

गंगा स्नान करते हैं, परन्तु इस नदी में जनपद मुरादाबाद, जे.पी. नगर, रामपुर व बरेली की कई फैक्ट्रियों का गन्दा व प्रदूषित पानी व उक्त शहरों के गन्दे नाले मिलकर हालत यह बना देते हैं कि उक्त आस्था की नदी भी नाला बन जाती है और उसका पानी इतना प्रदूषित हो जाता है कि स्नान करने मात्र से चर्मरोग हो सकते हैं व उसका पानी जंगली अथवा पालतू जानवर पी लेते हैं तो वह मर जाते हैं। राम गंगा के खादर में रहने वाले हजारों पशु-पक्षी इसका पानी पीने से मौत का शिकार हो चुके हैं व इसके आसपास उगने वाली वनस्पति व पेड़-पौधे भी नष्ट हो गए हैं और आगे जाकर यह नदी गंगा नदी को भी प्रदूषित करती है।

अतः मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि उक्त रामगंगा नदी को स्वच्छ बनाने की कृपा करें, जिससे वहां की जनता की आस्था को ठेस न पहुंचे। धन्यवाद।

श्री महेन्द्र मोहन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं अपने आपको श्री यादव जी के स्पेशल मेशन के साथ एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

Demand for early completion of railway projects in tribal areas of Orissa particularly in Mayurbhanj district

SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI (Orissa): Sir, in the Railway Budget, 2009-2010, presented by the Government, the people of Mayurbhanj District of Orissa State have been neglected, as the tribal people of this region have got nothing.

During NDA regime, only a major work of broad gauge line conversion from Rupsa to Bangariposi was sanctioned which is also pending. Now, therefore, the people of the tribal dominated area of Mayurbhanj District of Orissa have four major demands. Firstly, the super fast train from Baripada to Bhubaneswar has to be extended up to Puri. At present, there is no AC coach in this train. So, the demand is that AC coach has to be provided in the train. Secondly, there is an urgent need of a passenger train from Baripada to Howrah, a big market in Kolkata, for business class people. Third demand is construction of a new line from Baripada to Jamshedpur via Gorumahisani, which will be a major support for this area's development, and, fourth is that the Tata-Badampahar rail line should be extended up to Keonjhar.

I, therefore, request the Government to take immediate steps to fulfil the above mentioned demands of the people of Orissa.

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

Request to encourage the development of Life Sciences Laboratories of DRDO

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the unsung and often underestimated contribution of the nine life-sciences laboratories of DRDO in providing protection to our Armed Forces against hazardous environment. The mandate of these DRDO labs is to enhance survivability, sustainability, efficiency and lethality of our 13 million soldiers operating in extreme environmental conditions. Out of the total Defence R&D

Budget of Rs. 6,000 crores, the share of the life sciences laboratories is meagre one per cent of this amount. The life sciences laboratories of DRDO have developed composite herbal preparation to supplement nutritional requirements as also the treatment of high altitude maladies and cold injuries to enhance survivability. A path-breaking research has led to improvement of blood oxygen level and has saved more than 500 lives of the troops in extreme high altitude areas. With high altitude agriculture, 4000 metric tonnes of fresh vegetables have been produced, catering to 56 per cent of total requirements of the troops in western Himalayas. Considering the steep freight charges of transporting vegetables, it is a saving for the exchequer. About Rs. 400 crore worth nuclear-biological-chemical products, developed with a meagre investment of Rs. 30 crore by these laboratories, have been inducted into the services. The processed food technologies developed for soldiers have also been transferred to food processing industries in civil sector as spin off. Considering the handicap, our forces would have to suffer without these products. I, therefore, request the Government to see that instead of dismantling, these institutions should be further developed and strengthened.

**Demand for Central assistance to save the State of Nagaland
from drought like conditions**

SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI (Nagaland): Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government towards the drought-like condition in the State of Nagaland.

Sir, the current monsoon season has recorded the lowest rainfall during the last five years in the State of Nagaland. The unprecedented drought situation has adversely affected the current season's paddy transplantation as well as *jhum* cultivation, which is entirely dependent on seasonal rains. The horticulture crops have failed to flower with reports of unusual pest and insect infestation. Like other parts of the country, Nagaland is also facing a very high monsoon deficit. Against an average rainfall of 750.50 mm normally received during the period from January to 15th July, only 471.18 mm of rainfall has been received this year, indicating a deficit of about one-third. This has already affected 25 per cent of *Jhum* cultivation and 50 per cent of Wet cultivation. Normal life in the State has also been severely affected, with more and more people afflicted with drought-related diseases and sickness. Many have lost their livelihood because agricultural activities have come to a standstill. Due to a lack of enough fodder, the livestock are also dying. Crops have failed and a possible famine and shortage of food are looming large in the State.

Keeping in view the grave situation arising out of the drought-hit conditions, the State Government had already declared the State as a 'drought-hit' State for the current season. The State Government has set up State-level and District-level Task forces to assess the situation and provide relief to the affected people.