

issued to continue the work there. I would like to say the Government should issue instructions that contractors from outside should not be allowed to work there. These should be given on lease to the labourers of stone mines. They should be asked first to constitute a committee and then the contract should be given to them so that they could earn their livelihood. They are in bad condition. The tribal women of the area have no other profession or farming. They are on the verge of starvation. When we go to our constituency, these women tell us that they are forced to take prostitution to make their both ends meet.

Sir, through you, I request the Government to issue orders to give these closed mines to labourers on lease. Committees of labourers should be constituted for mining of stones so that they could earn their livelihood.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B. C. KHANDURI : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Environment Ministry towards the problem of man-eater tigers who are frequently killing the people in my area. About 100 such cases have been noticed in my area district Chamouli, Rudraprayag, and Pauri Garhwal during the last two-three years. Man-eater tiger kill children, women, old and helpless persons. Recently a tiger entered a house and hurt nine persons of a family and the condition of the three persons is very serious. The Government of India has launched a project Tiger in my area. On the one hand the area of this project is being extended but on the other hand tigers are killing people in cities and villages as there is no arrangement to control them. People are terrorised there and a sort of curfew is imposed after evening and now the tigers are killing people by entering their houses. I have been raising the issue in the House since 1992 but no attention has so far been paid in this regard. I would like to say to the Ministry of Environment that it may be in the interest of the nation to increase the tiger population, it should also be ensured that the tigers may not hurt the people and some arrangements should be made to stop killing of people by tigers. Such tigers are kept there who do not remain restricted to the forest area and venture out to kill people. I request the Environment Ministry to constitute a high powered committee to look into the matter and make arrangements to stop killing of people by these man-eaters.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir both the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Law Minister are here. I would like to reiterate the TDP's stand to the passing of the Women Reservation Bill in the ensuing Session of Parliament itself. We are ready to give our fullest cooperation. Even the main Opposition Party is ready to give their full cooperation. Sir, the House is

adjourning *sine die* on the 23rd of this month. So, it is better to table this Bill in this Session itself... (Interruptions).

It is high time that we demonstrated our political will and passed this Bill. It is my humble request, through you, to the hon. Prime Minister to come before this House with this legislation.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): Sir, I also support Shri K. Yerrannaaidu. The Government should make a statement that in the next week it will bring this Bill before the House....(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (PONNANI): Sir, along with that, the Government should also make arrangement for reservation of OBCs and minorities....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seats.

.....(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : That Bill must be a comprehensive one. Otherwise, we cannot welcome it. The Government must realise it.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seats.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Hannan Mollah says.

.....(Interruptions)*

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very serious problem being faced by the people of Delhi. It is about continuous power shortage. In the entire capital region, the people are reeling under heavy load-shedding. Everyday, there is a shortage of about 700 mw to 800 mw which may continue for another 10 to 15 days. I do not know for how many days it will continue. Everyday, a huge amount of power theft is also taking place in Delhi, but the Government is not taking any steps to stop it.

Yesterday even in the VIPs area and in V.P. House area, there was a huge load-shedding. The Government is saying that there was a problem in the Northern Grid. The Government is talking about increase in the power generation but in actual life, we find that the Capital itself is facing a serious shortage of power. Even at some places of Delhi, there is a 24 hour power cut. Due to non-supply of power, water pumps are not functioning, and many works are at standstill.

Therefore, I would request the Government to take immediate steps so that the power supply in the Capital is improved.

* Not recorded

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Sir, Delhi is facing an unprecedented shortage of the power... Earlier the power shortage was the problem of summer season but now we are facing such acute shortage of power in winter season also. The Minister of power is not here at present, though he was here sometimes before. A meeting of the Chief Minister and MPs should be convened to find out solution of this problem. There are about 1½ lakh industries in Delhi and almost 15 lakh persons are engaged in them and today these are not in operation due to shortage of power. My second submission is regarding power generation plant proposed to be set up at Bawana, so far its second phase could not be started. There is no power generation plan for Delhi. On the one hand, the second phase of the Bawana Plant is not being started and on the other hand power crisis is growing day by day. Today 1½ lakh industries of Delhi are on the verge of closure. I request the Union Minister of Power to take appropriate steps in this regard at the earliest.

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT (NANDURBAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise an important issue of public importance. It relates to the Ministry of Railways. 18 passenger trains and 14 goods trains pass through Nandurbar railway junction of Maharashtra on Surat Bhoosawal rail line. There is a railway crossing. The movement of traffic is restricted for 15 to 20 minutes when gates are closed. Nandurbar is a district headquarter and the people of four tehsils visit this area. Seriously ill, injured and pregnant women can lose their lives if the gates remain closed for a longer period. I demand that Railway Ministry should construct an overbridge to solve this problem. Railway Ministry is requested to fulfil this genuine demand of mine.

VAIDYA VISHNU DATT SHARMA (JAMMU): Mr. Speaker, Sir, almost all the area of my Parliamentary Constituency is adjacent to Pakistan border. This border is divided into two parts, one is known as line of Actual control and the other as international border. Terrorists enter the country by crossing the line of actual control. Now terrorists have started coming over here by crossing the national border. Some such terrorists have been arrested and some of them have killed the people living there. Farmers living on borders cannot cultivate their fields and cannot live peacefully. I would like to make a submission to the union Government to seal the borders so that farming could be done and drugs trafficking could be stopped. It is an important matter and should be considered seriously.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, BIHAR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is Manjhi railway station in Banaras Railway Division. 100 acres of irrigated and un-

irrigated land belonging to the Government is lying there. As per revenue record a part of this land was allotted to a particular person long ago. Now this person has illegally occupied 150 acres of land. Now the said person is having an illegal bus stand on that land and is also involved in illegal trading of liquor. This area is on the border of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and the Sarju river flows in between. Manjhi is a den of criminals of Uttar Pradesh. Incidents of murders also frequently take place in this area. I have drawn the attention of the hon'ble Minister during his railway budget speech last time. He assured us to take action on it. The person in whose name the land was allotted as per revenue records, has died. Now, the officials of Banaras Division of Railway Ministry have sought No objection Certificate from the family members of that person regarding the allotment. On the one hand property of Railway is being misused and on other hand terror is prevailing in the area. I request the Government of India to get such illegal occupation of the land belonging to Railways vacated. Railway Ministry should take possession of its property. No illegal trading should be allowed there. The Government should take stern action in this regard if required.

[English]

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, in my constituency, at Kolli Hills, at least for the past ten years, even basic amenities have not been provided due to the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

The area from Narayankadu to Mullaikurichi, which is about five kilometres, is without any basic amenities like roads. About twenty thousand people belonging to the Scheduled Tribes are suffering without protected drinking water. From the Tribal Sub-Plan, Rs.3 crore were allotted for providing basic amenities but because of this Act, the schemes are not being implemented. So, I urge upon the Government to review the Forest Conservation Act, 1980. The forest policy in the tribal areas has to be distinct from the forest policy in the non-tribal areas. I also urge the Government to bring forward a constitution Amendment, to Article 338, to give more powers to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission to issue directions for corrective action to be taken within a given period of time.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (SITAMARHI) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the Indira Avas Yojana under the minimum basic needs programme. An assistance of rupees twenty thousand is given to people belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward classes, minority community and poor people of upper castes living in villages to construct houses under Indira Avas Yojana. An amount of rupees twenty thousand is given for purchasing bricks and cement