

of surface Transport, are declared national Highways, the increase in the National Highways will further strengthen the transport capacity in the State.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to approve to convert those roads into the National Highways.

(iii) Need for a Central survey to solve the problem of accumulation of water in Chhapra

SHRI LALL BABU RAI (Chhapra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is an acute problem of water logging in my parliamentary constituency Chhapra in Bihar. Water is accumulated in most of the areas as a result therefor and farmers face a lot of trouble on this account. At the same time it is not possible to utilise the land properly.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to send a team of experts to my constituency and assess the situation and take necessary concrete measures to solve the problem.

(iv) Need to convert B. Barooah Cancer Institute Guwahati into a Central Cancer Research and Treatment Institute.

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta): The incidence of cancer is increasing in Assam, nay in the entire North-East region. But, so far there is no adequate arrangements or facilities available to the cancer patients. The B. Barooah Cancer Institute initially founded at Guwahati two decades ago by a group of philanthropists is now getting recognition from the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare as a regional institute of Cancer treatment and research. The institute could not make much headway because of the lack of requisite support of the Government. Even the tripartite agreement between the Government of Assam, Department of Atomic Energy and NEC has not improved the management and the intake capacity of this Cancer Institute.

With the growing incidence of cancer and availability of the expertise in the Institute, it is necessary that the Institute should be made a full-fledged Cancer Research and Treatment Institute like that situated at Madras.

I therefore urge upon the Union Government to take necessary steps with direct funding by the Union Government.

(v) Need to provide financial assistance to flood-affected people of district Purulia, West Bengal

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATOI (Purulia): Many persons lost their lives on 25 and 25 September, 1992 due to devastating floods in catchment areas of Kansabati, Kumari and Bandu river in the district of Purulia, West Bengal. A large number of mud built houses were either fully or partially damaged. Bovine population was lost by about ten thousand. The bridges, culverts, rail line, dams of irrigation projects, water supply line and roads have been either washed away or damaged. A large amount of crops have also been washed away. The Government of West Bengal and some voluntary organisations undertook rescue operations and relief materials have been distributed.

I urge upon the Central Government to give financial assistance also to the Government of West Bengal for relief, restoration and rehabilitation of the people of Purulia district.

(vi) Need to set up an Agricultural University at Sambalpur, Orissa

DR KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur): Majority of population in Western Orissa is of farmers. Sambalpur district is known as the rice-bowl of Western Orissa. Besides, rice, wheat, pulses and oil seeds, etc., are extensively grown in the Western districts of Orissa. But the farmers there, are still adopting the ancient methods of cultivation. Modern and scientific methods of cultivation have not been adopted by them. Though there is a vast scope in the growth of agriculture in some districts of