

Speaker, Sir, Thasara taluk of Kaire District, Gujarat State was declared backward 15 years ago and remains backward till day. There are no State or Central Government plans in existence for upliftment of the area. About 50 per cent of the population there lives under the poverty line. The whole land is high level land and not a single inch of the land gets irrigation facilities. The Narmada Project which is to come into existence is also not going to irrigate this land at all. Every third years is a famine. More than 30 per cent of the area is rocky. There is no major or minor industry in this area which can cater to the area and generate financial or employment growth. Water table is quite low as a result of it there is problem of drinking water too.

I urge upon the Government to take into consideration the backwardness of the area and set up some major industry there. I also urge the Government to submit this area for excavation and study by the Department of Geology to unearth the treasure underneath.

- (v) **Need for early metalling of Southern Embankment of don canal in Champaran District, Bihar**

[*Translation*]

SHRI MAHENDRA BAITHA (Bagaha): Sir, Don Canal is situated in northern part of Champaran district in Bihar. The canal is 180 kms. long and it flows parallel to Balmiki Nagar and Ghorasahar on Indo-Nepal border. There is no metalled or kuchcha road on Indo-Nepal border. With this point in view both the Central and the State Governments have sanctioned the metalling of 180 kms long southern embankment of Don Canal. The Irrigation Department of Bihar Government accorded sanction to it on 1.2.80 and the work was started but till now only 63 kms. long strip has been completed a major part of which located in eastern Champaran and

the work on 117 kms. long embankment in Western Champaran has been abandoned.

This road will be useful from defence and civilian point of view and especially in the context of the development of Adivasi people because Tharu, Urani and other backward communities are residing in this region. This road will enable the government to check smuggling of forest wealth from Champaran district and will facilitate the farmers to transport their agriculture produce.

Therefore, in view of the national security and public interest, the work of metalling the southern embankment of Don Canal should be undertaken by the Border Road Organisation as early as possible.

- (vi) **Need to direct Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. to spare some portion land in its possession earmarked for construction of trade fair complex in Madras**

[*English*]

DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN (Madras South): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there has been a pressing demand for a permanent Trade Fair complex at Madras by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The land for the said purpose has already been allotted by the State Government but the IDPL with whom some portion of land is in possession is not willing to part with it, which is unused for a very long time. The land falls in Nandambakkam village, Saidapet Taluk, Chengalpattu M.G.R district which falls in my constituency.

It is urged on the part of the Central Government to persuade the IDPL to spare the land forthwith to enable the proposal of constructing separate trade fair complex there.