

56 crores tonnes of chemical grade lime stone has been discovered in Jaisalmer district. This lime stone contains less content of silica which is used in manufacturing steel of L.D. quality.

There is a need of broadgauge railway line from Bikaner to Jaisalmer and Jaisalmer to Ramgarh to carry this chemical lime stone from Jaisalmer district. This railway line is of great strategic importance also. Besides, it would help in accelerating the pace of construction of Indira Gandhi Canal and carrying foodgrains produced in this area to different parts of the country. Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Ltd. are exploring oil and gas reserved in those areas where the possibilities of oil and gas reserves have increased tremendously on a war footing.

Therefore, it is requested that the Central Government should formulate such plan so that Departments of Railway, Water Resources, Steel and Defence may contribute equal shares towards laying of broad gauge line from Bikaner to Jaisalmer and Jaisalmer to Ramgarh, so that the whole burden does not fall on one department.

The laying of the above railway line, will not only help in connecting Pathankot and Delhi to Jaisalmer directly but also help in progressing the backward desert area. This in turn will help in national progress.

(iii) Demand for effectively implementing the scheme for freeing Ganga of pollution, particularly near Kanpur

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur). Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government through you, on following subject under rule 377.

When this Government came to power in the beginning of 1985 under the leadership of our young Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, one of the important decisions taken by the new Government at that time was that of establishing Ganga Development Authority. Our Prime Minister is also Chairman of this Authority. Ganga Devel-

opment Authority was entrusted with an important responsibility of cleaning Ganga of pollution and this task was to be completed in the stipulated period. The authority started work on this plan and its sought cooperation from some foreign companies too. But this work is not being carried at the desired speed and it continues to be very slow. The importance of cleaning Ganga of pollution has not only religious significance, but also strengthen our social and cultural identity. Besides it has importance from ecological and health point of view. Pollution of the Ganga is maximum at Kanpur and it has drifted 7 Kms. away from bathing ghats towards Unnao, resulting in acute scarcity of drinking water in Kanpur.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government that the scheme to clean the Ganga of pollution at Kanpur and bringing it back to the Ghats once again, should be accelerated at a greater speed, and the work which was started with the help of people of Kanpur, should be completed by the Central Government by providing direct or indirect assistance to the State Government, so that this problem is solved permanently. The construction of barrage on Ganga should also be taken up simultaneously.

[English]

(iv) Demand for improving the condition of slum dwellers in Nagpur

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur): At present, 6 lakh people are living in Nagpur. They are living in worst conditions. Different schemes sponsored by the Government have been provided to them even till date. Upgradation schemes have also not been launched by the government. HUDCO's Housing schemes for weaker section of society and slum upgradation schemes have not been implemented in the Nagpur City.

Minister of State for Urban Development (Shri Dalbir Singh) has visited Nagpur City twice. He has himself seen the worst condition of slums and lack of houses.

There is an urgent need that the Central Government should assist in preparing schemes for slum upgradation and Housing so that the weaker sections of the society are benefited and their condition is improved. The policy of the Government is to uplift the weaker sections of the society. For preparing the schemes and in assisting the local authorities and State Government, I demand all possible help through HUDCO.

I also suggest to open an office of HUDCO in Nagpur which could cater to the need of entire Vidharba region including Nagpur and also part of Madhya Pradesh. I hope that Central Government will take urgent steps in this direction.

[Translation]

(v) Steps to control the disease affecting mango crop in Rajkot

SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI (Rajkot): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, mangoes are grown on a large scale in my area Rajkot, and in many areas like Surat, Vadodhara, and Bharuch in Gujarat and Saurashtra. These are also exported and help in earning valuable foreign exchange for the country. Mango crop is the means of livelihood for thousands of poor people. Fine qualities of mangoes like Hafus, Jamadar, Pairi, Kesar etc. are produced in this area. But for last few years, the mango crop has been affected by disease and has got destroyed. Consequently, the poor people are deprived of their means of livelihood and they suffer a lot.

The pesticides which are used to destroy the pests is very costly and the poor farmers cannot afford to purchase it. Therefore, I request the Government that scientists from I.C.A.R. should be sent to identify the disease in order to save mangoes from further destructions and also to destroy the pests completely. Along with this, arrangements should be made for free distribution of pesticides or supplying them at cheaper rates to the farmers.

[English]

(vi) Demand for no bar of distance in the matter of advancing loans etc. to people of Mirzapur district of U.P. under IRDP and special component programmes

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj): In spite of Central Government and State Government's efforts, the lead banks in Mirzapur District are not advancing loans to the poor people, especially to those who are entitled to get such benefits under the IRDP, special component programmes in the interior areas of District.

It is the need of the hour that villages of the district should be linked up with some Bank. Otherwise, the developmental programmes will not reach the poor. Actually, the benefits are only confined to those villages which are situated near some banks. It has been stated by the Reserve Bank of India that so far as IRDP, special component programmes are concerned, there shall be no bar of distance in benefitting the poor especially those who are below the poverty line. In practice, no bank is coming forward to go beyond a certain distance.

While presenting the budget the Finance Minister had stated that all the villages will be covered by 40,000 branches of the nationalised banks as early as possible. That has also not been done till now.

I therefore urge upon the Finance Minister to look into the matter and do the needful.

[Translation]

(vii) Demand for a proper status to Sanskrit in the new Education Policy

*SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA (Mirzapur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, Sanskrit Scholars and lovers of Sanskrit, throughout the country are expressing concern because the New Education Policy does not give

* Translation of the matter originally raised in Sanskrit