

[Shrimati Madhuree Singh]

The smugglers are indulging in the theft of antiques located in various parts of the country. If our pieces of art are smuggled out of the country in this manner, our precious antiques would vanish from our country. There are a large number of antiques in Bihar. Theft of rare antiques is taking place at Rajgir, Bodhgaya, Nalanda, Patna, Bhagalpur, Katihar and Darbhanga etc. Effective steps are required to be taken urgently for the protection of rare antiques. Recently, a rare antique of Chaturbhuj Saraswati has been stolen. It has also been reported that the idol of Lord Vishnu has been defiled. Idols of Shiv Parvati have been stolen in Vajjiganj, idol of Ganeshji of old black stone weighing approx three quintals has been stolen in Jamnava and many idols of Ashtadhatu (an alloy of eight metals) have been stolen from Bhagalpur museum. Some of them belong to eighth or ninth century and are valued at crores of rupees. I request the Government to take urgent steps to protect these idols of artistic value. Connected with old culture of Bihar so that these antiques presenting old heritage of our country could be protected.

- (iii) Need to give unemployment allowance to the unemployed youth of the country.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota) : The increasing unemployment problem among the educated, skilled and unskilled youths of the country is a matter of serious concern. Lakhs of youths are facing the problem of unemployment. There is a ban on recruitment in different services and the youths are not hopeful of getting employment in future also. Due to shortage of electricity, slow pace of industrial development, maximum use of automatic machines and expansion of higher education, unemployment among the youths is increasing. There seems to be little hope for its solution. Cottage industries are not being expanded to the desired level and efforts of the Government are not adequate and the loans provided by the nationalised banks are discriminatory and these loans are provided to the youths belonging to the rich and well-to-do families and not to the needy persons. In such a situation, un-

employment allowance should be provided by the Government to the unemployed youths with a view to removing their difficulties.

[English]

- (iv) Need to direct the Commercial Banks in Orissa to help the Scheduled Casts and Scheduled Tribes Development Finance Cooperative Corporation in disbursement and recovery of loans.

SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL (Phulbani) : The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Finance Co-operative Corporation, Orissa is assisting SC and ST persons in taking up economically viable schemes with provision of margin money upto 25% of the Unit cost of the scheme. The Corporation not having a network of field organisation which involved high operational cost, the margin money is to be routed through the Commercial Banks. The Commercial Banks are to agree for disbursement and recovery of margin money loan on behalf of the Corporation along with the Bank loan, as otherwise adequate benefits cannot flow for the rapid economic development of SCs and STs. Some of the Commercial Banks and Regional Rural Banks have made necessary tie-up arrangements with the Corporation. But there are other commercial banks and regional rural banks who are still unwilling for recovery of margin money loan along with the bank loan. As such, I request the Finance Minister to direct the Reserve Bank of India to send instructions to all commercial banks functioning in Orissa in this regard.

12.20 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

- (v) Need to take steps to ensure compliance of direction issued in regard to appointment of SC and ST candidates to various Government posts.

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI (Simla) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the reservation provided for scheduled castes and scheduled Tribes in various services under the Constitution as also directions of the