

Thereof, through you I strongly make an appeal to the Central Government to give clearance and financial assistance to Bisalpur Project as an irrigation project so that the farmers of Tonk district could achieve prosperity and combat continuous famine.

**(v) Need to grant licence for setting up sugar mill at Aurai Block in Muzaffarpur District, Bihar.**

**SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:** (Sitamarahi): Due to lack of sufficient number of sugar mills in Bihar the existing sugar mills are able to crush only one-third of total sugarcane produced by farmers. As a result of this, the Government suffers losses instead of earning huge revenues. Two thirds of total sugarcane produced by farmers are either destroyed or dry up in fields as there cannot be crushed in time. Thereafter the crop is burnt in fields as a result of which the farmers are unable to get remunerative price. If the sugar mills can crush all the sugarcane produced by the farmers, the Government will earn crores of rupees as tax.

Due to lack of sufficient number of sugar-mills the production of sugar is very low in the State even though we produce sufficient quantity of sugarcane. As two-thirds of sugarcane produced by farmers are sent to expellers, and crushers, the State Government has to suffer losses to the tune of crores of rupees every year. Moreover farmers get less money towards the cost of sugarcane. production of sugarcane in Muzaffarpur and Sitamatri districts is very high. The people grow sugarcane here in a large scale. A survey had also been conducted by the Central Government in 1990 to set up a sugar mill in Aurai block of Muzaffarpur district. But no sugar mill has so far been set up there. If a sugar mill is set up there, it will benefit farmers of Aurai, Minapur, Katra, Runni, Saidpur, Pipradhi, Belkhand, Tariyam blocks.

I would, therefore like to request the Central Government to grant licence immediately for setting up\* a sugar mill at

Aurai Block and fulfill the aspirations of the local people.

**(vi) Need to formulate suitable schemes to check erosion caused by the river Ganga in Nabadwip west Bengal.**

**DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip):** Large areas along the embankment of the river Ganga are getting eroded. Thousands of acres of the cultivable land has been eroded by the river in my Constituency which is spread over from Nabadwip to Sanyalchar, Chakadeh, to Kalayani. It is a serious problem. People of these areas have been rendered homeless due to this serious erosion and there is no arrangement for their rehabilitation. It is not only that the cultivable land has been destroyed but also a large number of school buildings and other institutions have been destroyed. It is surprising that Government has not shown any response to this problem.

therefore request the Central Government to look into the matter and formulate suitable schemes.

**(viii) Need to improve the functioning of Passport Office at Calicut, Kerala**

**\*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat):** The Passport Office at Calicut in Kerala receives the largest number of applications for passport in the country. But the condition of this Office is deplorable as compared to other passport offices. In 1991, the number of pending applications in this Office was 2.5 lakhs. There is one Passport Officer and five Superintendent who have to deal with such a large number of applications.

As a result, it takes more than two months for large number of applications to be sent for police verification. Many young men in Kerala have been denied jobs in foreign countries on the ground of non-issuance of passport, although they had secured visas.

It is said that an Immigration Office

\*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.