

agricultural credit in the Maharashtra State is routed through the co-operative credit structure, of which Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank is the Apex Bank. The total amount distributed for crop loan during 1984-85 was Rs. 315 crores, while it was Rs. 565 crores during 1988-89 and is expected to be nearly Rs. 625 crores during 1989-90. The State Co-operative Bank has satisfied all the eligibility conditions of NABARD in obtaining refinance. The NABARD which, after a long time, had begun refinance to the State Co-operative Bank during the current year, has stopped it abruptly towards the end of January 1990, objecting to the State Government's scheme of lowering the rate of interest to six per cent on crop loans up to Rs. 10,000. The State Government is now introducing a scheme of production incentive, to be operated by creating a fund with contribution from the State Government and the Maharashtra State Co-operative Bank. The effect of stoppage of refinance by NABARD will result in denial of credit to a large number of farmers, and agricultural production, consequently, will suffer. The matter has been taken up with the Government of India but no action has been taken. I urge the Government to take final decision soon.

[Translation]

(iv) Need to allocate adequate funds for timely completion of Mohane Reservoir Project

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA (Chaitra): In Gaya district of Bihar, under the Mohane reservoir project two dams and one barrage are proposed to be constructed on Mohane river at Armadag and Brandi. The completion of this project will provide irrigation to 80,300 hectares of land in Barachatti, Mohanpur, Bodh Gaya and Manpur subdivisions. It will also generate 30 MW hydel-power in Armadag and provide a permanent irrigation facility in Vdenas. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 127 crores. The project was approved by the Bihar Government during the 7th Five Year Plan. Rupees one crore has also been sanctioned. The Central Government is requested to allocate

required amount of funds for the completion of this project within the 8th Five Year Plan.

(v) Need to sanction electronic telephone exchange for Udaipur, Rajasthan

SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA (Udaipur): Udaipur in Rajasthan is a place of great attraction not only for Indian tourists but also for foreign tourists. It is also an important place from the point of view of its mineral wealth and industries. Till now 6900 telephone connections have been given in Udaipur and an equal number of applicants are on the waiting list since 1982. In Rajasthan, Udaipur comes after Jaipur as far as income from telephone connections are concerned. There is a proposal to set up a cross-bar exchange to increase the number of telephone connections to 4000. The project which is to be launched in 1990-91 is likely to be completed by 1992-93. It is also proposed that an electronic telephone exchange will be provided at Udaipur in 1992-93, which will start working in just 6 months. Keeping in view the needs of the city, Udaipur should be provided with an electronic exchange.

(vi) Need to raise the amount of compensation in cases of sterilisation deaths

[English]

SHRI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): Sir, according to data supplied by the Health and Family Welfare Ministry in answer to an unstarred question on 28-3-1990, the total of post-sterilization deaths in the country during the years 1986-87, 1987-88, 1988-89 was 1205, 1149 of the dead being women and fifty six being men. An amount of Rs. 10,000/- each is paid to the next-of-kin of those who die due to sterilization operations, as compensation.

While it is true that the Government has stated that certain precautionary measures are being taken to minimise such accidental deaths, it is extremely unfortunate that such

[Sh. Malini Bhattacharya]

a meagre sum as Rs.10,000/- only is given as compendation in cases of death. The highest occurrence of such deaths may be found among women of economically depressed classes and women generally having a number of young children. The sum seems to be an insult to the human dignity of the women who under the pressure of physical and economic distress caused by frequent pregnancy and child-bearing, come to the clinic to find relief, reposing faith on the Government and leave their motherless children behind when they die. In those few cases where the father dies, too, the family is in dire distress and the sum available cannot, even in financial terms, make up for the loss sustained. While it should be our endeavour to ensure that such deaths do not occur at all, one would urge upon the Government to raise the sum to a standard compatible with compensation available for ordinary accidental deaths. This would only be a recognition by the Government of its responsibility in making family planning a success in this country.

[Translation]

(vii) Need to impress upon B.S.F. to restore land to the villagers of Koker and Ranian in Amritsar district

SHRI KIRPAL SINGH (Amritsar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been reported that B.S.F. personnel have taken over the land of villagers in Koker and Ranian in Amritsar district. People are facing a lot of difficulties with the presence of the B.S.F. The B.S.F. gives land to farmers on contract but manages the land itself. Physical search of men and women has become a permanent feature.

The Government should take action and restore the land to their owners from the B.S.F. and issue instructions to the B.S.F.

(viii) Need to set up a High Power T.V. transmitter at Banswara

SHRI HEERA BHAI (Banswara): The programmes telecast from Banswara T.V. Centre can be viewed within a radius of 25 to 30 kms. only. Keeping in view the population of Banswara district, a high-Power T.V. transmitter should be set up there so that programmes can be viewed upto a distance of 100 km. to 150 kms.

Therefore, I request the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting to take immediate action in this regard.

13.20 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL),
1990-91

Ministry of Home Affairs-CONTD.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri L.V. Singh will speak on the Demands of the Home Ministry.

SHRI L.V. SINGH (Begusarai): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as I embark on my maiden venture to speak on budgetary Demands for the Ministry of Home Affairs, I am quite conscious of my limitations, but at the same time I am not ready to accept the distortion of facts as presented by Hon'ble Shri Santosh Mohan Devji yesterday. His major broadside was on Kashmir and he charged the present Government of many omissions and omissions oblivious of the role of previous regime. Shri Dev made out as if the Kashmir problem started only after 2nd of December, 1989. Yes, Kashmir is burning today. I solicit the cooperation of all to solve this in a spirit of introspection and correct diagnosis of the malady. In fact, the N.F. Government inherited a Kashmir, torn as under with strife and lawlessness, a Government which had abdicated its re-