

Kerala is famous for the natural beauty of the land and by providing facilities for the tourists, the entire State will be benefited by increased tourist traffic. I, therefore, request the Union Government to take necessary action to declare the inland waterways of Kerala as a national waterway and assist by providing necessary funds.

[Translation]

(v) Setting up of a Doordarshan Relay Centre at Hanumangarh in Rajasthan

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a matter of urgent public importance that in Hanumangarh (Rajasthan), which is on the Indo-Pak border, a TV Relay Centre should be set up.

The Central Government's resolve to make available the National Programmes of Doordarshan to the maximum people and its implementation is laudable.

Recently, in Srigangangar a low power Doordarshan Relay Centre has been commissioned. Hanumangarh being out of the range of Srigangangar and Suratgarh in East, the people of the area cannot view the programmes of these Centres. The programmes of Amritsar and Jalandhar Centres can be seen occasionally depending on the climate. Lahore (Pakistan) station's programmes, of course, are received with clarity and are, therefore, very popular in this area.

It is very necessary to stop cultural infiltration by Pakistan. Some 6 lakh people of this area, which consists of one Municipal Corporation area, four Municipality areas and one Tehsil Headquarter, including many big villages in 2 thousand square kms. of area are forced to watch these programmes as they are deprived of the National Programmes. I, therefore, submit to the Communications Minister of the Central Government that in the above circumstances to avoid Pakistan programmes it has become a national necessity to set up a Doordarshan Relay Centre in Hanumangarh.

It is, therefore, humbly requested that in the national interest, a Doordarshan Relay Centre should be set up immediately in Hanumangarh.

[English]

(vi) Taking up the matter with Bangladesh for ensuring proper treatment of waste water of Darshana Sugar Mills being discharged into the Churni river to prevent pollution

SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI (Nabadwip) : Sir, The waste waters of Darshana Sugar Mills and Brewery in Bangladesh pollute the river Churni in the district of Nadia in West Bengal throughout the year. In the past this problem had been taken up with the then East Pakistan authorities and afterwards with the Bangladesh authorities, but with very temporary results. The pollution is deadly for fish and fowl and most of the time the river water is unfit even for bathing cattle not to speak of any human use. Besides having deprived the fishermen of their traditional livelihood, the pollution has been creating health hazards of an alarming dimension directly to tens of thousands of our citizens.

Government should take up the matter immediately and urgently with the Bangladesh Government and ensure that the waste waters of Darshana Mill are properly treated before being poured into the river Churni (Mathablanga in Bangladesh) and thus relieve the people from constant fear.

(vii) Remunerative price for sugarcane

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : Sir, sugarcane crushing season is fast approaching. Sugar is being sold at very high prices in the country. The country is importing lakhs of tonnes of sugar spending very huge foreign exchange. Cane area reduced due to the unremunerative price for cane for the last few years. The cane grower is very much disappointed with the policy of the Government which is showing more attention to the sugar industry by increasing levy sugar price after the end of previous sugarcane crushing season while denying the just price to growers. So, to induce the grower to go for more cane area there is urgent need to announce remunerative price of Rs. 25 per quintal linked to 9 per cent recovery for the ensuing season. This will help in supply of most of the cane to the vacuum pan sugar factories and discourage diversion of cane to Gur and Khandasari sectors. This will also have definite bearing