

[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 Chaturbhujji 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 Ashtdhatu (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 Castes 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

President in this regard are not being implemented properly. The officers show an indifferent attitude towards them by saying that these persons are not deserving and therefore, they do not appoint them. Our leaders like Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi always made efforts to extend full benefits to the people of these categories, and as a result the people of these communities were benefited very much. I can say that even today, our Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, is undertaking welfare measures for the poor by meeting them in far flung areas so that these poor people could march forward.

I would like to urge the Government of India that stringent action [should be taken against those officers who do not comply with the instructions of the Ministry and a survey should be conducted to find out the backlog in all the Corporations and Undertakings whether it is under the State Governments or the Central Government and the backlog should be cleared within six months. I hope the Government of India would take immediate action in the matter so that the persons of these Communities could derive the benefits which have been guaranteed to them under the Constitution.

[English]

- (vi) Need to formulate a scheme for laying pipeline for natural gas in Assam and make provision for adequate funds.

SHRI M. R. SAIKIA (Nowgong) : Large quantities of Natural Gas are being flared up in the Oil India Ltd. and Natural Gas Commission's oil fields in Assam. This is a wastage of natural assets. A scheme should be formulated to lay a natural gas pipeline from Duliajan via Moran Galeky, Nazira, Sibsagar, Jorhat, Nagaon, Guwahati, Goulpara and Dhubri along the National Highways. This life-line would cater for a refinery-cum-petrochemical complex at Mezenga and a fertilizer plant each at Jorhat, Nagaon, Goalpara and Dhubri. There could be one petrochemical complex and a fertilizer factory at suitable site in Kamrup, Nalbari and Barbeta districts. Again, from Jakhlabandha (in Nagaon District) a branch line can be taken to the

North Bank though the Bhomoraguri Bridge over Brahmaputra. Another fertilizer plant could be set up in the jute areas of Mongoldoi and a stripping (LPG) plant at Bangia. Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to formulate a scheme and make provision for adequate funds for its implementation.

- (vii) Need to have a separate division for proper management of Coalfields in Orissa State.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, Orissa produced 6.6 million tonnes of coal from the two coalfields of the State, viz., Talcher and Ib valley during 1986. This is rather low when one considers the large reserves of coal located in these two coalfields. With the full commissioning of the captive power plants of NALCO and Rourkela Steel Plant, and increase in the supply of coal from Talcher field to the power plants in South, the total production of coal will exceed 10 million tonnes annually by the end of the 7th Plan period. In view of the dispersed locations of the two coalfields, for better control, it would be desirable to set up a separate Divisions of South Eastern Coalfields Ltd for the two coalfields of Orissa without further delay. The interests of the State were not being adequately safeguarded by the erstwhile Western Coalfields Ltd. which was looking after Ib Valley and by Central Coalfields Ltd. which was administering the Talcher Coalfields. By creating a new coal company (S.E. Coalfields Ltd.) with headquarters at Bilaspur in M. P., these has been no spectacular progress yet as far as integrated development of the coal coalfields of Orissa is concerned. It is, therefore, of paramount importance to have a separate Division, in Orissa for administration, supervision and expansion of activities of the two coalfields of the State.

- (viii) Need to provide sufficient funds to the State Government of Assam for undertaking permanent flood control measures.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA (Jorhat) : Recurring floods and erosion by the Brahmaputra have resulted on one hand, in extensive areas getting very thickly silted