

essential requirement that existing old and outdated Telephone Exchange is replaced by a latest electronic exchange system.

So, in view of the above, I request the Central Government for setting up an electronic telephone exchange of 10,000 lines capacity at Nellore replacing the existing out-dated telephone exchange.

- (iv) Need to prevent pollution of Ganga water due to discharge of effluents by M/s Vam Organic Chemicals Ltd., Gajraula, Moradabad**

[Translation]

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI (Badaun): M/s. Vam Organic Chemicals Ltd. at Gajraula, Moradabad discharges all its effluents in the river Ganga, polluting the Ganga water. The residents of Kachala Tirth and the visiting pilgrims have been suffering due to water pollution. People are falling victims of many diseases. Therefore, there is widespread resentment among the residents of the place and thousands of pilgrims who visit the place. Some years ago, the Government launched a programme to purify Ganga Water and a remarkable amount of funds was spent at places like hardware and Varanasi etc. and this campaign got a tremendous amount of publicity, but neither any machinery was installed to purify the effluents of M/s Vam Organic Chemicals Ltd. Located at Gajraula, nor was any restriction imposed on throwing of this impure water by M/s Vam organic Chemicals into the Ganges.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to take immediate action to prevent pollution of Ganga water due to discharge of effluents by M/s Vam organic Chemicals Ltd.

- (v) Need to provide funds to Bihar Government to solve the problem of scarcity of drinking water and electricity of Ranchi District.**

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY

(Ranchi): There is acute scarcity of drinking water and electricity in Ranchi district of Bihar. its effect is more severe on Ranchi city whose population is 9 lakh. Other important places with a population of 10 to 15 thousand are also affected. At these places also people bring water from distant rivess and streams and somehow continue to lie. For example, all the wells have dried up at the main places of Ranchi like Pithoriya, Sukurdu, Sitti, Ichagarh, Chandil, Ray, Piska, Nagadi, Rahe and Manjhi and the water level has receded considerably. There is no supply of electricity even for 10 to 12 hours in a day which is causing great distress. Due to this all the industries, students agriculturists and in fact people from all walks of life are affected. Industries are also closing down and entrepreneurs are also leaving.

So I request the Central Government to provide funds to the State Government to solve the problem of scarcity of drinking water and electricity.

- (vi) Need to take steps for preventing recurrence of incidence of blast in Visakhapatnam, steel plant**

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada): sir, on 27 April, 1992, a blast occurred in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant causing damage to the tune of four crores of rupees to the Factory. The pipes carrying waste gasses from the Godavari Blast furnace to the turbine units located in the Thermal power plant had broken due to heavy pressure. Some workers received injuries and were hospitalised. The control room belonging to the Energy Management Department also collapsed. The Nitrogen gas line was also partly damaged. Fortunately, the carbon monoxide gas pipe line was not damaged. Otherwise, an unprecedented calamity would have occurred in Vizag city, as unprecedented in Bhopal city. Even earlier also some accidenty, blasts had occurred in the steel plant resulting it loss of several lakhs of rupees sometimes and one croes of rupees when ,the laddle containing the molten metal leaked and wastage hundreds of tons

[Sh. Sobhanadreeswara Rao]

of metal occurred twice, in a span of four days. At Jaggaihpel lime stone pulverizing unit, the quality of execution of works by National projects construction company and Sub-contractors was so poor that the production work came to a halt. It appears the management has failed to take necessary steps to prevent the occurrence of such accidents.

I urge upon the Central government to look into the matter immediately and take necessary steps for preventing the recurrence of incidents in future.

(vii) Need to provide more funds to West Bengal for saving flora and fauna of mangrove eco-systems in Sunderbans

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar): Sir, the Sunderban Biosphere Reserve (SBR), a 9, 630 sq. kms. area covering the mangrove forests of the Sunderbans with a unique ecosystem and diversity, is languishing for want of committed funds from the Centre. This will be evident from the level of funding for the 10-point action plan put on the anvil by the State-level Steering Committee for the Sunderban Biosphere Reserve. Out of the anticipated outlay of Rs. 90.40 lakhs involved on the comprehensive management action plan on Sunderban Biosphere Reserve approved for the year 1991-92, only Rs. 26.90 lakhs have been received. Against an annual expenditure of Rs. 134.30 lakhs on the comprehensive plan on Sunderbans Mangrove ecosystem for a five-year period from 1991-92, a sum of Rs. 72 lakhs only has been received. Then, in respect of third scheme entitled ecological rehabilitation of Sunderbans under integrated wasteland project, still being processed by the National Wasteland Development Board and which envisaged a total expenditure of Rs. 430.27 lakhs, a sum of Rs. 45 lakhs, which was expected during 1991-92 is yet to reach the State Government.

I would urge on the Central Government to provide the committed funds to the State Government of West Bengal for saving the whole spectrum of flora and fauna of mangrove ecosystem in the Sunderbans from the impending calamity.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House now stands adjourned for lunch to meet again at 2.15.p.m.

13.13 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twenty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

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[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Vijayaraghavan may continue his speech.

[Translation]

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAAGHAVAN Palghat: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Yesterday I was speaking about some of the problems of my constituency, Palakkad when the House adjourned. Today I do not want to go into other political questions. I will come straight to the problems of my constituency. Yesterday I mentioned about the drought conditions in Palakkad. When the Silent Valley Project Was given up the late lamented Indiraji had assured that the Kurairkutty Karupara Project would be sanctioned. But this too has been shelved due to the opposition from the environmentalists. I would like to request the Government that at least the irrigation part of the project should be sanctioned. This will save the crops. Palakkad is the rice bowl of Kerala. But due to the drought condition the farmers are suffering. When the late

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.