

**Relief and rehabilitation of refugees in Kokrajhar, Assam**

SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA (Assam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am representing Assam, particularly the trouble torn Kokrajhar District of Assam. Sir, in the years of 1996 and 1998 two separate incidents of ethnic violence occurred in Kokrajhar and Bongaigaon Districts of Assam between the Bodos and Adivasis. The reason for which the clashes took place was misunderstanding and communal hatred created by some anti-national terrorist elements active in the areas of Assam and Bhutan border. The age long brotherly relationship and peaceful co-existence among various communities has been shattered in its worst form. As a result of that, two ethnic clashes, lakhs of people have become homeless and presently languishing in the relief camps. According to the Government records in total 54 numbers of relief camps are there in Kokrajhar District and numbering about 1,79,872 people from both Bodos and non-Bodos are there in the camps. During the last five years, no such, measure of rehabilitation of refugees has been taken by the State or the Central Government. Around 37 crores of rupees were required as rehabilitation grant from the Central Government by the State Government. Sir, the situation in the area is normal now and rehabilitation process can be started. But a large number of refugees are from Reserve Forest and illegal encroachers. As per the Supreme Court order, they cannot be allowed to re-occupy the forestland. No such policy has been chalked out by the same so far. So I urge upon the Central Government to take time bound action plan with adequate funds for the rehabilitation of refugees. Thank you.

**Need to telecast World Cup Football event live on DD Sports Channel.**

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (Kerala): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the football loving people of our country particularly in Kerala and West Bengal are eagerly waiting to watch the World Cup Football event which is to commence in Korea-Japan from 31<sup>st</sup> of May this. It is learnt from the Press reports that a channel called "Ten Sports" has got the sole right to telecast this event in whole of India. This channel is not functioning in many parts of India. It will be a great disappointment if the people are denied the opportunity to watch this great football event competition. I urge upon the hon. Minister for Information and Broadcasting to direct the DD Sports authorities to take urgent necessary steps to telecast live this great event throughout the country through the DD Sports Channel. Thank you.