

[Shri Eduardo Faleiro]

reforms, it has been delaying them and upto now not even tentative decisions in this regard have been taken. Meanwhile, the Chief Election Commissioner, at the inaugural session of the Conference of Chief Electoral Officers recently held at Ootacamund and in other forums has suggested some relatively easier steps that could be taken to make elections cleaner. The proposals of the Chief Election Commissioner are non-controversial and, I therefore, request the Government to introduce necessary legislation to give effect to them at the earliest. I would also request the hon. Law Minister to make a statement in this regard at a very early date.

(iv) REPORTED SHORTAGE OF FERTILISERS AND DIESEL IN UTTAR PRADESH.

श्री बुद्ध मुषण तिबारी (खलीलाबाद) : उत्तर प्रदेश और विशेष कर पूर्वी जिलों में इस समय गेहूं की बुवाई के समय खाद एवं डीजल का अभाव हो गया है। बस्ती जिले में जब कि 1 लाख लिटर प्रतिदिन डीजल की आवश्यकता है, तो केवल, 10 हजार लिटर से भी कम मात्रा में डीजल उपलब्ध कराया जा रहा है। इस अभाव के कारण गेहूं की बुवाई रूकी पड़ी है तथा व्यापक पैमाने पर चौर-बाजारी और मनाफा-खोरी हो रही है जिस से किसानों का शांषण हो रहा है। अतः सरकार खाद और डीजल किसानों को अविलम्ब उपलब्ध कराने की व्यवस्था करे।

(v) REPORTED SUFFERINGS FACED BY PEOPLE OF CACHAR AND GOALPARA DISTRICTS OF ASSAM DUE TO DACOITIES FROM ACROSS THE BANGLADESH BORDER.

SHRI AHMED HUSSAIN (Dhubri): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, under rule 377, I want to raise the following matter of urgent public importance:—

The people living in border areas have to lead their life in fear and terror. Assam is a State where vast areas fall between India and Bangladesh border, particularly in the districts of Cachar and Goalpara. The people of both these districts have to suffer a lot due to dacoities, cow-lifting, etc. Their economic condition is becoming worse day by day.

Sir, the vast areas of my constituency in the Goalpara district of Assam from Satrosal to Mankachar, fall between the Indo-Bangladesh border. The economic conditions of these people are the worst. They are fighting a lot with their fortune for survival and somehow they are leading their life. But due to frequent dacoities, cattle-lifting, etc., the conditions of these poor people in these border areas of Assam have become miserable. Almost daily dacoits from Bangladesh enter inside the Indian territory and, with the help of local agents, they loot the belongings of these border people and lift cows, buffaloes, etc. As a result of these frequent happenings, people are living in terror and are spending sleepless nights. The police and the BSF have become inactive and undependable.

Wherever I proceed in these border areas of my State, fed-up people in tears narrate the terrible and pathetic looting of their property by the Bangladesh miscreants. No steps appear to be feasible or readily available by the Centre or the State Government to investigate the cases and assure safety and grant compensation to these affected people. Even complaints and several representations have been turned down, they have fallen on deaf ears. Some instances have also been brought to my notice in which the BSF people are harassing some innocent farmers in the name of Bangladesh infiltrators.

I have once referred to some of these instances on the floor of this House and brought these to the notice of our previous Home Minister, but nothing has been done to redress the grievances of these border people. To the following public demands and suggestions, nothing has been done so far, for these, I seek the immediate intervention and urgent action:—

(1) The border areas between Satrosal and Mankachar should be fenced and all the border villages should be electrified and funds should be released on topmost priority.

(2) An active pilot project should be launched through the Civil Defence Organisation to enroll unemployed youth volunteers from each border village with a branch headquarters in each Gram Panchayat. Sufficient number of volunteers should be engaged daily and incentives to the tune of minimum wages should be paid to them on an experimental basis.

(3) Sanction immediately compensation to the extent lost due to dacoity and cattle-lifting.

(4) Construct an RCC Cattle Shed for each border village with accommodation for 30 to 40 persons guarding the cattle.

(5) A special Ceil should be created in these areas under the charge of a Deputy Commissioner and monthly reports be submitted to the Centre for perusal.

With these words, I conclude my statement.

14.15 hrs.

WATER (PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION) AMENDMENT BILL—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we proceed with the further consideration of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Bill.

Shri Shri Krishna Singh. . . . He is not here. He was on his legs and was supposed to continue his speech.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): Yes, Sir, he had just started.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is not here. So I call Shrimati Parvati Krishnan.

SHRIMATI PARVATI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore): I agree with many of

the Members who have spoken earlier, that it is very necessary for us to have a comprehensive legislation on this whole question of environmental pollution. Earlier when the Bill on Air Pollution was referred to the Select Committee, the same point was made that this piecemeal dealing with one after the other, I do not think, is sufficiently imaginative nor is it going to really answer the purpose.

The amendment that is being brought—I will come to that later. But what I would like to impress upon the Minister is that the concept of pollution is itself relatively new in this country. We have been talking about it and in general there has been some knowledge or some awareness. But if you take the country as a whole, the whole concept of pollution is quite new I do not think that it has been studied in sufficient depth and I would say that this type of legislation also shows that, because, what I feel is what is immediately needed are steps to regulate and avoid serious pollution problems and these should be initiated without waiting for a seasoned anti-pollution approach as in other countries.

When we raised this question of a comprehensive legislation, the Minister gave us to understand that the matter is being examined, it is being investigated and so it takes time and 'we are aiming towards that', etc., etc. Sir, is it not his duty to bring it? Because the point is to set the matter going and then set out the process of implementation also because even the implementation of the Water Pollution Act has so far, as far as I can gather from the various investigations that I have personally carried out or from discussions that I attended in various conferences, seminars and so on, been very much on a symptomatic basis and an absolutely scientific approach to it to see that all our technical know-how and technical resources are adopted to the maximum to make the people aware of the environmental pollution, I am afraid, is not yet there.