

[Shri Shambhunath Chaturvedi]

despite all possible efforts. So far hard-coke was supplied by M/s. Durgapur Products Ltd. (Coke-oven plant) Durgapur. Now the movement of this coke to other States has been stopped by the West Bengal Government. They were the major suppliers of B.P. Hard-coke. At the same time, M/s. Coal India Ltd. and Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. have also refused to release movement for less than full rake load at a time for which supplies are not readily available. Unless this condition is relaxed and transportation of hard-coke is allowed in whatever quantity and from whichever producer available, production at these foundries will come to a halt throwing thousands of workmen out of employment. Immediate action is called for arranging the supply and movement of coke as per allotment.

- (ii) NEED TO DREDGE RIVERS SUVANSHIRI AND LOHIT TO SAVE CERTAIN VILLAGES IN ASSAM FROM FLOODS.

SHRI PURNANARAYAN SINHA (Tezpur) : Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Minister concerned to a matter of urgent public importance.

The waters of the rivers Suvanshiri and Lohit fall in the river Brahmaputra at Jamuguri and Arimara villages in the Bihpuria segment of Tezpur Lok Sabha constituency. But due to formation of a sand char at the mouth of these rivers in the bed of the main river, the flood waters had been surging backwards to spill and revive an old dried up Channel and from 1976 the lands on either side of this dead channel are being eroded and last year (1977) a large number of families of both these villages and more villages further downstream have lost their properties. During the last floods the villages of Jamuguri, Arimara, Lohimukh, Rawanmukh in Bihpuria and Gahpur Assembly constituencies of Tezpur Lok

Sabha constituency were gravely endangered and later heavy erosion of these villages have threatened the four villages inhabited by scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The attention of the Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission was drawn to the situation and it was suggested that the BFC Commission engage its Dredging Team, which is equipped with two heavy dredgers since left lying unused for the last five years except for a temporary utilisation sometime in 1974 near Gauhati. But unfortunately the Commission has taken no care to carry out the dredging operation though it was reminded recently once again. The result is that poor tribal villages of these two assembly segments are facing grave danger of total extinction besides instant distress due to loss of homesteads and paddy lands. The Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission is a Central organisation under State's control and discipline. But the work of the Commission is only to let out work of erecting bunds and embankments on belated estimates of expenditures. I draw the attention of the Union Ministry concerned to the state of affairs and urge it to save the villages by issuing immediate direction to dredge the rivers in question.

- (iii) REPORTED CONTRIBUTION BY INDUSTRIALISTS TO THE FORMER PRIME MINISTER FOR THE LAST GENERAL ELECTIONS

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : Sir, it is really learnt that the Intelligence Bureau at the Centre has reported to the Government that Mrs. Indira Gandhi (the erstwhile Prime Minister) was given Rs. 113 crores by industrialists in the country for the last General Election. The report had listed the names of industrialists. Shri Shanti Bhushan, Law Minister had said in September last year that the government had decided to inquire into 'massive' contributions made by a large number of companies to the Congress Party funds and launched necessary prosecutions for violation of the Company Law.