

assurances given by the State Government from time to time.

The Orissa State Government has requested for a loan assistance of Rs. 33 crores from the World Bank, for the renovation and repairs of these bridges. Unless adequate funds provision is made for these projects, repair and construction work cannot be completed in time. This will add further misery to the affected people of Southern Orissa.

I urge the Union Government to sanction adequate funds expeditiously for completion of reconstruction of the six major bridges in Ganjam District within the time frame, simultaneously ensuring that funds allocated for this needy project are not diverted to other projects.

- (v) **Need to provide adequate funds to State Governments for providing better Education to Girls in the Rural Areas of the Country**

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK (Shahabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, even after 47 years of Independence proper arrangement has not yet been made for education of girls in many villages of a country where 76 per cent of population live in villages. Till now even primary schools have not been provided in every village. In such villages, it is very difficult for girls to go to other villages for schooling and in the absence of such facility they remain illiterate.

Similar is the condition of junior high schools and Secondary schools. High schools and Secondary schools are situated at a distance of 7 to 8 kms. from the villages and are confined to big towns and cities only. It is not possible for rural

girls to go to schools situated at such a long distance.

Such girls, due to lack of education, not only remain deprived of playing a role of enlightened citizen, they are also not able to raise the standard of their respective families. The boys get education in such far away schools according to their capability and later on that avoid to get married to such illiterate girls which creates imbalance in the society.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to provide adequate funds to State Governments for opening good schools for girls and constructing hostels for them where free education and free lodging and boarding facilities should be made available to the girls so that rural girls could also be educated.

- (vi) **Need to provide Telephone Facility at Muradnagar Town in Ghaziabad District in Uttar Pradesh**

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Muradnagar is a small industrial town in my Parliamentary constituency Ghaziabad which is gradually developing as a industrial town. This town is situated 11 kms. away from Ghaziabad and 10 kms. away from Modinagar but due to non-availability of local telephone facilities people are facing a lot of difficulties there.

Therefore, I request the hon. Communication Minister to provide local telephone facility in view of the importance of this town so that this problem of local people could be solved.