

Legislative Assembly constituency reserved for scheduled Tribe and is famous as an important cultural centre of Assam. Due to constant erosion posed by the river Brahmaputra specially during rainy season, the very existence of this island is in danger. During the last two decades, the total area of the island was reduced by one-third of the total original boundary. The proposal for connecting the island to other parts of the State by road communication was not materialised due to insufficient funds. The N.E.C. took up the scheme during the 7th plan and work order was also in given to the India Railway Construction Corpn. for construction of two permanent bridges over Lohit and Khabolu. Unfortunately the proposal was left abandoned without any known reason .. (Interruptions) Sir, I would like to urge upon the Government to initiate appropriate steps to protect the island by drawing suitable scheme for preventing erosion, by implementing the proposal for construction of the bridge over Luit and Khabolu river and to draw appropriate development scheme for developing the island to a tourist spot of international standard ..(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a point about constitutional impropriety. Under Article 87(1), President has addressed both the Houses of Parliament on 24th May. Now the Address has become the property of the House. Under Article 87(2), the House shall find time to discuss the President's Address. Since the Government which was responsible for the President's Address has resigned, a lot of debate is taking place in the media and confusion has arisen in the minds of the public.

Today being the last day of the session and since I do not find the subject in the list of business, I want to know from the Chair regarding the fate of the Address, whether the Address will be discussed on the floor of the House or it will be infructuous. Sir, I want your ruling on this matter...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SOHANVEER (Muzaffarnagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Muzaffarnagar district of Western Uttar Pradesh about 13 crore quintal of sugarcane is produced out of which the sugar mills are able to crush only 35 percent sugarcane. In my district, there are seven sugar mills, out of these two mills are lying closed. Therefore, farmers have to carry their sugarcane to those mills which are 125-150 kilometres away from their fields. The Superintendent of Police of Khatauli district has set up a check post at Triveni Sugar Mill and the police resort to lathi charge on the farmers. The Police Administration is under complete control of the mill owner. That is why, payment is not being made to the farmers for

their sugarcane. Moreover, sugarcane is under weighed under the protection of the Police. In the absence of getting full payment for their sugarcane, the farmers are not able to get their daughters married. Therefore, through you, I would like to request that the Government should pay attention to this problem.

Similarly, the trading in 'gur' mandi of Muzaffarnagar has gone down to ten percent. As far as crimes are concerned, Muzaffarnagar has reached the top position. Businessmen are murdered there every month. The police is not paying attention towards this problem. It is only resorting to lathicharge on the farmers. This area comes at second or third place, as far as crimes in the world over are concerned. I would like to request that the incidents of crimes should be checked there, farmers should not be exploited and payment should be made to them for their sugarcane.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Uma ji, you should speak for only half-a-minute.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my Lok Sabha constituency, Khajuraho, there is an acute shortage of water. Women have to trudge ten to fifteen miles to fetch drinking water. This is not only the problem of Khajuraho but entire Madhya Pradesh is experiencing acute shortage of drinking water. The Government of Congress Party in Madhya Pradesh is not able to resolve this crisis. Therefore, through you, I request that special grant should be provided to resolve the problem of drinking water in Khajuraho.

[English]

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI (Autonomous District) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a great Constitutional crisis has arisen in Assam. As we all know, in the four upper districts of Assam - Dibrugarh, Lakhimpur and other districts - army operation is going on against the militants. I do not want to go into the merits of the army operation.

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot go into it also.

DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : The issue I want to raise is that the Chief Minister of Assam has said that he is not aware of the army operations. Nobody has informed him about it. He is on record and it has come out in the newspapers also that he has contacted the hon. Prime Minister and Government of India. The Government has also not come out openly whether it has or it has not given order for these army operations. That is why the people of Assam are agitating.

MR. SPEAKER : You may conclude now.