

offered nutritional support to TB patients is through a payment of Rs.500 per month for each patient throughout the treatment duration that typically lasts six months in drug-sensitive TB without complications. This assistance is insufficient to cover the costs incurred by the BPL families. The Government may seriously consider increasing this amount to the poorest families of TB patients. I demand the Government to look into it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member, Shri Jawhar Sircar: Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan (Assam) and Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala).

Demand to maintain the safety and security of the National Highways of Manipur

SHRI MAHARAJA SANAJAOBA LEISHEMBA (Manipur): Sir, Manipur has only two National Highways. One is NH-2 (Imphal-Dimapur Road) which connects Manipur to Nagaland and Assam serving as a vital link to the rest of India. Another is NH-37 (Imphal-Jiribam Road) which connects Manipur to Assam and the rest of India facilitating trade and commerce. In fact, these two National Highways are the lifelines of Manipur. But frequent disturbances, bandhs and blockades, etc., cause many hardships to the people of Manipur.

People are facing economic hardships by affecting trade and commerce, supply of essential goods, price hikes and scarcity of goods. Passengers face delays, cancellation and increased travel time affecting daily life, education and healthcare. Shortages of essential items like food, medicines and fuel exacerbating humanitarian crisis. Frequent disturbances deter tourists and investors which is hindering economic growth and development of the State.

I urge upon the Union Government to maintain the two National Highways of Manipur safe and secure without any kind of disturbance or blockade, so that people can move freely all the year round.

Demand for setting up of potato processing units in Uttar Pradesh

श्री बृज लाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश देश में सबसे बड़ा आलू उत्पादक राज्य है। देश के कुल आलू उत्पादन का 32 प्रतिशत उत्तर प्रदेश में होता है। 2022 में 20 मिलियन टन आलू का