

(Banglore): In 1989, a protocol was signed with USSR for the setting up of a Rs. 5,000 crore super thermal plant in South Canara, Karnataka to generate 2,400 MW of power. However, apart from preparing the ground at a cost of Rs. 5.0 crores no project was made. The delay in setting up the project was due to delay in according environmental clearance which came only on 20.1.1992.

The project authorities are required to submit a fly-ash utilisation plan and a plan for setting up a green belt around the plant to the Ministry of Environment in consultation with the State Government within three months. The plans are underway.

As Russia has agreed to honour its previous commitments there will be no problem in the project being commissioned. The thermal power plant, when completed will be able to generate 2400 MW of power by 2000 A. D.

The industries in Karnataka are labouring under power shortage causing load shedding. This has resulted in loss of production. I appeal to the Government of India to negotiate with the Russian authorities to initiate the project expeditiously.

15.00 hrs.

- (v) **Need to connect Saharsa, Bihar with air service**

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Saharsa district of Northern Bihar has not been connected by Air despite the fact that it is an important district. Further, this is a flood affected area. There exists a number of small scale industries and commissioner's office being there a good number of Government offices are also located there. For this reason people have to go there frequently. This district remains

surrounded with flood water for six months in a year causing lot of inconvenience to the people. During flood it become difficult to carry on relief operations since relief goods etc, do not reach in time. This district is located near the border and in case an air strip is constructed there, air service for Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh can be started from there and this could be useful from the point of view of national security.

As such my request to the Government is that they should link Saharsa district at least with Patna, Delhi and Calcutta by constructing an air strip there and linking the above places through Vayudoot service for the time being so that the people at this place are benefited to some extent and can avail this facility. This work should be taken up immediately this year.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Tej Narayan, you spoke during Zero hour also and you are speaking in 377 also. You are speaking twice.

- (vi) **Need to release funds already sanctioned for early completion of a power grid at Jagdishpur, Bhojpur district, Bihar**

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform you that in the other sessions I did not speak at all.

In Bhojpur district of Bihar foundation stone of a power grid in Jagdishpur area has been laid. However, the construction has been held up for want of funds. The Central Government have to provide Rs. 485 crores, I have raised this matter a number of times, but funds are not being released. I urge the Government that they should release the funds for Jagdishpur power grid at their earliest so that the construction of the grid is completed as early as possible.