

ter's Relief Fund to give relief to these people in the hours of crisis and get special fund sanctioned under Indira Awas Yojna for providing them houses so that their problem of shelter and bread is solved

(v) Demand for handing over excavated idols to concerned religious communities, particularly the jain idols excavated in Hansi (Haryana) and Damoh (Madhya Pradesh) to Jain Community

SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN (Damoh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the idols found by the Archaeological Department during the excavation operation or in the fields or houses should be handed over to the concerned religious communities for worship and security. If these idols are not handed over to them, it will hurt their religious sentiments and create discontentment among them. The idols which are not worshipped in any community can be retained in the museum by the Archaeological department for proper maintenance. For example, some idols of Jain Tirthankar were found during excavation in Hansi in Haryana which have been placed in the Office of District Magistrate. The Jain community have made a number of requests for handing them over to the community but no satisfactory reply is being given to them.

I would request through this House that the idols should be handed over to the Jain community so that they may worship them and maintain them properly.

Similarly, the Jain idols found during excavation at Bandakpore in Damoh district (Madhya Pradesh) may be handed over to the Jain community for worship and security so as to avoid any discontentment among that community.

(vi) Demand for connecting national Highway No. 12 with National Highway No. 43 from Jabalpur to Raipur via Mandla

SHRI M.L. JHIKRAM (Mandla): Mr. Dep-

uty Speaker, Sir, the national highway No. 12 which connects Jaipur with Jabalpur should be extended upto Mandla and linked with national highway No. 43. This will benefit Mandla, Kabrdha, etc. which are predominantly tribal districts. Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh is a backward district and has 61 percent Adivasi population. But there is no national highway there as a result of which developmental works are not progressing and means of communications have not improved. It is necessary to have effective means of road communication for the progress of the district. Therefore, the Minister of Surface Transport should extend national highway No. 12 beyond Jabalpur and link it with National Highway No. 43 at Raipur via Mandla. This will provide a complete road link between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh and the linking of National Highway No. 12 and National Highway No. 43 will also provide a road link between Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

[English]

(vii) Demand for looking into the activities of the Railway Employees Cooperative Group Housing Society, Delhi

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA (Vishnupur): Sir, I would like to say a few words about the plight of some railway employees—most of them have retired or are going to retire from the Railways. They had registered themselves with the so-called Railway Employees' Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd, which was registered in 1972 with the fond hope of getting housing accommodation so that they could spend their retired life under some shelter peacefully. But to their dismay, till now they have not got their flats. The DDA had allotted 2 acre land to the Society in 1975 and later re-allotted one acre in June, 1978 at Pitampura, Sharda Niketan, Delhi-34 for construction of 50 units. But only part construction has been completed so far according to my information.