

**(vii) Need to ensure strict enforcement or provisions of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act**

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, child labour is a punishable offence but this law could not be enforced properly. It becomes more painful when children in the age group of 5 to 14 years feed their parents by working in carpet industry, hotels, tea-shops, residential houses, motor garages etc. Such small children generally belong to very poor families where their parents are unable to upbring them. In fact the child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act is not very effective to deliver justice to the child labour.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to conduct a survey to find out the number of child labourers in the country and they should be freed from their jobs and residential schools should be constructed for their free education in each division and sub division and the Government should bear the entire expenditure of their education. Even after making such arrangements, if parents of child labourers do not educate them, then law should be enacted to penalise such parents.

**(viii) Need to link Brahmaputra River with Ganga at Farakka through a canal to augment the Water Flow into the Farakka Barrage**

*[English]*

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar): Sir, the construction of the Farakka barrage was primarily aimed at stopping the Hooghly from being silted. Ironically at present, West Bengal is left with nothing but the silt; so much so,

leave alone irrigation, Calcutta Port which needs a minimum of 40,000 cusecs in the pre-monsoon months to barely stay alive, gets a paltry 20,500 cusecs from Farakka with the pattern of water usage in the upper reaches of Ganga, especially in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar having changed dramatically with consumption going up every year.

I request the Central Government to link the Brahmaputra with Ganga at Farakka through a canal to augment the water flow into the barrage and it would more than take care of both Bangladesh and Indian interests. Bangladesh should be convinced of this being the most feasible and effective solution to increase the availability of water.

15.58 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE:  
DISAPPROVAL OF MANIPUR  
MUNICIPALITIES ORDINANCE 1994  
AND  
MANIPUR MUNICIPALITIES BILL**

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: Now we take up items 12 and 13.

Shrimati Shiela Kaul.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this House is fully aware that as early as in 1989, the then Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, committed as he was to strengthen democracy at the grassroot level, wanted to accord constitutional status to the Panchayats and Nagarpalikas. As a result of wide ranging discussions, the Government of India introduced the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Bill, 1991 relating to Municipalities in the Lok Sabha