

It is covered with layers of lime coating which is 18 inches thick. It has been carrying such thick dead plaster for last three hundred years and exerts a total pressure of 150 kgs. per square metre. The load increase three-fold during the rainy season as water seeps through the porous plaster. If the dead plaster is allowed to remain, the "shikhar" (top portion) might crumble during rainy season. Though archaeologists have discovered innumerable cracks, voids and gaps beneath the plaster, adequate steps have not been taken to repair them in time despite the fact that it was declared a protected monument in 1975.

As such, I urge upon the Government to direct the Archaeological Survey of India to complete the deplastering work in a scientific manner and save the temple from further deterioration.

(iii) Demand for early payment of the third instalment of D. A. due to Central Government Employees

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : On the recommendation of the Fourth Pay Commission, the Central Government has agreed to release D.A. instalments to its employees twice in a Calender year, i.e., from 1st January and 1st July. Accordingly, two instalments were paid. But the third instalment due from 1st July 1987 has not yet been paid to the employees though a substantially long period has since elapsed. The inordinate delay in announcing the D.A. instalment is causing great hardship and creating frustration among the employees.

It would be appreciated that D.A is only given to the employees to enable them to meet a part of their increased expenses due to price hike. Employees getting fixed pay can't survive if they are not compensated in time. Due to this reason only D.A. formula was evolved.

It is, therefore, suggested that the Government should announce immediate release of third instalment of D.A. to its employees payable from 1st July 1987.

(iv) Demand for declaring Bangalore city a national city

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI

(Bellary) : I request the Minister for Urban Development to declare Bangalore as a national city. The Ministry of Urban Development has sought views of the State Government, among others, on the recommendations made in its report by the National Commission on Urbanisation. Karnataka Government has submitted its report. Bangalore city is the place of pride and prestige of the nation. Bangalore city is regarded as the garden city of India and it is a beautiful city too. Bangalore is a metropolis city where people of different castes, creeds, religion and languages live in harmony. Bangalore city has defence-oriented organisations and various other Industries. In these circumstances, I request that Bangalore city should be declared as a national city.

(v) Demand for a T.V. relay centre at Amalapuram in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO (Amalapuram) : Amalapuram in Andhra Pradesh is having more than 10 lakh population. Most of the population is dependant of agriculture. There is no TV Relay Centre at Amalapuram. The people of the areas are very disappointed because of this. This matter has been raised many a time but no action has been taken so far. Due to the absence of TV Relay centre at Amalapuram, people are spending much more money on accessories than on the TV set. To watch the TV Programmes, people are using boosters and tall TV aerials. People are very much interested to watch the TV programmes specially relating to agriculture.

I again request the Government to install a TV Relay Centre at the earliest at Amalapuram in Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

Demand for excavations at places of archaeological importance in Bihar particularly at Manjhi, Chirand and Chechar

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH (Chapra) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Ganga and the Ghaghra pass through Saran and Vaishali districts of Bihar.

Some excavation work was carried out around 1975 in Manjhi, Chirand and Chechar, situated on the banks of these rivers. The material and remains found in excavation proves that a very old civilisation is laying beneath the banks of these rivers. This civilization appears to be a contemporary of the Indus Valley civilisation or a very big area of that civilisation or an older civilisation than the Indus Valley civilisation. The material available as a result of excavation in Chechar so far indicates that it is unique thing in itself that remains of civilisation of this period have been found at one place in chronological order. It has happened in the world, perhaps, for the first time.

Some remains of this period have been found from the excavation in Chechar. Some articles made of stone, clay, copper, iron and animal horns have been found as remains at this site. Some of these articles have not been seen in any of the civilisation of the world. An agricultural implement made of reindeer's horns is a unique implement among the remains so far found in the world. An arohead made of copper and measuring 16.5 long found from this place is unique in the world. Some idols relating to Buddhism have also been found here. Some evidence have also been found which prove that Anand, the great disciple of Lord Budha had attained salvation at this very place.

It appears from the remains found during excavations in Manjhi, Chirand and Chechar that a very old civilisation developed in the area covering from Manjhi to Vaishali or may be beyond that also. Full information in this regard could be achieved if the Government undertakes excavation work in a systematic manner through the Department of Archaeology.

Therefore Government should get the buried cultural heritage excavated and preserve it. This will not only bring fame to the country but also add a new chapter to the history of world's civilisation.

[English]

(vii) Demand for proper distribution of the drought relief assistance in Karnataka

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA

(Hassan) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the unprecedented drought in the Karnataka State has greatly affected the people. It is not only this year, the Karnataka State has been continuously suffering from drought for the last 3-4 years. This year's drought has added to further deterioration in the situation. The people have not been provided sufficient funds to meet the day-to-day needs. There are large number of people who have become unemployed and have no food to eat. The amount so far sanctioned to the State Government has not been fully provided to the affected people. There are difficulties in regard to supply of food to the drought affected people. I appeal to the Prime Minister to call for a report from the State Government about the relief measures and request that distribution of drought relief to the affected people in the State might be monitored closely by the Centre.

(viii) Demand for sending experts from the Centre to conduct research on the root rotting disease damaging the betel leaf crop in Balasore district of Orissa

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : As we all know, Balasore district popularly known as North Balasore in Orissa, is very famous for production of Betel leaf-pan-all over the country. The cultivation of pan leaf is the only source of earning of several lakh families in the area. But for the last few months these pan plants have been affected with an unknown disease. The roots of plants are rotting and many thousand betelvines containing many thousand of betel plants in each vine, are dying every day. The plant protection measures and pesticides prescribed by the experts in Agriculture Department of the State Government of Orissa could not prevent this epidemic. What to speak of remedial measures, the experts are not able to diagnose the disease yet; resulting in huge losses to lakhs of farmers. Millions of people have become unemployed.

In such circumstances, I would request the hon. Minister of Agriculture to kindly send experts from the Centre to conduct research on this unknown root rotting disease and provide assistance and guidance to the farmers of the area as well as the