

The Cardamom price is generally determined by export. At the moment, the scope for more export is not very encouraging. Therefore, it is essential that the farmers be helped and saved from disaster, by other methods such as by reducing cost of inputs and by other enabling acts. I request the Government to help the Cardamom farmers.

(iii) NEED TO TAKE STEPS FOR EARLY REPAIR OF GANG CANAL PASSING THROUGH PUNJAB

[Translation]

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) : The Gang Canal of Ganganagar, Rajasthan is very important and is in operation for the past 85 years. The part of this canal with a capacity of 2750 cusecs falling in Punjab has been badly damaged. This canal is therefore now not in a position to handle its share of water. To meet the shortage thus created, the Rajasthan Government has diverted the water to Indra Gandhi canal and has prepared a link canal on R.D.No. 491 near Mohangarh which has been connected with the first head, Sadhuwali, of the Gang canal.

The cultivators of Gang canal area should be supplied water from this link canal and the damaged part of Gang Canal falling in Punjab should be rebuilt

I would, therefore, request the Water Resource Minister to issue orders for the reconstruction of the Canal so that the cultivators may get water

[English]

(iv) NEED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A RAILWAY OVER BRIDGE IN NORTH LAKHIMPUR, ASSAM

SHRI BALIN KULI (Lakhimpur) : The North Lakhimpur is a district headquarter of Lakhimpur district and rapidly growing town. Population has increased manifold, commercial activities have been increasing rapidly. In the midst of this town there is one road leading to airport, hospital and railway station. To reach these important places people of the town have to confront a railway manual gate. This railway gate remains some times closed for hours together for which hospital going patients, maternity needed women and air passengers get struck off at the gate. This situation creates problems for all these people.

So, there is long pending demand of the people for construction of an over-bridge over the railway line in North Lakhimpur.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to look into the matter seriously at the earliest.

(v) NEED TO BRING A LEGISLATION TO SET UP A SINGLE 'MANIPUR' HILL AREAS AUTONOMOUS COUNCIL FOR THE ENTIRE HILL AREAS OF MANIPUR

PROF. M. KAMSON (Outer Manipur) : Manipur has been agitating for extension of Sixth Schedule of the Constitution to its 5 hill districts. This 25 year old demand should be conceded immediately in view of the prevailing

socio-political upheavals in the state. Autonomous councils under Sixth Schedule have been set up long back in the tribal areas of North East States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

All national and regional political parties in Manipur have supported this demand in their manifestoes of Lok Sabha and state Assembly Elections of 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1995.

In this regard the Government of Manipur have also recommended to the Union Government, in 1991 and 1992

The Union Government have given assurances for Sixth Schedule to Manipur. The Sixth Schedule, which is the constitutional instrument of socio-economic development and mechanism of self-governance for the tribals, will not only bring speedy development, but will also enhance unity and harmony among the conflicting tribal groups in Manipur.

I therefore urge the Union Government to bring forth a Bill in the current session, to set up a single 'Manipur Hill Areas Autonomous Council' for entire hill areas of Manipur, with some Regional Councils for certain ethnic and tribal groups, as provided under Sixth Schedule to the Constitution

(vi) NEED TO CONNECT NOIDA, GHAZIABAD AND DADRI WITH DELHI BY RAIL

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : Dadri and Noida are not only being developed as industrial areas but have become suburban areas of Delhi by providing residential accommodation. The residents of these areas have to commute to New Delhi/Delhi/Ghaziabad to meet their requirements, but no improvement has been made in Dadri-Ghaziabad-Delhi-New Delhi Rail services in spite of the persisted demand of the residents of these areas.

I would, therefore, request the Ministry of the Railways to take necessary steps to provide link Rail service between New Delhi-Delhi-Noida-Dadri-Ghaziabad. I would also request that alternative lighting arrangement should be made in booking offices of Gaziabad-Sahibabad so that the employees and the passengers do not face any inconvenience.

(vii) NEED TO PROVIDE BETTER POSTAL SERVICES IN NORTH MUMBAI

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) : Urbanisation is making rapid strides in the country and in Maharashtra, the pace is so fast that 40 percent of the area of the state has already been urbanised. This urbanisation is creating serious problems particularly in Mumbai because people from all parts of the country flock to this place in search of employment. Mumbai city is already bursting at the seams because of its rare capacity to absorb people.

In my constituency, Mumbai North the number of voters