

[Shrimati Kanimozhi]

Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka to the national gas grid. The project was originally started in 202. The project which traverses the three States for a length of 871 kilometres. This also runs through seven districts in Tamil Nadu for about 310 kilometres. About 2430 farmers in 146 villages in Tamil Nadu will be affected by the pipeline.

If the pipelines are laid in their agricultural fields, there will be enormous restrictions. To avoid this, the farmers and other stakeholders in the State has said that the pipelines be laid along the highways. This is a practical solution as laying pipelines along highways is not a new phenomenon.

The Union Government and GAIL maintain that the construction of pipelines, along highways, will increase the cost of project. I would like to ask the Government whether opportunity cost of damage to the farmlands are taken into account while arriving at this new cost?

After the Supreme Court dismissed the review petition filed by Farmers Sangam against the GAIL, last April, the only hope for farmers is that the Centre and State Government will do a rethinking of the project after consulting with them. But there is no clue that the Government is taking any steps to go in that direction.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to ensure that grievances of farmers are addressed. The Government must carry out wide consultations with various stakeholders before going ahead with the project.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri C.P. Narayanan, not present. Now Shri A. K. Selvaraj.

**Demand for early approval of package proposed by Tamil Nadu Government
for rejuvenation and replanting of coconut palms in the State**

SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ (Tamil Nadu): Sir, Tamil Nadu comes third in terms of area cultivated under coconut, but stands first in terms of production and productivity. However, the State faces challenges in maintaining the productivity of coconut groves due to severe pest and disease attacks, and senile and unproductive palms. The coconut growers were facing various hardships on this account. Coconut growing has become unviable due to low productivity and the coconut farmers were also not getting a good remunerative price for their produce. To increase the yield, coconut palms have to be replanted. Therefore, the Government of Tamil Nadu has proposed a special package with a total outlay of Rs.3397.80 crores, including subsidy of Rs.757.95 crores, for improving

the existing gardens, removing old / senile palms and replanting coconut seedling. The project covers 161 lakh palms in 92,000 hectares. This proposal is under consideration of the Government of India. As this scheme would raise yield and increase edible oil production, the Government of India may kindly consider early sanction of the Scheme for rejuvenation and replanting of coconut palms in Tamil Nadu. The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, in a representation dated 14.06.2016, has urged upon the hon. Prime Minister for an early sanction of the said Scheme, which will help increase the yield of coconut. Therefore, I urge upon the government to approve the package put forwarded by the State Government of Tamil Nadu with a total outlay of Rs.3,397.80 crores, including a subsidy of Rs.757.95 crores, for rejuvenation and replanting of coconut palms in Tamil Nadu.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Wansuk Syiem, not present. Now, Shri Ram Nath Thakur.

Demand to find a Permanent solution to give relief to floods affected people in Bihar

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार): महोदय, हर वर्ष मानसून के दौरान बिहार में प्रलयंकारी बाढ़ आती है और उत्तरी बिहार के कई जिले उसका बुरी तरह से शिकार होते हैं, परन्तु उसका स्थायी समाधान अभी तक नहीं निकाला गया है। बरसात के दिनों में कोशी, कमला, भूतही बलान, गंडक एवं गंगा नदी में काफी उफान रहता है, जिसके चलते लाखों लोग बेघर हो जाते हैं। कोशी के कटाव से इस बार भी कई गांव बह गए हैं। लोग बाढ़ के खतरे से हर वक्त सहमे रहते हैं। 2008 में कोशी तटबंध टूटने से हजारों लोग बह गए एवं लाखों लोगों के घर उजड़ गए और अभी तक उजड़े हुए हैं।

महोदय, जो नदियां नेपाल के तराई भाग से निकल कर बिहार में आती हैं, उनमें बरसात के मौसम में बहुत ज्यादा पानी आने से बाढ़ की स्थिति गंभीर हो जाती है, जिसका सीधा प्रभाव उत्तरी बिहार पर पड़ता है। काफी समय से भारत सरकार की ओर से यह कहा जाता रहा है कि नेपाल सरकार के साथ चर्चा की जा रही है, ताकि नेपाल में बांध (डैम) बनाकर पानी को रोका जा सके और बाढ़ की समस्या का स्थायी समाधान निकल सके।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से आग्रह करता हूँ कि बाढ़ का स्थायी निदान निकाला जाए, ताकि हर वर्ष बाढ़ से प्रभावित होने वाले लोगों को राहत मिल सके एवं जानमाल का नुकसान न हो।

Demand to make amendments in newly framed advertising policy of DAVP to protect interests of small newspapers

चौधरी मुनव्वर सलीम (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं लोकतंत्र का चौथा स्तंभ कहे जाने वाले मीडियम और छोटे अखबारों के पक्ष में तथा DAVP की नई विज्ञापन नीति के संशोधन की मांग को लेकर सरकार से अपील करना चाहता हूँ।