

[Sh. Vilas Muttemwar]

Ax coalfields of the Chimur Area of Western Coalfields have been estimated at 6 million tonnes, 5 million tonnes, 40 million tonnes and 0.45 million tonnes respectively. Likewise in the nearby coalfields of Makardhokra Makardhokra-II the coal reserves are estimated to be million tonnes, 7 million tonnes and large deposits of coal at markdhokra-III. In addition, it is believed that 41 million tonnes of coal deposits are available at Nand Coalfields. Approximately 7 thousand million tonnes of coal can be mined from these coalfields per day. Therefore, if the aforementioned coalmines become operational then directly or indirectly employment could be provided to 10,000 persons and also many a coal based anullary industries will come up, leading to development of the above mentioned very backward area of Maharashtra.

Mining of such large coal deposits available in the area will prove a boon for the development process in view of the impending coal shortage. Grade-C quality coal is available in the area which is considered best for the power plants and industries. To transport the coal to different parts of the country it is necessary that Morpar, Bandar, Nand and Makardhokra coalfields be liked by rail. Total length of route is 120 kilometres. As you are aware that the people of Chimur were in the fore front in opposing the Britishers and also many of them sacrificed their lives for the country. In their memory if the development of the area is taken up then it will be a fitting tribute to their sacrifice. For *early implementation of this scheme and to facilitate transportation of coal to different parts it is necessary that coordination be established between the Ministries of Railways and Coal.*

(ii) **Need to connect Jagdalpur by Delhi-Rajhara Railway line**

Madhya Pradesh

SHRI MANKU RAM SODI (Bastar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, for the last 25 years all the

political parties have been raising the demand of linking Jagdalpur with Delhi-Rajhara railway line. However even after the completion of last survey there seems to be no attempt to include it in the eighth five year plan. State Government has also submitted a copy of the resolution passed unanimously in the legislative Assembly in this regard to the Planning Commission.

There fore, the Centre is requested to include the proposal for the construction of this railway line in the eighth five year plan on priority basis, to facilitate speedy development to the predominantly tribal area.

(iii) **Need to clear the proposal of Maharashtra Government for mobilising resources through open market borrowings for funding mankhurd Belapur Railway Project, Bombay**

[English]

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Sir, a Rs. 285 crore Mankhurd-Belapur railway project connecting Bombay city with New Bombay is under implementation for the past several years. The project is the life-line for the new Bombay area. The commissioning of the railway line is to take place in May, 1992.

However, the on-going work on the project, now in its final stages, has come to a grinding halt for non-availability of funds.

The Maharashtra Government and the Central Government have to share the cost of the project in the ratio of 2:1. In the past five years the State Government was permitted by the Union Finance Ministry to resort to open-market borrowing through CIDCO to partly finance the project. But similar borrowing to the extent of Rs. 100 crores in 1991-92 was not cleared by the Central Government. This has led to the present stoppage of the work.

Since the new financial year has commenced, I urge upon the Central Government to accord clearance to the State Gov-