

- (v) *Need to Introduce a direct express train between Dehradun and Delhi Via Moradabad*

[Translation]

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL (Hathras): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a passenger train running between Dehradun and Delhi via Luxar and Saharanpur but there is no direct rail link from Dehradun to Delhi via Nazibabad-Nagina-Dhampur and Moradabad. As a result, the people of Nazibabad, Nagina, Dhampur and Bijnore face a lot of inconvenience. The passengers have either to catch train at Luxar at late night or have to go to Saharanpur which is quite far off. The passengers of Ambala and Dehradun travelling by Howrah and Lucknow bound trains via Moradabad have no direct rail link from Moradabad to Delhi. I, therefore, request the hon. Railway Minister to start a direct Mail train from these places to Delhi via Moradabad for the convenience of thousands of passengers.

- (vi) *Need to set up a Central University in Manipur*

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur) : Sir, there is a pressing necessity for the establishment of a Central University in the State of Manipur. In view of the increase in the number of students for higher studies, the Manipur University which is a State University, cannot provide admission to the aspiring candidates. In the present circumstances faced by the Manipur University, new disciplines and faculties could not be introduced.

Hence, I request the Union Government to take necessary action to set up a Central University in Manipur.

15.48 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (EIGHTY-FIRST AMENDMENT) BILL
(AMENDMENT OF THE NINTH SCHEDULE)

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA):

Sir, I beg to move : 'That the Constitution (Eighty-first Amendment) Bill (Amendment of Ninth Schedule) be taken into consideration'.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I feel privileged to introduce this Bill for consideration of this August House.

As you are aware that Article 31'B' of the Constitution provides safeguards to the Acts and Regulations included in the 9th Schedule from being challenged in the Court of Law on the ground that, they infringe the Fundamental Rights included in Part III of the Constitution. The 9th Schedule includes the list of laws, Acts of various State Governments and Central Government which are, inter alia, prejudicial to rights and interests in acquisition of estates including land.

Article 31-A provides safeguards to land reform laws from being declared void on the ground that they take away or abridge any of the Fundamental Rights conferred under Articles 14 and 16. Article 31C of the Constitution provides safeguards to land reform laws which says that no law giving effect to the policy of the State (towards securing principles laid down in Part IV) shall be deemed to be void on the grounds that it is inconsistent with or takes away or abridge, any of the rights conferred by Article 14 or Article 19. These safeguards have been re-enforced by Article 31(B) which provides for full safeguard to the land reform Acts and Regulation specified in the 9th Schedule from the entire Part III of the Constitution.

In the past, if any progressive law made in public interest was found in the danger of being declared void in a litigation, the same was included in the 9th Schedule. In the beginning, 13 land reforms laws were included in the 9th Schedule by enacting Constitution (First Amendment) Act, 1951 and since then, the 9th Schedule has been amended from time to time and so far, 255 Acts have been included in it, of which 222 laws pertain to land reforms.

Besides, prominent Acts, several Amendment Acts have also been included in the 9th Schedule. It became inevitable because the laws did not automatically get safeguards of 9th Schedule, and the amending laws had to be included. The 9th Schedule was amended last in 1980 when 55 land reform laws were included. Thereafter, some more proposals were received from State Governments which were examined and ultimately, it was decided to include 27 land reform laws in the 9th Schedule, of which the Acts namely the Bihar Consolidation of Holdings and Prevention of Fragmentation of Land Act, 1956, Bihar Visheshadhikrit Lok Vas Bhoomi Kashtkari Act, 1947 and West Bengal Land Reforms Tribunal Act, 1961 were main Acts and the remaining 24 were amendment Acts. These laws mainly related to ceiling on Agricultural landholdings, safeguards against transfer of tribal lands, consolidation of holdings, improvement in tilling etc. which ever legal provisions in this regard.

Sir, as you are already aware, the Government is according top priority to various rural development programmes and since land reform laws are an important part of these programmes, it has been decided to include these laws in the 9th Schedule so that the implementation of these Acts is not adversely affected due to litigations.

I move this Bill in this August House and request that it may be adopted unanimously.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time allotted to this Bill is one hour. For the Congress Party, it is 27 minutes; for the BJP, it is 12 minutes; for the CPI, it is 4 minutes; for the