

the birthday of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar who was the nerve centre of the Dalits of this country and epitome of their spirit. He was the torch bearer of their pains, destitution and dark life. He awakened the conscience of the people towards the great doctrines of equality and self-reliance. He was the driving force in the fight for their rights. He was responsible for framing the Constitution of this country. Even today he lives in the hearts of millions of down-trodden and oppressed countrymen.

On behalf of the voiceless and suffering millions, I request that 14th April be declared as a National holiday and the day be declared as "National Day of Equality."

[Translation]

- (iii) Demand for enforcement of 'No Smoking' instructions in D.T.C. buses.

PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI (Balua) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are several examples which indicate towards the degradation of moral values in the country during the last few years. The persons who respect others' sentiments and care for the conveniences of their fellow beings have become a rare commodity in this country. Its living examples can be seen in the Delhi Transport Corporation and Inter State buses where the passengers via with each other in the matter of smoking. Today, the smoking is considered to be matter of pride. Although, it is written in the D.T.C. buses that 'Smoking strictly prohibited', yet the passengers can be seen smoking in these buses very often. Whether or not co-passengers can withstand cigarette or bidi smoke or it is otherwise harmful to them from health point of view, the smokers least bother. Many times, the drivers and conductors are also seen smoking in the buses. Although the drivers and conductors are supposed to stop the passengers from smoking in the buses, yet instead of stopping others, they themselves can be seen smoking in buses.

I strongly demand that the Government should direct the drivers and the

conductors of the public transport to ensure that nobody smokes in the buses. It will not only give relief to the non-smoking people, but will also help in getting rid of ill effects of smoking.

- (iv) Demand for a sugar mill and other industries in Faizabad (U.P.)

SHRI R. P. SUMAN (Akbarpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, setting up of industries is a pre-requisite for the development of any area. There is no industry worth the name in Akbarpur and Tanda Tehsils of Faizabad district in Uttar Pradesh though thousands of acres of land suitable to the industries is available at these places. The setting up of heavy and small industries is a must for the development of this area.

The Central Government had issued a licence in 1976 for the setting up of a Cooperative Sugar Mill in this area and shares worth Rs. 17 lakhs are still with the farmers. But, I am sorry to say that the licence of this sugar mill was cancelled in 1978-79. The sugarcane growing farmers are in very large number in this area and all of these face a great deal of problem due to the closure of the Shahganj Sugar Mill.

I, therefore, strongly demand that the Central Government should issue a licence for the setting up of a sugar mill at any place in Akbarpur or Tanda Tehsils to safeguard the interests of the farmers and should also accord approval for setting up a heavy industry to facilitate all round development of this area.

[English]

- (v) Demand for a fertilizer plant in Shahjahanpur (U.P.)

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA (Shahjahanpur) : A firm commitment was given to the people of Uttar Pradesh by the former Prime Minister late Shrimati Indira Gandhi and then by Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi that a gas based fertilizer plant will be set up at Shahjahanpur. This proposed fertilizer plant was supposed to start production by 1990. A letter of intent was first issued to D.C.M. Fertilizers and then to the APJ Fertilizers.

[Shri Jitendra Prasada]

Both these firms have failed to take even preliminary steps to set up the plant and have only adopted methods to block the letter of intent. It is evident that due to glut in world fertilizer prices the private sector is dragging its feet in setting up the industry.

It is learnt that extension has not been given to APJ to establish the Fertilizer Plant. I, therefore, request the Government to allot this Fertilizer plant to the Cooperative or Public Sector or to a private party which has a background of Fertilizer industry and has the necessary resources and infrastructure inside the organisation.

A penalty should also be imposed if the plant does not come up within two years from the date of issue of the letter of intent.

- (vi) Demand for a road overbridge on railway crossing on the Varanasi-Gorakhpur National Highway in Ghazipur City.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur): Varanasi-Gorakhpur national highway passes through Ghazipur City, which is a district headquarter in U.P. The highway passes through the main road of the city, and a railway-crossing comes in between the road. The road is very busy, and cannot be widened because there are residential houses on both sides of the road, constructed a long time back. When the railway-crossing is closed, the rush of traffic increases, and at times the traffic jam takes hours to clear.

It is very essential to construct a road by-passing Ghazipur City for long distance traffic, and an over-head bridge on the railway line. This will ease to a very large extent the pressure on the traffic in the city. I, therefore, request the hon. Ministers of Surface Transport and Railways to take early action in the matter.

- (vii) U.S. action in Nicaragua

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): The U.S. Government has once

again started intervening in the affairs of a free country, Nicaragua, by deploying its armed forces through Honduras. This is being done against the expressed wish of the U.S. Congress, and despite the fact that the Nicaragua Government is trying its best to resolve its internal problems through negotiations with all concerned, inside or outside the country. Although more than a month has elapsed, the Government is yet to condemn this move of the U.S. Government and use its diplomatic machinery in favour of creating world public opinion against such a move, and defend Nicaraguan Government. The U.S. Government is also using means to further the war against Nicaragua by economic blockade of Nicaragua, continuous supplies by air to anti-Government forces from other Central American countries, and similar other ways. All these hostile actions against a free country need condemnation in no uncertain terms by the Government without any further delay. Also, the Government should use all its resources for mobilising world public opinion against these moves of U.S. Government, and in support of Nicaraguan Government.

[Translation]

- (viii) Steps to strengthen the unity and integrity of the country.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, India is a country of villages. Most of its population live in villages. Now-a-days it is not the people of any particular caste who are helpless, the people belonging to all castes and communities are sailing in the same boat. Eighty five per cent population of the country is devoid of basic necessities. Only five per cent households are controlling eighty percent of the national wealth. These are the people who are in favour of the status quo and, therefore, obstruct change through every possible means. Today, they are trying to spread communalism in the country in the name of region, caste, religion, language, Ram Janam Bhoomi and Babri Masjid. This is a part of the underhand strategy to weaken the movement for food, employment, education and