

केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय है अतः केन्द्र सरकार को तत्काल वहाँ की स्थिति को सुधारने हेतु ठोस एवं आवश्यक कदम उठाना चाहिए जिससे वहाँ पर शांति एवं सुरक्षा का वातावरण उत्पन्न हो सके। साथ ही केन्द्र सरकार का यह भी उत्तरदायित्व है कि वह उस विश्वविद्यालय में शीघ्र एक कुलपति की भी नियुक्ति करें क्योंकि इस समय वहाँ पर कोई कुलपति नहीं है। इस कार्य में किसी भी प्रकार का बिलम्ब अनुचित होगा।

(vi) NEED TO PROVIDE KIOSKS/STALLS/PLATFORMS TO HAWKERS IN DELHI SELLING PAAN ETC.

SHRI KAMAL NATH (Chhindwara): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there are a number of hawkers in Delhi selling paan, cigarettes, bidis etc. They are pavement hawkers and are exposed to sun, rain and all other weather conditions. They are also subjected to extortion and harassment by the police and the Municipal Corporation authorities.

Paan forms almost a part of Indian culture. Panwallas both individually and collectively through their unions have been appealing to the Delhi Administration for remedial measures. It is strange that while the Delhi Administration has chosen to make beautiful looking garbage enclosures, they are not prepared to provide to these hawkers any kiosks or platforms.

A standard design for all panwallas and hawkers could be made by the Delhi Administration and the hawkers could be asked to reimburse the cost thereof.

I, therefore, through this special mention, and through you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, appeal to the Government to consider the genuine demands of the hawkers and to provide them with adequate kiosks, stalls, platforms against reasonable payment.

(vii) NEED TO CLEAR SILENT VALLEY PROJECT IN VIEW OF THE REPORTED RECENT RECOMMENDATION BY A COMMITTEE.

SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Galghat):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, The House would recall the controversy that was raised regarding the Silent Valley forest and the proposed hydro-electric project there. The environmentalists in our country protested against the construction of a hydro-electric project in Silent Valley as they thought that this would destroy a substantial part of what they called the tropical rain forest in Silent Valley.

But, now a Committee has come to the conclusion that Silent Valley does not have any unique geographical or biological features. The Committee is also of the view that Silent Valley is not a tropical rain forest.

As a matter of fact forests in Attapady, Muzhiyar, Sabarigiri etc. are more dense than that in Silent Valley. Even after the construction of a reservoir in Sabarigiri, there have been sufficient rainfall in this region. There is no rain in Silent Valley area during the period between January and March. There are only 48 species of plants in the area that is liable to be submerged by the reservoir whereas there are 71 species of rare plants in the non-submergible area. The soil, the flora and fauna in Silent Valley are more or less similar to those of other forests in the Western Ghats. Thus, the conclusion reached by the Committees is that construction of reservoir in Silent Valley will not submerge a large part of the forest.

This conclusion of the Committee should set at rest all controversies regarding the proposed project in Silent Valley. The benefits from the hydro-electric project would be far more important than what the environmentalists call the disruption of ecological balances.