

Hence, I urge the Government to take action so as not to disturb present face of the Railway Station at Chanda Fort.

**(iv) Need to provide Karibi Longpi Hydel Electric Project in Assam**

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA (Silchar) : Sir, the Karbi Hydel Electric Project situated in the district of Karibi Any long of Assam was sanctioned in three year 1979 and the work started from 1980. The Project is the only Hydel Project in the state of Assam. The work of the Project was delayed due to the six—year Assam agitation, the initial schedule commissioning of 1988 was delayed due to failure on the part of the contractor to carry out work in the main dam. The contractor was changed and the work was entrusted to M/s. N. P. C. C. Ltd., a Government of India Undertaking.

Though the dam work of the project was delayed which caused serious time and cost overrun of the project, the other area of the project was progressing well with almost 90% work already completed. during the first part of 1992, the contract of NPCCLtd. was suspended by the ASEB on a plea of not carrying out the work as per schedule and the work on Dam site got terminated since then. The estimated project cost was. Rs. 35 crores in thee year 1976 and same was eenhanced to Rs. 145 crores since 1990. Suddenly, the Government and the ASEB have taken a decision to hand over the project to a private party. Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 25. 3. 93 between Government of Assam, ASEB and M/s. Subhas Engineering.

The above steps have created doubts in the minds of the people. The MOU should have been only signed after getting the clearance from Central Government's Power Department as the Japanese credit by way of supplying turbines to the project was involved in the project.

I, therefore, urge upon Central Government to take up the matter with Government of Assam and take appropriate measures.

**(v) Need to take steps to overcome drinking water problem in Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISRA (Bilhour) : Mr Chairman, Sir, temperature is rapidly increasing in Uttar Pradesh and on the other hand, water level has drastically gone down. Kanpur city and rural areas of Kanpur in enternal Uttar Pradesh and Bundelkhand are facing hard times. Wells have gone dry and water in some wells is unfit for drinking. Handpumps have also gone dry due to fall of the water level. Situation in Kakavan, Bihaour, Maitha, Bhognipur, Rajpur and Chatampur blocks in rural areas of Kanpur is quite serious. People have to walk 1 to 2 kms for fetching drinking water. As a result of low water level in the river Ganges situation in Kanpur city is also bad. Hundreds of people que up at each and every handpumps and public hydrants. Even in public hydrants is available for only one or two hours a day.

In view of the severe water crisis I would like to urge the Government to start work on war footing. The Government should separately allocate funds for the installation of India Time handpumps in rural areas of Kanpur and Kanpur city and for the permanent solution of the dam on Ganges should be immediately started.

**(vi) Need to provide more facilities to public telephone booth operators**

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, ghost bills are causing great threat to telephone subscribers especially for phones having S. T. D. facility. Public telephone booth operators, many of whom are very poor and /or physically handicapped, are forced to give up the job as they get highly inflated bills. Their meter readings should be checked daily by Telecom staff and got approved so that inflated bills could be avoided. They must be provided computerised billing units by the Department