

51,115 square kilometres and the population is nearly sixty lakhs which is far more than the area and population of certain other hilly States. Besides the Central Government has indentified as many as 145 blocks under the new Public Distribution System which cover almost all the hilly districts of the State. The objective of this system is to bring about parity in consumer price throughout the country. So far as the operation of this system in the districts in plains of the State is concerned, the State Government is bearing the transportation on charges of foodgrains from its own resources, but it is not possible to bear this transportation charge for the hilly regions. The Government should therefore, try to provide transportation facility to the hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh on the lines of other hilly States.

(vi) Need for electronic telephone facilities in Champahati, South 24 Paraganas, West Bengal and bring it under calculate telephone exchange

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): Sir, Champahati is an important place in the District of South 24 Paraganas of West Bengal and it is famous from different aspects. It is an important business centre and several Central State and Government officers are located here. It is under Calcutta South Parliamentary constituency and only 24 kilometres away from Calcutta. People of this area are facing hardship in the absence of electronic telephone facilities.

I request the Minister of State for Communication to bring this vital area under Calcutta Telephone Exchange to improve the telephone system there.

(vii) Need to take immediate steps to protect the interests of migrant workers from Orissa Working at different sites at Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the plight of the migrant workers from Orissa. A large number of migrant workers from Orissa have been working in Ghaziabad. They have been lured away by some local contractors in Balugaon areas in Orissa with the promise that they would be given a higher amount of wages than what they might be getting in Orissa. As many as 35 people of the State are working at several construction states in Ghaziabad as migrant workers. They had been told that they would be given food and housing facilities apart from lucrative wages. But it is regrettable that they have been made to work for more than 14 hours. Due to hard work and due to want of proper diet they have been falling ill. As a result of their illness when they fail to go to work, they were beaten mercilessly by the musclemen. As the workers are living in a pathetic condition, they should be given immediate protection.

As such, I demand that the Government of India should intervene in the matter and rescue these migrant workers forthwith.

(viii) Need for early construction of Bagaha-Chhitauni Railway Bridge, Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD (Salempur): Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, I would like to give a notice under Rule 377. The construction of Bagaha-Chhitauni Railway bridge supposed to connect eastern Uttar Pradesh and northern Bihar has been under going for last 18 years. The