snapped Army was called in Alipurduar He-15.57 hrs.

licopters were pressed in service for air dropping of food and medicines 15 lakh people have been affected

In view of grave situation, I urge upon the Government for immediate release of funds and supply of food, medicines, Kerosene, petrol, etc for relief operations and take steps for immediate restoration of rail road and telephone communications

(vii) Need for construction of a bridge across the river Ganga between Monghyr and Khagaria in Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL (Monghyr) Monghyr is situated on the North-West bank of river Ganga, where Khagaria city District Centre is located It is necessary to construct a bridge across the river Ganga between Monghyr and Khagaria in Bihar The National Highway No 31 passes through this place and goes upto nver Brahmputra in Assam The proposed National Highway from Lucknow to Fara' ka will also pass through Monghyr It is therefore the responsibility of the State Government as well as the Central Government also to construct a bridge over the river Ganga in Monghyr

I would therefore request the Union Government to take immediate steps to construct a bridge across the river Ganga between Monghyr and Khagaria On one hand, it will expedite the economic development of South and North Bihar and on the other hand, the land in Diara area will saved from erosion There not only check the activities of the, criminials, the Government too will earn a good amount from the toll-tax

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN We shall now take up Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill

DELHIMUNICIPAL CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIS B CHAVAN) Sir, I beg to move

> "That the Bill further to amend the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 be taken into consideration "

- As the House is aware, a Committee was set up in December 1987, to go into the functioning of the various administrative and municipal authorites in Delhi with a view to ensuring efficiency and effectiveness in their functioning The Committee, popularly known as the Balakrishnan Committee, submitted its Report after a detailed study of the issue involved and examined the views expressed in various memoranda, reports and other materials. The recommendations made by the Committee regarding the administrative setup in Delhi were considered, and necessary legislation including the Constitutional amendment to provide for the establishment of a Legislative Assembly and a Council of Ministers for the National Capital Territory of Delhi has already been enacted

The recommendations made by the Committee regarding the municipal set up had been examined The Delhi Municipal Corporation (Amendment) Bill 1992 was introduced in the lok Sabha on the 24th November 1992 to give effect to the decisions taken on these recommendations

In the meanwhile the Constitution was amended by the Constitution (Seventy-third Amendment) Act 1992 and the Constitution (Seventy-fourth Amendment) Act, 1992 relating to ""Panchayats"" and ""Municipalities', respectively Since the amendments to the Constitution has a bearing on the composition, duration, reservation of seats powers, authority and responsibilities of the Panchayats and the Municipalities, it became necessary to make