

[Shri K. Badhani]

widening work undertaken by the department is very slow. I draw the attention of the Ministry of Transport to expedite the work as early as possible to enable the traffic to pass smoothly and also allow the projects to take their heavy machinery without trouble and any hindrance.

[Translation]

(iii) Demand for a paper Mill or fertiliser plant at Maharajganj in North Bihar

SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH (Maharajganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise the following matter under rule 377 in this House. Bihar is the most backward State from industrial point of view, and the area lying north of Ganga in Bihar State is still more backward. It will be correct to say that it has suffered industrial set back after independence because most of the 31 old sugar mills in this area are lying closed and the remaining ones are sick. The result is that the farmers have stopped growing sugarcane and many more intend to do so because the mill-owners could not pay the dues to the farmers.

No other big industry is there in this area. Almost all the public sector industries are located in South Bihar only. With the construction of the broadgauge rail line and 110 Megawatt power plant at Kanti setting up of medium and large industries in this area has become essential from the regional development point of view as well as in the public interest. I, therefore, demand setting up of a Paper Factory (for which raw material is available) or a chemical fertilizer factory (as the farmers of this district and the adjacent districts are suffering heavily in the matter of crop production) in this most backward area of this district and adjoining areas.

I, therefore, request the hon. Prime Minister to sanction setting up of at least one of the aforesaid two industries in Maharaj Ganj so that this backward area could be developed.

[English]

(iv) Construction of a bridge on Aik Nallah near village Arnia Tehsil Bishna, J&K.

SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA (Jammu) : There is no bridge on 'Aik Nallah' near

village Arnia, Tehsil Bishna, district Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir State. The road, which is maintained by the Defence Department remains cut off during rainy season and the people in that area are put to a great inconvenience.

It is requested that a bridge near village Arnia may kindly be got constructed at the earliest.

(v) Permanent steps needed to save the Farmers of Bhadrak Constituency of Balasore district, Orissa from recurring floods

SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI (Bhadrak) : Thousands of acres of cultivable land are every year affected by floods in Balasore district, Orissa. This year an unprecedented flood occurred in Baitarani river which caused great damage to cultivated land in as many as 23 blocks in that district. About one lakh of the total population in my Bhadrak constituency in Balasore district are affected by the recent flood. Most of the people living in this district are poor and small and marginal farmers. Agriculture is their only source of livelihood. Therefore, it is necessary to take urgent measures to control flood in that river. Unless some permanent measures are taken the flood cannot be controlled. Therefore, I suggest to the Government of India to take the following measures as early as possible :

1. Minor Irrigation schemes on all the feeding rivers of Baitarni should be executed.
2. A dam should be constructed at Bhimkund on the river Baitarni.
3. The flood water of river Baitarni should be channelised into Salandi river.
4. Kanti Ghai on Baitarni left should be closed.
5. Both sides of the embankments of river Genguti should be raised upto OAE standard.
6. Steps should be taken to induce more flood water into river Baitarni to reduce the devastation of river Kochila.