

million tonnes. This would result in fall in per capita availability of pulses in the country.

Sir, it is contended that the 'Green Revolution' which brought about increase in the productivity of wheat and other cereals, has affected the productivity of rich protein content pulses. It can be seen that the production of pulses suffered most in the major wheat producing States like Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. Similarly production of cotton and sugarcane has been affected greatly due to drought and poor monsoon conditions.

It is, therefore, requested that the Government should take immediate steps to encourage the cultivation of pulses, encourage use of short-term varieties of pulses for cultivation as also for distribution of improved seeds, so that production of pulses is stepped up and import of this item is minimised, thus saving valuable foreign exchange.

(vii) Demand for looking into the inconvenience being experienced by passenger in trains running between North Bengal and Calcutta.

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK (Darjeeling): Sir, the most vital train, Darjeeling Mail, linking North Bengal with the capital of West Bengal, Calcutta is always running late causing much inconvenience to the passengers. This train never reaches its destination either Sealdah or New Jalpaiguri at the scheduled time. Its coaches are in very bad condition. Even the first class compartments are without proper lights and fans, doors and windows are damaged, lavatories and bath rooms are always dirty. Condition of second class coaches is horrible. Even the 3 tier reserved coaches are packed with unreserved ticket holders or ticketless persons. Outsiders always create nuisance in the train. Similar is the case with other trains like Tinsukia Mail, North East Express, Janata, Kamrup and other trains originat-

ing from Guwahati and passing through New Jalpaiguri. People are very much disgusted and make serious complaints about these anomalies.

I urge upon the Government to look into these complaints seriously and take appropriate and prompt action to improve the services.

(viii) Demand for providing financial assistance to Government of Sikkim to meet the situation created by flash floods in the State.

SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI (Sikkim): The Government are aware that the monsoon was very active in Sikkim from the middle of May, 1987 and it rained heavily and incessantly for weeks which caused considerable damage throughout Sikkim to public property viz. power and water supply installation, Government buildings and network of State Highways linking South and West Districts of Sikkim. The agricultural holdings in the four districts of Sikkim have suffered heavy damages and the crops of Maize, Cardamom, Ginger and Orange were also damaged by flash floods and land slides. In this way, total loss has been calculated worth several crores of rupees. The State Government has provided relief to victims of this heavy damages from its marginal resources available with them. The Central Government should sanction *ad hoc* grant of Rs. 10 crores to Sikkim immediately to enable the State Government to meet urgent expenditure till such time the actual damages are assessed by the Government. I understand that keeping in view of seriousness of situation the State Government has also requested for immediate financial assistance.

12.26 hrs.

[English]

ATOMIC ENERGY (AMENDMENT) BILL

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will