

should fix the minimum wages for them. The Government is going to fix the minimum wages for contractual workers and agricultural labourers. I urge upon the Government to fix a minimum wage for the salt workers all over the country.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK PRADHANI (Khurja) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, industrial city of NOIDA falls under my Parliamentary constituency. In NOIDA, farmers land is being acquired at the rate of Rs. 29 per sq. yard while NOIDA Development Authority is charging for the same land at the rate of Rs. 1200 per sq. metre. It is causing great loss to farmers and they are rendered landless. The wards of farmers are also not being provided jobs.

I, through you, would like to request the hon. Minister to impart justice to the farmers since as per the rules of the Authority, the land acquired by it should be on no profit no loss basis, but it is acquiring land at the rate of Rs. 29 and selling at the rate of Rs. 1200 per sq. metre to industrialists. I request you to instruct the hon. Minister to pay reasonable price to the farmers for their land. One ward of every farmer whose land has been acquired by the Authority should be provided job and they should be given reasonable compensation.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards some facts. At present the hon'ble Home Minister is not here. I would also like to request the Hon'ble Members of BJP to listen attentively.

In my constituency, there is an assembly segment named Karimpur. Some part of this constituency touches territory of Bangladesh. A river flows through that area. When this area was in Pakistan some persons who are Hindus had come to this side by crossing the river... (Interruptions) This area was in Pakistan at that time. They migrated from Charmeghna presuming that it was India and some persons had gone that side i.e. to Jamalpur presuming that it was Pakistan. But the reality is that Charmeghna falls in Bangladesh and Jamalpur falls in India. Persons who had left India remained in India and those who came to India after leaving Pakistan remained in Pakistan itself, which is Bangladesh at present.

Work pertaining to fencing and road construction in the border areas is being done in such a way that it appears that Jamalpur and Charmeghna are going to be parts of Bangladesh. The Bangladeshis are our own people, they are Indians and they vote for us but they get their names registered in other villages. We are not able to help them through Panchayats.

They cannot dispose of their land because they cannot get their sale deeds registered in India. For this

purpose they will have to go to Bangladesh. If they remain this side, they will be Indian. That area falls in Bangladesh. I have raised this issue in this House time and again. I am telling this to my friends belonging to BJP also. They should ponder over this issue seriously. There is one solution to this problem that Jamalpur may be transferred to Bangladesh and Charmeghna ... (Interruptions) This is not within the jurisdiction of the Government of West Bengal. Please sit down.

You will not understand it, please sit down. There may be only one solution to this problem that Jamalpur village be transferred to Bangladesh and Charmeghna may be occupied by us. The Government of India should hold negotiations with the Government of Bangladesh in this regard.

Due to fencing and the border road made there, both the villages have gone to Bangladesh. If Indian territory goes into hands of other country, then nothing can be more painful than this. The previous Government also did not consider this problem seriously despite my raising this issue time and again. These people remained with us during hard days also.

I am very grateful to you that you have given me an opportunity to speak. Shri Ram Vilas ji and other Ministers are sitting here. I would like to request them to take this issue seriously and whenever they feel it convenient, they should visit that area and know the difficulties of the people living there.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Sadar-Delhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you that you have given me an opportunity to speak. I would like to draw the attention of the august House towards the menace of lottery due to which lakhs of persons have been rendered homeless in the country and a number of persons have committed suicide. People are ruined due to lotteries. Our Central Government claims that it is sympathetic to the poor. I would like to submit to the Government that thousands of crores of rupees spent on lotteries come from the pocket of the poor. But the Government claims that lotteries are being floated in the public interest. Hospitals and schools will be opened with the money collected through lotteries. My submission is that the Central Government should evolve a policy to check the menace of lottery in the country. Majority of the people will agree that lottery is an evil. When BSP Government was ruling in Uttar Pradesh, it had imposed ban on lotteries in the State. The Communist Government in West Bengal has also imposed a ban on lotteries in the State. BJP Government in Delhi had also imposed a ban on lotteries. When our party was in power in Madhya Pradesh, ban was imposed on lotteries. But the Central Government has not evolved any such policy with a view to impose a complete ban on lotteries. I would like to demand that a Bill may be brought in this regard.

You cannot imagine as to how many families were ruined when one digit lotteries were started. Therefore,

directions may be issued to the State Governments to impose ban on lotteries. The Government of Delhi has to incur a loss of Rs. 100 crore after imposing ban on lotteries. But due to non imposition of ban on lotteries of other States, those states earn crores of rupees from Delhi and the Government of Delhi is bearing a loss of Rs. 100 crore. The Central Government should bring a Bill or issue an ordinance in this regard so that lakhs of people can be saved from being ruined.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Ordinance cannot be issued during the session

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV (Saharsa) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the entire Bihar especially, Saharsa, Sonpaul, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Khagaria, Madhepura, Sheohar and Katihar districts are badly affected by floods. I would like to inform the House that the Kosi river originating from Nepal, earlier used to flow upto 200 kilometers but due to the policies of the Government its radius has been decreased to eight to twelve kilometers only. Flow of that river after embankment on eastern and Western banks is causing destruction in that area as a result of which people of hundreds of villages are rendered homeless every year. But the Government does not take measures to resolve this problem. This time also, Simari, Sidava and Nauhra of Hansulia division of Bakhtiyarpur of Saharsa district Rampur, Chhalwan, Urhar and Murli villages of Kanwali Gogari and Chautham divisions of Khagaria district have been cut off from the rest of the country. This problem cannot be resolved at the State Government level. No solution has been found till today to the problem of international rivers which originate from other countries and flow in our country, ruining the people and ultimately, fall into the sea with Ganga.

In 1993, the Prime Minister of India and Nepal had signed an agreement. As per the agreement, it was decided that a dam will be constructed over Pancheshwari, Kaguali and Kosi rivers at Thitha Pani in Nepal. Power will be generated as a result thereof and an attempt would be made to find a solution of floods due to Kosi river. I would like to tell you that the State Government has submitted the report to the Government of India but no action has been taken in this regard. Clearance has been given to the Pancheshwari river project in Uttar Pradesh but the Government has not paid any attention to the Kosi river in Bihar which causes havoc in the State. I would like to request the Government that the construction of a dam over Kosi river at Thitha Pani in Nepal should be undertaken immediately. Government should make untiring efforts for the construction of dam so that the people in my region do not suffer due to floods.

I would like to make one more submission that the Government should send a team there to survey destruction caused in that area and submit a report so that adequate compensation can be provided to the affected people.

14.00 hrs.

SHRI MANHARAN LAL PANDEY (Janjgir) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, all the Members of the House are expressing their concern about the problem of flood but on the contrary, Madhya Pradesh is facing the worst drought situation of this country this year. This State produces 30 per cent of the total production of the country. Out of 70 percent crop of soyabean which is cultivated in that State, 50 percent has been affected by drought. Paddy has been sown just in 50 per cent area and in rest of the area it could not be sown due to lack of water. The State Government is not in a position to provide seeds of soyabean and paddy. It could not make available these seeds last year also. Therefore, the condition of the farmers is still very bad. Farmers are not able to get seeds and labourers are not getting work. The State Government is not able to make adequate arrangements. Due to some political reasons the State Government is not in a position to improve the situation. Therefore, the Central Government should make available the seeds of soyabean and paddy to Madhya Pradesh and provide adequate funds to meet the situation of drought.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The house stands adjourned for lunch to re-assemble at 3.00 p.m.

14.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fifteen of the Clock.*

15.05 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Five Minutes past Fifteen of the clock.*

(Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

#### Calling Attention to Matter of Urgent Public Importance

#### SITUATION ARISING OUT OF BURNING OF SUGARCANE BY SUGARCANE GROWERS AND NON-PAYMENT OF THEIR DUES

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Food and Minister of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution towards the steps taken by the Government on the situation arising out of burning of sugarcane by sugarcane growers and non-payment of their dues by the sugarmills.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION ( SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, during the period from 1st