

[*English*]

(vii) Need to provide financial assistance to Bihar for construction of a road bridge on Kamla river at Jhanjharpur

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : North Bihar's Mithila region is ravaged by floods year after year after year caused by the rivers originating from Nepal. One of these turbulent rivers is KAMLA. Coming from Nepal it creates havoc in the Madhubani and Darbhanga districts of Bihar. It has divided Jhanjharpur, an important subdivision in the Mithila region, into two. Not only that, Jhanjharpur town itself has been separated into two parts. Incidentally, it is the main route to Nepal. A road bridge on Kamla at Jhanjharpur has been the longstanding demand of the people of Mithila. The growth of the entire region is thwarted for want of this bridge.

There is, however, an old and depleted railway bridge on Kamla, at Jhanjharpur. The former Union Railway Minister, late Shri L.N. Mishra, on realising the untold miseries of the people of Mithila region, temporarily made arrangements for broadening this railway bridge by 2/3 feet so that pedestrians can move on this bridge. It was a purely temporary arrangement. It was decided at that time that not only the railway bridge would be strengthened but an altogether new road bridge would be constructed at Kamla at Jhanjharpur so that the economic development of Mithila region is not thwarted. Besides, people going to Nepal are not inconvenienced.

It is understood that Bihar Government has sent the proposal to the Centre nearly two years ago and has sent several reminders thereafter. It is, therefore, requested that besides strengthening the rail bridge on Kamla at Jhanjharpur, the Centre should give substantial financial aid to the Government of Bihar so that this project is executed at an early date.

14.37 hrs.

ESTATE DUTY (AMENDMENT)
BILL 1986—*Contd.*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We shall now take up Item No. 10 on the Agenda—Further consideration of the Bill further to amend the Estate Duty Act, 1953,

MR. Mool Chand Daga may continue his speech.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, presently a question has emerged that the same Congress Government had passed a Bill in 1953. There is Article 39 in the Constitution. This Bill is being brought against the provision of Article 39. It has been stated in Article 39.

[*English*]

39 (a) "that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment".

[*Translation*]

The Estate Duty Act was passed in 1953 on the basis of this Article 39. The Act, after the adoption, became a topic of discussion in London and European countries. I am saying this because sometimes our Government commits mistakes. We have to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor. We are not thinking on this aspect. There are States in our country where drinking water is not available. You have not been able to provide relief to those States because you have either no financial resources or these are inadequate. Now you have brought this Estate Duty Bill. Gadwhi Sahib has brought this Bill just to fulfil his duty but we cannot swallow it so easily.