

I do hope that the House will agree with this proposition.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hope it has the consent of the House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, the hon. Minister has not mentioned one thing in the proposal presented by him which efigures in the agenda for the day. That is about bomb blast in Bombay which also figures in the agenda for today.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, if that matter can be taken today it can taken up of else it may be taken up tomorrow. I have no objection to it.

SHRI RAM NAIK: I would like to say that if that item cannot be taken today, then the incident of bomb blast in Bombay should be the first item for tomorrow.... (*Interruption*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that when Municipal Corporation of Delhi Bill was withdrawn the hon. Prime Minister had assured that a new Bill would be introduced. in this connection I spoke to hon. Home Minister yesterday. He said that the English version of the Bill is ready and they had sought the permission. Today in the morning I met the hon. Speaker, he said that he will inquire about it and now I came to know that no Bill has been sent by your Ministry. If the said Bill is not given today, it cannot be introduced tomorrow and tomorrow is the last day of this Session. The hon. prime Minister as well as the hon. Home Minister has assured so. The amended Municipal Corporation of Delhi Bill should have been circulated today. If it is not circulated today, it can not be presented tomorrow. I seek your protection. Please issue order in this regard because yes-

terday the hon. Home Minister told me that the Bill is ready and his Ministry has sought permission. Today, when I inquired about it from the Secretary General he informed that if permission is sought it would be given, but I was told that no permission has been sought and no Bill is circulated. I would like to say that if the Bill is not circulated, it should be circulated today so that the Municipal Corporation of Delhi Bill may be introduced tomorrow. I would like to say this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, you please sit down. I will look into it.

(*Interruptions*)

RE: THE ACUTE SHORTAGE OF
DRINKING WATER IN RAJASTHAN,
UTTAR PRADESH AND QTHER PARTS
OF THE COUNTRY

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, drinking water crisis in Rajasthan is turning from bad to worse and I demand from the Government to solve this problem immediately. With great regret I have to say that the drinking water crisis is turning horrible during scorching summer in all villages and cities particularly, Udaipur, Simer, Jaipur, Bharatpur, Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur. Today, the situation is that water supply is provided once in 48 hours for half-an-hour and at some places it is once in 72 hours. Work on four important schemes of water supply. Jodhpur Lift Scheme. Bisalpur Scheme. Mansibakal Scheme, Bandi-Basin Schemes for drinking water is also not in progress. Chambal Drinking Water Scheme for Bharatpur has also not been completed.

Today, drinking water crisis is taking a serious turn. Human beings as well as animals are dying due to heat wave. People are becoming victims of different diseases due to consumption of saline and dirty water. In my constituency Ajmer water supply is being made once for half an hour in 72 hours. This situation is prevailing in Beawar, Kishanganj and all other cities of Rajasthan. Water is essential for human life I submit to the

Government to complete water supply schemes immediately, kindly issue such directions to the Government.

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) (Bharatpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Bharatpur has acute drinking water problem and the Chambal Project is not being completed. I would like to request the hon. Minister to pay attention to this problem.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the whole country is suffering from acute drinking water problem and no measures have been taken to resolve it. Consequently, people are afflicted by cholera and other diseases. If people will not get drinking water, how they will survive. So I urge upon the Government to pay attention to it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called hon. Girdhari Lal Bhargava to speak on the issue of drinking water shortage. The House will function in accordance with the list of business.

(Interruption)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Rajasthan constitutes five per cent of the total population of the country but it gets only one per cent of water from the rivers of the country which is quite inadequate. Today whether it is city or village wells have dried and hand pumps have become out of order everywhere and what to talk of water for human beings it is not available even for animals. This is an acute and serious problem. Eleven districts of Rajasthan are desert areas and in almost all of them there is drought and shortage of drinking water. I would therefore, like to request you to increase the quantity of water. Rajasthan's share in Yamuna water should be released immediately as it will help Alwar,

Bharatpur and Dholpur. Secondly, Rajasthan should be given its share of Ganga water Project. The third Project of Tehri Dam will benefit the districts of Alwar and Bharatpur. Fourthly, Rajasthan should be given right to control the Ropar-Harika-Ferozpur project under the Bhakhra-Beas management Board. The fifth scheme is the Indira Gandhi Canal project. The Government should provide more assistance for it and make arrangements to get financial assistance from the World bank for completion of this project. Along with that Rajasthan should be given water for drinking and irrigation from Haryana and Punjab and the Government should decide the matter of Ravi-Beas water dispute at the earliest.

All the members from Rajasthan, whether they belong to Congress or any other political party, will start a movement for solving the water problem of Rajasthan and compel the Government to provide more share of water and clear the pending schemes, so that we can get the water, otherwise people and animals in Rajasthan will die due to scarcity of drinking water. *(Interruption)*

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY, Mr. Chairman, Sir, Uttar Pradesh is suffering from acute shortage of drinking water. People are dying due to Cholera by drinking dirty water. Animals are dying for scarcity of water. Ponds and canals have dried and due to irregular supply of electricity all the schemes for drinking water have been stalled. In today's era of space technology people are yearning for a bucket of water. People, living in Sonbhadra, Mirzapur, Faizabad and Agra are yearning for water and the Government has not made any arrangements in this regard... *(Interruption)* People are being compelled to drink dirty water. The Government should make arrangements to supply clean water. The same condition prevails in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. The families of those who died of Cholera should be given compensation by the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the problem of water scarcity is same in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. People are in the grip of drought there.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to an important issue. You might be aware that people are going to Saudi Arabia for 'Haj' pilgrimage and a few days earlier you might have heard the news of Rs. eight crore scam for which the Chairman of the Haj Committee had to quit 'Hajis' are facing great difficulties because of this scam and Saudi Embassy is not issuing visas to them and it has become difficult to arrange the accommodation for Hajis in Saudi Arabia. Aged people and ladies, who are willing to go on 'Haj' have to stand and wait in long queue in Saudi Embassy, whereas earlier other persons could get visas on their behalf. The earlier restriction of 500 dollar has been increased to 1000 dollar. The Rs eight crore scam by Chairman of Haj Committee should be inquired into by C.B.I., as this scandal has brought disgrace to our country.

On the other hand officials from Ministry of External Affairs should work out details with the Saudi Embassy to smoothen visa facility to Hajis. The flights to Saudi Arabia are not full as Hajis are not getting visas. So I would urge upon the Government to reconstitute the Haj Committee and include eminent personalities in it. Besides, the news of Rs. eight crore scam should be inquired into by C.B.I. and Ministry of External Affairs should make arrangement to provide visa to Hajis in consultation with their counterpart in Saudi Arabia

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue before you and the House. You might be aware that Lok Sabha did not get an opportunity to discuss the demands for grants of the Ministry of Commerce. The reason is well known to you. The Government is determined to make the country a slave of foreign powers. In protest the

opposition parties had raised the issue of special 301 earlier also, which the Government of U.S.A. is going to impose on India. Five-six days earlier the Commerce Minister made statement in this House saying that Government of India disapproves this special 301, which is going to be imposed on us by the Clinton administration. The session will come to a close tomorrow and the news is that the Clinton Government will impose special 301 against us on a 31st May. American administration is determined to impose Special 301 even on European countries, whereas ours is a weak country from the Third World. They are going to impose some restriction against us in the end of this month, so I would like to draw the attention of the House and the country towards it. I would like to say that we are not their slave in any matter, then why the American administration is willing to do such things. The Commerce/Secretary in the American administration says that they will impose these restrictions after reporting to the Congress. At that time our Parliament will not be in session as it is coming to a close tomorrow.

In the light of what Clinton administration is doing I would like to know from the Government whether our Parliament and the country has lost its sovereignty. Why the American Parliament has launched a tirade against India and is threatening that it will impose super 301 against India for not abiding by American rules. How they are imposing their rules on India, when it is an independent and sovereign country.

In my view, the Indian Government has accepted the American Government's proposal, but it is not coming out with facts before the Parliament. The Government has chugged the Patent laws of 1970. I would like to quote one of the expressions used by the American Commerce Secretary which was repeated by an American official about India.

[English]

In case India changed its patent Law and provide for Product patent with a life span

of over ten years rather than the Indian practice of following process patent with seven years life span US may not proceed with Special 301 law."

[Translation]

I do not know whether Shri Chandra Shekar ji is listening to or not. Whenever this question is asked from the Government, it keeps silence which means the Government is accepting it. They will make changes in the patent Law of 1970. They have threatened the Government of India to make changes in Patent law of 1970. Mr. Chairman, Sir, are you listening us to adopt Product Patents in place of process patents. If we do not accede to it, America will impose Act of Special 301 on medicines and food products.

Mr. chairman, Sir, I want to submit that you also belong to a family of farmers. Previously we were used to be a slave of P. L. 480. But in 1977 we became free from the clutches of P. L. 480 with the help of farmers but now once again the Clinton administration is threatening us. The Parliament will not be in session on 31st May. Will we come to know about it through newspapers that Act of Special 301 has been imposed on India. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs that they should listen to me and express his feelings in this regard.

Mr. chairman, Sir, I am raising this point as we have continuously been demanding for the formation of a Joint parliamentary Committee as it is a very important question because you are going to sign the Dunkel proposals and it is linked with our independence as well as the sovereignty of the country. Therefore, I want that the Government should come forward with a statement in the House before it adjourns tomorrow.

SHRI TARACHAND KHANDELWAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this time no discussion was held on the Ministry of Commerce. As there is no time today, I would like to have one hour discussion

on the Ministry of Commerce in the House tomorrow. Just now, Shri Rabi Ray has raised an important issue in the House. I was expecting a discussion on the Ministry of Commerce in the House. It is an important issue and not holding a discussion on the Ministry of Commerce encourages such things. Therefore, I demand that a discussion should be held tomorrow on the Ministry of Commerce for one hour so that we can discuss the things.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Chairman Sir, I do not intend to prolong the matter but want to put two three points before the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. George, I have a list and I am following its order.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: That is correct, Sir, the question raised just now is a very important one. I want the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to stay here only for some more time.

Mr. Chairman, Sir now the question arise as to how far we have in respect of a business issue and moreover it is not the end of it. I have some documents here stipulating certain conditions on off our government by the Chairman of Assian Development bank which literally make us slaves. Shri Chandra Shekhar, the former prime Minister and the senior member of this House raised this issue on the 20th of the last month before the Finance Minister and also informed the Prime Minister in this regard that how in the name of economic development, Assian Development bank and Worldbank have made their own rules. According to these rules which we have agreed to flow, our Government have mortgaged our country in the hands of Americans for the next 10 years.

Mr. Chairman, Sir I want to put a statutory question before you. I am sorry to say that the House is not giving its attention properly on such matters but by quoting Article 246 of the Constitution, I want to draw your attention to this fact

that the Finance Minister and the bureaucracy are making their country a slave and the whole of the House is witnessing this drama. I fail to understand that in Ramaswamy case we heard his discussion for 7 hrs. and we spent 15-20 hours on it, but the Article 246 of the constitution says—

[English]

“Notwithstanding anything in clauses (2) and (3) parliament has exclusive power to make laws with respect to any of the matters enumerated in Last the Seventh Schedule.

[Translation]

and there is Article 13 in Seventh Schedule

[English]

“Participation in international conferences, associations and other bodies and implementing of decisions made there at”

[Translation]

After that Article 37 says:-

[English]

“Foreign Loans”

[Translation]

Foreign loans, Article 43 says:

[English]

“Incorporation, regulation and winding up of trading corporations in cladding banking, insurance and financial corporations but not including cooperative societies.”

[Translation]

You have agreed to wind up the public

sector banks of India, this fact is not known to World Bank and the Parliament. Mr., Chairman, Sir, being a member of this House I have also some rights under the Article 246. You have presented the Budget but the terms which you have accepted there were not explained to the House. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the House has a right to know each and everything in this regard. If the Finance Minister and some other bureaucrat who are selling out the country because they are taking tax free pensions from World bank and IMF to the tune of two or three thousand dollars per month are deceiving the nation and here in India, they claim that they are working in India without any remuneration, but it is a fact that they are getting tax free pensions from these organisation.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up; please close now.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I Will finish it.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: No Sir there is no question of closing it. I am on a point of order. Sir I am raising a constitutional issue before you. I would like to know from you that if any agreement has been made abroad on the law making powers of this house as enumerated in List I, then what is the dignity of the House? Under these, then we are helpless in doing any thing against him. what are our right and the rights of this House? If some Persons sitting in North Block and South Block strike deals with the World bank and make the Finance Minister to present the budget in the House, what is the use of our being present there in the House. What is this going on. We are being ridiculed. We are on a point of order. They have gone against the spirit of the Constitution. They violated all the Articles of the Constitution. What kind of point of order you are going to decide in this case, it is now for you to decide.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sir, Jaswant Singh please.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur): Sir, this was never the convention, the convention of the House is that one Member from that side and one Member from this side are allowed to raise any point. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you given your name? Your name is not there in the list.

DR. KRUNAPSINDHU BHOI: It does not matter if my name is not there..... (*Interruption*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I know that my name is not there in your list. I am thankful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak in brief. The uproar in the House is the cry of Mother India. Whatever the issues we raise here in the House, whether it relates to the problem of water, delay in holding school examinations anything about Delhi etc., we raise in the hope that the Government will take note of these issues and state something on them but I think the Government has been sleeping over all the issues or it is grossly ignoring the issues being raised by us.

Shri Rabi Ray raised a question regarding Dunkel proposals I received a letter from Shri Chandra Shekhar ji and the contents of the letter are very startling and whatever is said by Shri George I agree to that. In the circumstances, I would like to submit that this is highly objectionable. The former prime Minister of India records his objection in writing but the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister do not even reply to that. The basic issue in itself is a big issue.

What words may I use to express my feelings. To whom should we address our grievances. We are not raising this issue merely for making a noise or to attract headlines in newspapers. I would like to submit that whatever we are putting before you, or whether cry you are listening, is a sign of the nation but the Government is unaware of it.

The facts furnished by Shri Chandra Shekar ji yesterday evening are quite objectionable. In themselves Shri George explained the points in detail but I am not going into that explanation. I do not want to take your time but on behalf of the Government, someone should own up some responsibility, Corruption, scams and embezzlements are rampant, there is neither water to drink nor examinations held. To whom should we approach in the name of the Government? If we do not ask you then whom should we ask? I do not know but Shri George says that in the name of this House we are being ridiculed. (*Interruption*)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia): Mr. chairman, Sir, I did not want to speak on this matter but because my name has been called, I would like to say few words about it. Few days back I received a copy of the report of the Asian Development bank. On 20th April, I wrote a letter to hon. Finance Minister and the hon. Speaker also. I have been waiting for a reply since 20th April but could not hear anything till now.

I have also not received any information about water till yesterday. When this matter was raised yesterday in Rajya Sabha by some of our friends, I sent a copy of my letter to some hon. Members of this House including Shri Jaswant Singh, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Shri George Fernandes and Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

It is sorry state of affairs. After the happenings of the day-before-yesterday, I am not very optimistic about it but even then such incidents happen in the country. What should we do? exclude I have been waiting for a reply for the last 22 days. I know that hon. Prime Minister and

Finance Minister are very busy but they can at least acknowledge the receipt of my letter. The report of the Asian Development Bank clearly gives the names with whom talks were held and the decisions were taken about the future course of action to be taken by the Government of India. Everything has been stated in that report as to what report the World Bank and the IMF have given. On the basis of those reports the Narasimhan Committee was constituted and terms of reference was determined. On the basis all such things have been mentioned there. It is a question of sovereignty of India. It is not a question of Government only but it is a question of national dignity and national pride. These reports are available in the capital of every country but our Government cannot provide these reports of World Bank, IMF and Asian Development bank. If I ask for a copy of the report, the Government will not provide it. There must be some limit to every thing. From the very first day this issue is being raised and the Government says that the report of World Bank is not a secret document, then why is the Government not providing the copy of the report to the Members of the House? The report is given to government offices who go to the World bank and come back after striking a deal in the name of the country. It is an intolerable agitation. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you can yourself go through the report. I will hand over that letter to the Press so that the patriotic citizens is selling out the country. I do not know whether it will be discussed in the House or not and Government will reply to it or no but it is my national duty to bring this fact to the notice of the people of this country. there may be single voice or the voice of 4-5 persons but we will continue to raise our voice against every conspiracy of selling out the country.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, there has to be a response from the Government. Why the Government is silent? This is a very serious matter. Sell out of the county has been alleged and the relevant documents have been sent to the Minister concerned. For long

similar types of complaints and allegations, supported by facts, have been made in this House. They have been discussed outside the Parliament also. What kind of impression will be created outside the country if the Government does not come forth with to make a statement in order to enlighten the House and instead do things behind the back of everybody? I do not know why the Government is silent on this.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): Sir, I am on a point of order. Just now Shri Chandra Shekhar has raised a very serious matter which relates to the rights of the Members of the House. That is why I am raising this point of order. It has been clearly mentioned that there are certain policy matters which relate to the sovereignty of the nation freedom of the nation and policies of the Members in spite of their having written letters to the Government, neither such matters are being discussed in the House nor the House is being taken into confidence. The documents which relates to our sovereignty and policies of the nation are being provided to some Indian officers and some foreign officers but they are not being provided to the Members. Actions are being on them and fundamental changes are being brought about in national policies. Sir, you should give your ruling on this point of order because total changes are being brought about in our national policies, the country is being sold out without taking the House into confidence and documents are not being provided to the Members in spite of their written requests. Has the Government any responsibility in this regard or not A question has been raised here that the report has not been provided to Shri Chandra Shekhar and we are also not aware whether any action is being taken on it or not and it has been stated by the Finance Minister again and again that no major decision would be taken by the Government without taking the House into confidence. The same assurances were given at the time when 301 and Dunkel Proposals were being discussed. Even the same assurance was given

when talks were being held with the World bank and the IMF. The Minister gives such assurance in the House and the Government takes arbitrary decisions. I am raising such important matter, which relates to the sovereignty of our country, through this point of order. Sir, you are on the Chair from where you have to protect the dignity of the House and the rights of the Members, therefore, you should give your ruling on fundamental question.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): Sir, Mr. Rabi Ray, Mr. Jaswant Singh, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, Mr. George Fernandes and several other hon. Members have raised some very important issues ranging from drinking water problem, the Dunkal Draft, the ADB, the leakage of papers and so on. I am responding to what Mr. Jaswant Singh has said. He said that several important issues were raised on the floor of the House and the Government is not responding. I am standing here just to let you know that you raise important issues which are unlisted and you expect that the Government should come forward and respond. You expect that on the spur of the moment, we should come forward and respond.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Sir, is the matter raised by Shri Rabi Ray not worth responding?

[English]

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Sir, this is totally unfair on the part of Mr. Jaswant Singh and other hon. Members to raise important issues without any notice to the concerned Ministers that such an issue is going to be raised and they expect that the Government should come forward and respond like this. I don't agree with this (*Interruption*)

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: He had written a letter a month ago. Does the letter written on 20th April bear no value?

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Mr. Chandra Jeet Yadav, the letter written by Shri Chandra Shekhar is not a matter of the House.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Why is it not a matter of the House? When it relates to the policies of the nation and when action is being taken on it, why is it not a matter of the House? [English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): This issue is being raised since last two weeks.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia): Mr. chairman, Sir, if the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister wants to be so technical, then I would say that I wrote a letter on 20th April to the Speaker that it is a serious matter, I am referring these documents to you so that this matter can be raised on the floor of the House any time at short notice. I think, it was the responsibility of the Finance Minister, at least, to acknowledge the letter. He should have done it. There should have been some response from the Prime Minister also. I also expected-I may be excused for saying this- some reaction from the Chair on this issue.

[Translation]

SHRI MUKUL WASNIK: Sir Chandra Shekhar ji, I am not going into technical aspects. I would only like to submit that if such serious matters are to be raised in to House and the Government reaction is desired then proper notices must be given. And if the issues are properly discussed..... (*Interruption*) However, if serious matters are raised in the House....

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: If this is the attitude then we will stage a walk-out from the House. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRISAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: He could have said it in the evening. (*Interruption*)

SHRISRIKANTA JENA: There is absolutely no assurance from the Government whether they are going to respond or not. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down, I am going to give a direction in this regard. In response to the submission of Shri Chandra shekhar ji that he expects the Chair to give a ruling in this regard. I urge the Hon. Prime Minister to reply to all the points raised.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR (Khandwa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very important issue. Nepa paper Mill which was a well-known paper Mill in Asia once a time, is located in Khandwa district. This mill is on the verge of closure and 4500 workers of the mill are faced with the threat of unemployment. Paper stock of the value of Rs. 20 to 25 crore is lying in the mill and the mill has to recover due of Rs. 20 crore and has also to clear power tariff arrears of the value of Rs. 8 crores. Threat of closure of the mill has caused panic among the workers. In view of all this, I would like to urge the Government to pay attention to running the mill and also care for the welfare of the workers. The mill is facing closure and all sorts of obstacles are being created to running the mill. The Government should pay attention to this situation. The mill is going to be closed down due to gross mismanagement and not due to lack of sincerity on the part of the workers. In collusion with the private sector the management wants the mill to be closed down thereby opening the scope for privatisation of the mill. The workers of the mill are hard working and production is also good. Production worth Rs. 25 crore took place and there is no space left

in the godawn. The Government should intervene in the matter and streamline the management for the welfare of the workers.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Sir, I have written several times in the past about irregularities committed in awarding marks and changing of results of the examinations conducted by the UPSC in 1985-86. In 1989 a CBI inquiry was ordered to look into the complaints. A month back I was informed by the Director of the CBI that prima facie the complaints are genuine. A petition was submitted by a candidate Shri Nilam Kumar Singh in this regard. I urge the Minister of Personnel to ask for the report and also give another chance to the bright students who may secure good marks. I urge the Government to make a statement in the House giving an account of the steps taken in this regard.

[English]

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta): I want to draw the attention of the House and Government to the gross discrimination in payment of SDA in regard to certain groups of Central Government employees posted and serving in north-eastern region.

The House is aware that by an order in 1983 of the Central Government, special duty allowance is being paid since 1986 to the Central Government civil employees posted and serving in north-eastern region who have all Indian transfer liability.

Against this discrimination the Central Government employees, AIR, Doordarshan, P&T, railways, etc. agitated and even some went on strike during these years and demanded payment of SDA.

The P&T employees also approached Gauhati CAT. Gauhati CAT in 1989 delivered a judgment directing P&T authorities to pay SDA to all group C&D and P&T employees serving in Assam and north-eastern region.

You are aware that P&T authorities instead went to Supreme court who directed the case to be heard at principal CAT Delhi. The Principal CAT Delhi again transferred the review petition to Cuttack CAT. It is now found that the Cuttack CAT has upheld the judgment of CAT Gauhati recently in 1993.

The strange thing is that Telecom Department under the Ministry of Communications has been paying SDA though P&T Department under the same Ministry has refused till today the payment of SDA.

In view of the recent judgment of the court of Cuttack CAT, I urge upon the Government to take steps so that not only the P & T employees but also the Central Government employees serving in the north-eastern region also get special duty allowance.

[Translation]

DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr Chairman, Sir, consumer Protection Forums are being set up all over the country for the protection of the interest of the consumers. However, no such Forums have been set up in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. After setting up the State level Consumer Forum in Madhya Pradesh district level Forums should also be set up. In the absence of Forums the petitions filed by the consumers are not being settled even after 3 months thereby causing a lot of hardship to the consumers. I urge to set up Consumer Forums at all levels in Rajasthan and madhya Pradesh for the protection of the consumers. (Interruption)

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI (Nainital): Sir, Around 1981-82 many branches were set up in Uttar Pradesh by M/S Favourite Small Investment Company (Regd), 3-Park Street, Calcutta. Funds were sought to be mobilised by this company under various policies. The company appointed influential persons and unemployed youth as its agents on heavy commission basis. Lakhs of rupees were mobilised by promising

large bonuses on deposits. From Kumaon, Bareilly and Moradabad divisions alone an amount of around Rs. 50 lakh was collected.

Sir, in response to a petition filed in the Supreme Court, the hon. Court inquired from the Government and the RBI about the steps being taken or proposed to be taken to check mushroom growth of the finance companies and investment companies. These finance and investment companies are out to cheat innocent persons by promising high rates of interests. There is an urgent need to come to the protection of the public.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, these finance companies have defrauded laborers, farmers and rickshaw-pullers of their hard earned savings. Crores of rupees have been swindled away by these finance and investment companies. I urge the Government and the hon. Minister of Finance to ban these companies immediately and make them to pay back the savings of the depositors after recovering the crores of rupees in the custody of these companies. (Interruptions)

[English]

Otherwise, I am strictly going according to the list supplied to me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Bombay is the industrial capital of India. Suburban railway is the life line of Bombay and 45 lakh persons commute daily by the suburban railway. On the suburban route from Bombay to Vasai there is a 64 year old bridge, which is two kilometre long on the strait. This bridge is in a very bad shape. ~~Consecution was~~ for a new bridge was started in 1985 and was completed in 1990 at the cost of Rs. 45 crore.

However, this bridge has not been made operational even after two years of its comple-

tion. (*Interruption*) Though electric and telecommunication facilities have been provided on the bridge, yet it has not been made operational. The bridge has not been declared operational because of the fear that the construction of the bridge is not up to the specified standards. No attention is being paid by the Government in this regard and it is quite possible that in the days to come no bridge would be available at all as the old bridge is already in a very bad condition.

Therefore, I urge the Government to make a statement immediately in this regard and also remove all the faults in the new bridge and declare it operational before the onset of the monsoon season. The Government should make a statement tomorrow in this regard.

[*English*]

SHRI A. INDRA KARAN REDDY (Adilabad): Mr. Chairman Sir, as you are aware Telangana Region in Andhra Pradesh is drought prone and every year people suffer for want of drinking water. This year the situation is so acute that in Belolampally, Sirpur-Kagaznagar, Boath, Adilabad & Utnoor Taluqs due to lack of drinking water people have to use drain water from broken pipes which no doubt is very much drain water from broken pipes which no doubt is very much constaninated. The use of this contaminated water by people is causing widespread gastroenteritis and so far about 20 people have lost their lives.

Due to lack of medical facilities in this area prompt medical care also could not be given to help the people. There is no attempt from any agency to provide drinking water to the people and provide proper medical facilities.

Unless immediate steps are taken to repair the drains/replicating the water pipes, providing spraying material for drains etc. and procuring sufficient quantities of life saving drugs the situation may become worse. Already local dailies are fighting the problem and unless corrective steps are not taken immediately the

situation may become unmanageable.

I urge upon the Minister for Welfare through you, Sir, to look into the above problem and take prompt action through central agencies to proper drinking water, Medical facilities etc. to people of Bellampally, Sirpur-Kagaznagar, Boath, Adilabad, Utnoor Taluks immediately. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the House stands adjourned for Lunch till 1410 hrs.

13.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

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

[SHRI TARA SINGH *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Review on the working of and Annual Report of the Artifacts Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India. Lampur for the year 1991—92 along with Audited Accounts and Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon; etc.,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): On behalf of Shri Sitaram Kesri, I beg to lay on the table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of