

SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Special Mentions ...(*Interruptions*)...

**Concern over denial of loans by the Punjab National Bank
in Sidharthnagar District of Uttar Pradesh**

श्री वृज भूषण तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : जनपद सिद्धार्थनगर उत्तर प्रदेश का बहुत ही पिछड़ा जिला हैं। यह पचहत्तर फीसदी खेती पर आश्रित हैं। यहां कोई बड़ा कारखाना नहीं हैं। यहां दो तिहाई बहुत कम धन कर्ज में देते हैं। पंजाब नेशनल बैंक ने इधर एक वर्ष से अधिक समय से कर्ज देने पर रोक लगा दी हैं, जबकि लोगों से धन जमा कराए जा रहे हैं। इस कारण स्वरोजगार, कृषि और छोटे उद्यो-धंधो पर बड़ा बुरा असर पड़ा हैं। बैंक के अधिकारियों ने इसका कोई बताया हैं। ऐसा निर्णय अन्यायपूर्ण हैं। सरकार इसकी तुरन्त जाँच कराए और अविलम्ब कर्ज दिलवाने की व्यवस्था करे, नहीं तो उसकी सभी शाखाएं बन्द करा कर दूसरा बैंक खुलाने की व्यवस्था करे।

Need to explore alternative sources of energy

SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE (Assam): I rise to point out that the need of the hour is to find out alternative sources of energy. With the rising level of carbon dioxide, the global warming may go up to such an extent that it may endanger the future existence of maritime countries, to which our country is no exception.

In a situation like this, people should turn their mind to alternative sources of energy. The need for greener energy is imperative in the background of global warming, glacier melting, etc.

India and China are the two energy hungry countries. The current production of power in India is 1,30,000 Megawatt which will be doubled, if not more, within next decade.

India's oil bill today is a mind-boggling figure of Rs.2,20,000 crore. In a situation like this, we should look for alternative sources of energy.

The foremost idea that comes to my mind is the development of bio-diesel which requires cultivation of jatropha plantations. We should strive for cultivation of the same, wherever possible, throughout the country. Thereafter, bio-diesel outlets should be opened along the highways.

In Assam, jatropha mission has been set-up by the Government and the private sector also.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to provide necessary infrastructure along with funds to the technologists in Assam to look into the possibilities of jatropha cultivation, wind power energy, bio-diesel, ethanol, and coal liquefaction as alternative sources of energy. Thank you, Sir.