

**(xi) Need to look into the problems faced by Indians living on Indo-Bhutan border**

**SHRI MANIK SANYAL** (Jalpaiguri): The action of Royal Government of Phutan to tackle the present political upheaval prevailing in that country has caused a serious concern for the Indian citizens living in Indo-Bhutan border regions. The recent firing by Bhutan Military forces which resulted in the death of more than three hundred Bhutani citizens has left a serious impact on the mind of Indian citizen of that region as to their security, peace and tranquillity. This action of the Bhutan Government has not remained confined within its own territory. An unprovoked firing by the Bhutani Military on 23rd September, 1990, adjacent to Chunbhati Tea Estate under Banarhat Police Station of Jalpaiguri District, causing death of two Indian citizens and serious injury to the driver of Additional Superintendent of Police of Jalpaiguri has aggravated the fear psychosis among the Indian people. Further, the Bhutan Government has sealed its border and imposed a bar on the entry of Indian citizens in Bhutan. Besides, Indian pass holders who are employed in cement factory and other establishments in Bhutan are also not allowed to enter in that country. This may ultimately affect the existing friendly relations with the Bhutan Government.

In view of this I urge upon the Central Government to take up the matter with the Bhutan Government so that normalcy is restored and the sense of insecurity among our people is removed expeditiously.

**(xii) Need to take steps for the overall development of North Bihar**

**SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA** (Madhubani): There seems to be discrimination against the Mithila region of North Bihar and this is the only area in the country where railway facilities have actually decreased.

Twice duly inaugurated, the budgeted conversion of Samastipur-Darbhanga line to B.G. and extending the same to Jai Nagar and Raxaul has been shelved several times in the past. It is now moving at a snail's pace with no guarantee of early completion. Floods, drought and power crisis have become a permanent feature and no attempt is made to construct multi-purpose high dams over rivers Koshi, Kamla, Bagmati, Mahananda and Mashan which alone can provide durable solution to most of the ills of North Bihar and Tarai region of Nepal besides providing adequate hydel power for several States. The project report for multi-purpose high dam over river Koshi sent to H.M. of Nepal is not being seriously pursued at political level.

Even the existing industries like the Ashoka Paper Mills, Thakur Paper Mills, fruit processing factories of Madhubani, Darbhanga are languishing and the old sugar mills of Raiyann, Lohat and Sakri are not being modernised. The completion of Western Koshi canal is also being delayed.

Even the generating capacity of Darbhanga station of the All India Radio is not being increased in the name of lack of resources. Per capita power consumption is less than one-fifth of that of Bihar which itself is for less than the average national level.

Thus, the people of the area feel utterly frustrated due to continued neglect.

I urge upon the Union Government to take steps for economic development of North Bihar and to ameliorate the condition of the people.

**(xiii) Need to set up a T.V. relay centre either at Virol or Kusheshwar in Rosera, Bihar**

[Translation]

**SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY** (Rosera): Sir, Rosera Parliamentary

Constituency in Bihar is the most backward area. The villagers in that area are facing difficulty in viewing T.V. programmes because Doordarshan Centres are situated at Darbhanga and Saharsa. People residing in the area falling between these two centres are also keenly interested in viewing T.V. programmes. Virol and Kusheshwar blocks of Darbhanga district are remote rural areas. I have also written a letter to the hon. Minister to set up a T.V. relay centre either at Virol or Kusheshwar block.

I would, therefore, request the Government to set up a T.V. relay centre either at Virol or Kusheshwar block of Darbhanga district.

#### (xiv) Need to settle the Jharkhand issue amicably

[English]

SHRI A. K. ROY (Dhanbad): A Committee on Jharkhand matters (CJM) was set up by the Government of India in 1989 to "examine and recommend the modalities for meeting the just aspirations of the people of the region within the Constitutional framework", i.e. the area of Chhotanagpur and Santhal Paraganas of Bihar and the adjoining areas of West Bengal, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, mostly inhabited by the tribal and other oppressed nationalists. The people there were making movement for the last fifty years for a separate State of Jharkhand.

The Committee, after the in depth study and several meetings with the peoples' representatives including the heads of political parties operating there, submitted its report in May, 1990 to the Union Home Minister in presence of all the MPs of Chhotanagpur and Santhal Paraganas of Bihar. Though assured action within a month till this date the Report was not placed before the Parliament enabling a meaningful discussion on that nor even made public. This has created a great resentment

amongst the people of Jharkhand region who are now on the path of militant action. A call has already been given for a bandh on 8th October and a week long blockade of all the minerals including coal and Iron crippling the industrial life of the whole country.

When all the areas of the country are in turmoil the effect of disturbances in this industrial heart of the country would be disastrous. So, I request the Government to start meaningful discussion on the basis of the Report and come to an amicable settlement on the Jharkhand issue doing justice to the people there.

#### VALEDICTORY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, we have had a short but very fruitful week. The House resumed its sittings on Monday, the 1st October after it was adjourned *sine-die* on 7th September. We could hold only three sittings because of the intervening holidays. Nonetheless, the House can congratulate itself for passing almost unanimously the Constitution (67th Amendment) Bill, 1990. That only proves—if any proof was necessary—that ours is a vibrant democracy and when it comes to the crunch we take no time to come together. This is what has precisely happened on the Punjab issue.

The House has had very useful debates—most important of them being the discussion on the adjournment motion on the student's agitation against Government's decision on the Mandal Commission Report. I am sure this debate would go a very long way in clearing the air and in assuring the student community that this House is fully conscious of their future—their hopes and aspirations.

The *improptu* discussion on the tragic circumstances in which we lost the head of our judiciary - the Chief