

- (iii) Forty-seventh Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Department of Land Resources (Ministry of Rural Development);
- (iv) Forty-eighth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Department of Rural Development (Ministry of Rural Development); and
- (v) Forty-ninth Report on Demands for Grants (2003-2004) of the Department of Urban Development (Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation).

PRESENTATION OF PETITION

SHRI C. APOK JAMIR (Nagaland): Sir, I present a petition signed by Shri Pratap Ray, a resident of Jajpur, Orissa and eleven others regarding adulteration of Petrol and Diesel and other related matters.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Need for Deployment of Additional Para-military Forces In Assam

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH (Assam) : The Government of Assam is facing a serious shortage of Central Para-Military Forces for tackling the law and order and security situation in the State. The State Government has been continually requesting the Government of India for additional 30 companies of Central Para-Military Forces. The activities of various insurgent groups such as ULFA, NSCN (IM) and various tribal groups operating in Assam are well known to the Central Government. There have recently been some undesirable incidents of retaliatory violence between Dimasas and Hmars tribes in the North Cachar hills and Cachar districts of the State. There is a growing tension between the Karbis and Dimasas on one hand and the Bodo Kacharis on the other, in the hill districts of North Cachar Hills and Cachar over clause 8 of the Memorandum of Settlement with B.L.T. This clause proposes inclusion of the Bodo Kacharis of these hill districts in the list of Scheduled Tribes (Hills) of Assam. With its limited resources, the Government of Assam has deployed the

available forces in a pragmatic manner and has also arranged for the deployment of Army in the North Cachar Hills and Cachar. I request the hon. Home Minister to take a fresh look at the internal security situation in Assam and agree to provide additional para-military forces to Assam to enable the State Government to effectively meet the internal security challenges.

SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE (Assam) : Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Dr. Manmohan Singh.

SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH (Assam) : Sir, I also associate myself with his Special Mention.

Plight of Ayurvedic Graduates in the Country

DR. M.N. DAS (Orissa) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, although my Special Mention refers to Orissa, but it may be an all-India problem, namely, the plight of Ayurvedic doctors without employment after undergoing regular course of education for years. There is a general feeling for development of the Indian Systems of Medicine. Ayurveda was the traditional system of treatment in India since time immemorial. But it lost its value after the British introduced the allopathic system of medicine during the thirties of the 19th Century. During the British rule and thereafter, the Governments paid maximum attention to spread, develop and propagate allopathy. While herbal plants were plentiful in the Himalayan slopes, tribal hill-tracts and various coastal belts, no attempt was made for serious research on herbal medicines. Over-dependence on allopathy demonstrates several demerits, such as, allopathic graduates do not prefer to serve in Primary Health Centres in rural areas; quacks exploit ignorance and superstitions of rural folk; spurious drugs find way to urban and rural dispensaries; people lose faith in Government hospitals and go to private clinics to spend more money. With all defects, however allopathy as a universal system of treatment should continue. Replacement of allopathy by ayurveda is impossible, but revival of the later is possible. In Orissa, more than 2,500 Ayurvedic graduates recently threatened fast unto death because of unemployment. The same may be the case in some other States too. The Government could employ Ayurvedic doctors in Rural Health Centres where people may prefer ayurvedic medicines for certain category of ailments. It is also time to establish advanced centres of research for manufacture of indigenous medicines from traditional herbs. Thank you.