

12.58 hrs.

**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

- (i) **Need to develop Airport at Hubli and Bellary and rescind the Decision of Closing down air strip at Mysore, Karnataka**

**[English]**

**SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary):** The development of airports at Hubli and Bellary and some other places in Karnataka State requires to be accorded due importance as it would help improve the air network in the State in particular and add to the overall development in general. After much persuasion by the State Government, sometime in late 1980s, the three towns, Hubli, Mysore and Bellary which were having air strips were connected to Vayudoot Feeder air line service. Recently, it has come to the notice of the State Government that the air strip at Mysore is almost closed down and the matter is again being taken up with Central Government. It is necessary to reverse such a decision. Because the State has only three cities where there are regular air services by Air India and India Airlines, the air network in the State needs to be expanded and it is necessary that adequate funds are earmarked for this.

Hence, I urge the Central Government to look into the case.

- (ii) **Need to Initiate Dry Land Agricultural System in Bolangir, Orissa**

**SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK (Bolangir):** Bolangir district of Orissa experiences marginal rainfall annually. This affects the agriculture system, which is the main stay of the common people. In the absence of irrigation facilities and proper

water management system, the existing land mass is turning into waste land. Due to continuous drought like situation, people are forced to migrate to neighbouring areas for earning livelihood. In order to improve the Water Management System and increase the sustainability of agricultural pattern, the Dry Land Agricultural System should be initiated by Central Dry Agricultural Institute in this region without further delay. The dry land agriculture system will ensure better living condition in this region.

- (iii) **Need to provide stoppage of Koval Express at Arkonam Railway Station, Tamil Nadu**

**SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arkonam):** Arakonam Railway Station in Tamilnadu is important for many reasons: firstly, Kanchi was a great Kingdom of Pallavas and secondly, this is surrounded by Kanchipuram on the one side and Tiruthani on the other side. Both these places are famous for manufacture of silk cloth, handloom sarees and dhoties.

The merchant community travel daily from here to Coimbatore. Arakonam is also having the biggest naval air station in the whole of Asia.

Moreover, Tirupathi and Tiruthani situated on either side of Arakonam Railway Station are famous places of pilgrimage.

Therefore, I request the hon. Minister of Railways to see that the Koval Express running between Madras and Coimbatore stop at Arkonam Railway Station.

- (iv) **Need to Negotiate with the Government of Russia for Setting up a super thermal Plant in South Canara, Karnataka**

**PROF. V. VENKATGIRTI GOWDA**

(Banglore): In 1989, a protoco 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 Stting 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, Sharsa 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 fo 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.