

[श्री टी० एस० नेगी]

वाले घंघे लगाये जा रहे हैं, जिससे खेत बेकार हो रहे हैं।

7. केन्द्रीय सरकार अपने कर्मचारियों को राज्य कर्मचारियों की तरह पहाड़ भत्ता नहीं देती।
8. बेकारों के लिए सैलानी उद्योग की तरफ सरकार की रुचि नहीं मालूम पड़ती।
9. पेड़ों के कटान को रोकने के लिए सरकार द्वारा जलाने के गैस, मिट्टी के तेल, बिजली, कोयला, सीमेंट तथा लोहे आदि पदार्थों को सब्सिडी-डाइज्ड रेट नहीं दिया जा रहा है।
10. कई वर्षों से निर्माणाधीन सड़कों के ऊपर बोर्ड लगाये गये हैं कि घनाभाव के कारण कार्य बन्द है। केन्द्रीय जंगलात विभाग से भी अड़चने हैं। परिणामस्वरूप सभी विकास कार्यों का निर्माण कार्य ठप्प है।

मैं भारत सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि वह देखे कि पर्वतीय तथा पिछड़े क्षेत्रों के विकास कार्यक्रमों के लिए उपलब्ध करवाई गई राशि लोगों के रहन-सहन को अच्छा बनाने के लिए सही ढंग से व्यय की जाये।

(iii) **Facility for inland water transport between Kanyakumari and Ernakulam**

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil) : Providing inland water transport facility between Kanyakumari and Ernakulam would accelerate and promote greatly the economic and tourist activities of the south-western region of our country. Such a facility could be easily implemented by the renovation and removal of the gaps

that exist in some places mainly between Kanyakumari and Trivandrum. Previously there was continuous and regular inland water facility between Kanyakumari and Trivandrum too through the ancient A. V. M. Canal. Subsequently, breaches occurred and closed some portions of the canal with sand and earth and they have not been repaired for several years. Due to non-maintenance and long neglect, now there is no continuous transport service. If these gaps are removed and the canal is renovated and thereby continuity is restored, convenient and highly useful inland water transport facility could be easily achieved between Kanyakumari and Trivandrum. Execution of renovation and maintenance work further north between Trivandrum and Quilon would provide a very useful inland water transport facility between Kanyakumari and Ernakulam. Such a facility would greatly promote trade, commerce and tourism and also provide cheaper and popular transport facility for the general public. Government should, therefore, take immediate steps for the speedy implementation of continuous inland water transport facility between Kanyakumari and Ernakulam.

(iv) **Need to withdraw Evacuee Property Act, 1950 and Enemy Property Act, 1968**

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA (Shah-jahanpur) : Sir, the Evacuee Property Act, 1950 was enacted with a view to rehabilitate millions of refugees who came over to India as result of partition in 1947. The Indo-China war of 1962 and Indo-Pak war of 1965 created problems which led to the enactment of Enemy Property Act, 1968. Both the legislations provide for automatic vesting of refugee or enemy's property and no declaration or notification of the individual property was necessary. Unfortunately, the enforcement of both those Acts has left behind the trail of adverse effects. Since the opportunity of being heard was not being given before a person was deprived of his property. The amended Evacuee Property Act, 1950 provided that after 7th May, 1954, no

fresh notices would be issued under the Act and no property will be declared as Evacuee Property but action is still continuing either by invoking the old evacuee property ordinance or by using old forms giving a notice of the date prior to 7th May, 1954.

Sir, I tried to focuss the attention of the Government in the past on many occasions through letters and statements on the advisibility of withdrawing or repealing these legislations with a view to eradicate the adverse effect on the Indian Muslims of these Acts. Now their social purpose has been achieved. But, unfortunately, nothing has so far been done in this direction. I would, therefore, request the Government, particularly, the Law Minister, through the forum of this House, to evolve ways for withdrawing or repealing these two Acts, in the larger interest of Indian Muslim community now when they have fulfilled their social purpose and are no more required.

- (v) **Plight of journalists and non-journalists working in certain Newspaper establishments**

SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYYA (Burdwan) : Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of Government the plight of the journalists and non-journalists working with the *National Herald* and the *Quami Awaz* Group published in Delhi.

All Principal office-bearers have been suspended. They have incurred the displeasure of the management by forming a democratically elected Union, which among other things, is demanding—

- (a) minimum bonus as per law which they are even prepared to receive in instalments ;
- (b) their provident funds to be deposited with the prescribed authority as a measure to stop such funds from being swallowed up ;

- (c) Scales of salaries of the journalists which at present are equivalent to those of clerks and even below those, recommended by the Palekar award to be raised.
- (d) Payment of arrears due to overtime work for rather long periods.
- (e) Implementation of the agreements as entered into with the Union.

A similar situation prevails in the *Tej* where a number of employees have been suspended. The workers including the journalists of *Hindustan Samachar Bharati* is no better and the situation in the States is worse. It is time that the Government should intervene so that the Labour Department takes timely action to improve the lot of the journalists and non-journalists fighting for their rightful demands

- (vi) **Need to convert the present telephone exchange at Pathanapuram (Quilon District) into an automatic exchange**

SHRI SKARIAH THOMAS (Kottayam) : Sir, the telephone exchange at Pathanapuram in Quilon District of Kerala was started in November 1963 and was functioning as an automatic exchange till March 1977. Thereafter, it was converted into a Central Battery non multiple Exchange. When it was so converted, the telephone authorities had promised that it was only a temporary arrangement and that it would be converted into an automatic exchange within one year. But, five years have elapsed and, yet, no step has been taken to fulfil this promise.

Pathanapuram is a fast developing area with a lot of trading in hill produce, rubber and fast industrialisation and large inflow of money. The business activities, particularly, trading in rubber etc. are seriously affected in the absence of