

the Minorities have been granted rights to run institutions. But in a recent verdict given by the Supreme Court, it has been said that 50 per cent seats should be reserved for the non-Minorities. The People belonging to the Minorities themselves cannot educate their children and with this verdict there is an apprehension of closure of many institutions. If it is a fact, then will the Government Institutions provide 50 per cent reservation for the minorities. This has created fear among the people of the minorities. I, therefore, want the hon. Minister to make a statement in this regard and clarify the policy of the Government in the matter. Does he intend to bring forward any legislation in this regard?

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad):

Mr. Speaker, Government is going to implement its plan to increase the working hours of the Assistant Station Masters, Porters, Lever Men working at Phaphamau Railway Junction bye-pass from 8 hours to 12 hours. Orders have been issued to implement this plan. Therefore, through you I would like to caution the Minister of Railways that phaphamau Junction is a very important junction. Trains and goods trains from tall directions pass through this junction.

MR. SPEAKER: Such questions raised regarding stations and junctions should not be

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this plan is about to be implemented.

MR. SPEAKER: I will ask the hon. Minister to look into it.

[English]

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[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH

(Bikramganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Agriculture to the difficulties being faced by the farmers of Rohtas, Bhabua, Buxar, Arrah, Aurangabad, Gaya and Palamu districts of Bihar. Sir, today the farmers want to sell their paddy but there is no procurement centre of the Government to give reasonable price to them. The farmers want to cultivate but they have no fertilizers. They want to sow good seeds but they do not get quality seeds. Through you I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Agriculture to make available fertilizers and seeds in sufficient quantity for these districts and make arrangements to open procurement Centres to purchase paddy at reasonable price there. Today the prices of seeds and fertilizers have increased very much and the farmers are facing difficulties in getting seeds and fertilizers at fixed price.

[English]

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI

(Sikkim): I would like to draw the attention of the Home Minister through you Sir, that more than 200 people of the north-eastern States belonging to Akhil Bharatiya Nepali Bhasha Samiti are on a token hunger strike for 24 hours at Janpath. The Nepali speaking people of this country have been persistently demanding the inclusion of Nepali language in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution. During the last Lok Sabha, that is the 9th Lok Sabha, more than 90 Members of Parliament from both the Houses had signed a memorandum and represented to the then Prime Minister. This time also, more than 104 hon. Members have signed a memorandum which is going to be presented to the Prime Minister. This language is a very rich language and has been recognised by the Sahitya Academy of India. A good