

starvation has appeared before farmers due to the destruction of Rabi crop. The land revenue, the irrigation tax, the co-operative loan and the loans of other bank are being collected as usual and at some places even the operative have been resorted to.

I request the Central Government to give directions to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to waive the recovery of land revenue and irrigation taxes and to postpone the loans of co-operative Bank in respect of farmers affected by hailstorms.

A special arrangement for the supply of drinking water for these areas should be made by Government of India.

[English]

(iv) Need to provide Assistance to the Farmers affected by drought in Maharashtra

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopargaon): Government should take urgent steps to give relief to the farmers of drought prone areas of Maharashtra. Government of India had announced in 1972 facilities to drought affected eligible farmers. An eligible farmer cannot be compared to a defaulter farmer. Maharashtra has been facing drought continuously for the last so many years. During the last 15 years, some parts have been affected by drought for nine years, some areas for ten years. It is therefore, necessary that the Government do something for drought prone areas of Maharashtra.

(v) Need to open Navodaya Vidyalaya in Bhargain or Alliganj in Etah district of Uttar Pradesh

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah): The new education policy of the Government envisages opening of Navodaya Vidyalayas in every district of the country with the objective of providing an opportunity to the children coming from the poor and weaker sections of society to develop their talents.

Bhargain, a most backward area in

Tehsil Patiali District Etah with 25000 population mostly consisting of minority and scheduled caste community, is having no Government school worth the name within 5 kms. Only a temporary school upto 7th standard exists there. Similarly, Aliganj, another backward area which is a town area and a Tehsil and block headquarters is having no Government school. Only some private schools/college exist. These areas are completely neglected in educational facilities.

Needless to emphasis that because of utter lack of proper educational facilities in these backward areas, the younger generation is developing criminal tendencies and there is greater need to check the budding citizens of tomorrow from this path to make them good and useful citizens by imparting good education at the early age.

For opening of Navodaya Vidyalaya 30 acres of Gram Samaj land and a building temporarily for two years till the vidyalaya building comes up can be made available. Such facilities can also be provided on New Aliganj-Mainpuri road before village Daudganj and between Aliganj-Kuravali road in Sadhera village.

I would request the Government to open a Navodaya Vidyalaya at either of the places mentioned above to bring the children in the mainstream of national progress.

(vi) Need to enlarge the Activities of Repatriates Cooperative Finance and Development Bank

DR. A. KALANIDHI (Madras Central) The Repatriates Cooperative Finance and Development Bank Ltd. is a Government of India enterprise established in 1969 and having jurisdiction over the southern states viz., Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and the Union Territory of Pondicherry. The main object of the Bank is rehabilitation of repatriates returning from Sri Lanka, Burma, Vietnam, etc. To achieve the above object, the Bank has evolved various schemes like grant of direct and indirect loans to repatriates and Employment Schemes. As the function of the Bank is to assist the repatriates there should not be any restrictions for the grant

of loans to repatriates only by one loan assistance. It is necessary to relax the rules and to allow the Bank to assist continuously the repatriates as and when needed.

To diversify its activities, the Bank should start undertaking banking activities like introduction of Savings Bank Account, Current Account, Term Deposit Account and issue of various kinds of advances like Jewel Loans, Vehicle Loans, Consumer Loans etc.

The Bank should undertake more innovative schemes to serve the cause of the repatriates and the public.

[Translation]

(vii) Need to improve Telecommunication Services particularly in Kairana Region of Muzaffarnagar District in Uttar Pradesh

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN (Kairana) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of Government towards the Telecommunication Services of our country. No doubt, we feel happy that we can contact people on telephone anywhere in our country as well as foreign countries while sitting at home. The Department of Telecommunications is doing its best to provide maximum facilities to the people but I would also like to say that there are many such districts and cities in Uttar Pradesh where Direct Dial Service has not been made available so far and where Telephone Exchange is in existence we do not get telephone line either due to some technical defect or owing to the absence of telephone operators.

There are many such small exchanges in Uttar Pradesh where only one or two operators work. Among them one is lineman and the other attends to calls and they work there only from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. The telephone service comes to standstill completely after 4 P.M. at such places.

All these problems exist in Kairana region of district Muzaffar Nagar also where Telephone Service practically comes to standstill after 4 P.M. in all Blocks.

The Government appoints not more than two operators at places where number of telephones is below hundred. I feel that these are the reasons for not increasing the number of telephone connections in such cities. The people thinks that the telephones services are available only from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. and after that there is no telephone services.

I, therefore, request the Government to appoint atleast. Three operators for all small exchanges or the timing of the existing operators should be arranged in such a way that telephone is available all the 24 hours. With this facility, number of telephone connections would increase and it will not only benefit the Government but also provide relief to the people.

(viii) Need to simplify procedure for procuring duplicate National Savings Certificates.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, despite innumerable incentives offered by the Government to attract money towards small savings, the people are not inclined to deposit their money in Fixed Deposit schemes particularly, in National Savings Certificate because the procedure for procuring duplicate National Savings Certificate is very cumbersome and expensive if the certificate is lost or destroyed. In order to get a duplicate National Savings Certificate one is required to make a request on stamped paper worth Rs. 48.50 per thousands duly supported by an affidavit and two witnesses. This lengthy and complicated procedure is posing great hurdle in the sale of National Saving Certificates.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to scrap the condition of stamped paper worth Rs. 48.50 per thousand so that people could invest their maximum money in National Savings Certificate without any hesitation.

12.19 hrs.
[English]

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1988-89—Contd.

Ministry of Energy—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, the House will take up further discussion and