

[Shri Purna Chandra Malik]

their houses within 3 years, have been penalised for not constructing the houses. Those who have constructed their houses, are not being provided with water connections on the ground that water is not available. People have spent lakhs of rupees on the construction of these houses and it is impossible to live there without the basic amenities.

I, therefore, urge upon the Minister of Urban Development to ask DDA to provide water connections in all the above sectors without any further loss of time. If the DDA is not in a position to provide water, the concerned authorities should be asked not to levy any penalties or charge the house tax etc., till water is made available to them.

(vii) Needs to set-up a tribunal to resolve the boundary dispute between Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY (Buxar) : I have been repeatedly drawing the attention of the Government of India from the floor of Parliament to the festering boundary dispute between UP and Bihar involving in particular Balia and Bhojpur districts of the respective States.

There is an Act of Parliament on the boundary settlement between the two States. It was in pursuance of this Act that an independent Body called Trivedi Commission was appointed and it submitted its report delimiting the broad parameters and guidelines for the final settlement of the claims and counter-claims of the States concerned.

In the light of the Trivedi award, all disputes should have ceased but despite a series of meetings between the Chief Ministers and also officials of the two States, no solutions have been found.

In the continuing uncertainty, the farmers of Bhojpur in Bihar along the course of the river Ganges which acts as the natural boundary between U.P. and Bihar in this area are the worst sufferers. They cultivate their land which legitimately belongs to them but during the harvesting season their crops are forcibly harvested by UP farmers. Almost every year this leads to tension and killings.

Only last week a farmer from Nainjore village in Bhojpur was killed in indiscriminate firing. Following this incident, serious tension is building up and is bound to result into more violence.

I urge upon the Central Government to appoint a Tribunal with independent authority to give its final award on the dispute and as a short-term measure, ensure that the Bihar farmers harvest their ripe crops without further harassment and violence.

[Translation]

(vii) Demand for taking over of Orient Power Cable Limited Kota

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377 I want to draw the attention of the Ministry of Labour towards the miserable condition of workers working in the Orient Power Cable Limited, Kota (Rajasthan).

Sprawling over an area of 375 acres, the Orient Power Cable Limited was set up in 1962 with the Japanese Collaboration. This was one of the seven leading cable manufacturing companies of India at that time. But it was declared sick and closed down in 1986 by its management. Workers of this company are on the brink of starvation. They have not been paid any remuneration for the last two years.

Even the colony of workers named 'Cable Nagar' is deserted. Water and electric supply to the colony have been cut.

In gross violation of all industrial and labour laws, the company and its management have usurped the dues of the workers. The company is not only trying to misappropriate the money it owes to the Nationalised Banks, but has also usurped 375 acres of fertile land of Kota, a fertile district of Rajasthan. The Government is requested to interfere in the matter and take over this factory so as to revive it and to save its workers and their families from starvation.