district due to the salty ground water in that region.

The State Government had got the Gurgaon canal constructed to solve the irrigation and drinking water problem. But since the State Government has failed to get its share of the Ganga-Yamuna water, the problem has not so far been solved. In addition to that, due to non-availability of water from Agra canal of Uttar Pradesh in time the situation in Deeg, Kumher, and rural areas of Bharatpur Tehsil as taken a serious turn. The problem of drinking water particularly in Kumher and Deeg areas can prove fatal at any time.

I would like to urge the Central Government to take appropriate decision on this issue of public importance at the earliest to provide relief to the people and to enhance Rajasthan to get its due share of water.

(v) Need for an immediate survey by Central Government of flood affected areas in Rajmahal, Bihar

SHRISIMON MARANDI(Rajmahal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through this House, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the problems of the people living at the Ganga coast in my constituency Rajmahal under Sahibganj district in Bihar. Ganga river flows to Bhagalpur through Rajmahal, Sahibganjm, Pakad and many other blocs. Due to this, the flood water is accumulated in