

based small industry suffer heavily. It is feared that a new high breed variety of bee brought to India from abroad a few years back is the cause of this epidemic. So far, no effective measures have been taken to control and prevent this epidemic.

I request the Central Government to take immediate steps to help the bee keeping farmers in South India who are badly affected by this epidemic.

(ii) Need to replace manual telephone exchange by an electronic exchange in Rajampet, Andhra Pradesh

SHRI A. PRATHAP SAI (Rajampet): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards lack of telecommunication development in Rajampet, Andhra Pradesh. So far not even a single manual telephone exchange has been replaced by an Electronic Exchange in Rajampet, Andhra Pradesh which is one of the most backward areas of the country. In spite of revolutionary developments in telecommunication people of this area are deprived of any such developments.

Hence, I request the Central Government to replace manual telephone exchange of an electronic telephone exchange in Rajampet, Andhra Pradesh.

(iii) Need to provide more railway facilities at Ganganagar Junction, Rajasthan

[Translation]

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Ganganagar is an important district of the country in regard to agriculture products and there is only one train 'Ganganagar Express' as the main means of transport between Ganganagar and Jaipur, the capital of Rajasthan. This train takes 15

hours to cover the distance of 582 kilometres. This train is always over-crowded because there is no other means of transportation. Therefore, tourist buses have dominated this route as a result of which there is loss of revenue and the passengers have to pay more fare.

At present the population of Ganganagar is more than 3 lakh and there are two cantonment of Army in this district and an Air Force Station at Suratgarh. This is an important district of the State from the point of view of irrigation facilities. There is network of canals and there are five circles. As it is leading is agricultural products, there is lot of commercial and trade activities and many people visit that district. From the point of view of security, agriculture and business Ganganagar is not only an important city of the State but also of the country. There is facility of only one train service from district head quarter Ganganagar to the capital of the State, Jaipur, therefore the passengers have to face a lot of inconvenience. Therefore, my submission is that a new train service should be introduced between Jaipur and Ganganagar.

The time of journey should be reduced to 10 hours by replacing existing steam engine by diesel engine and stopages of the train should also be reduced so that the journey may become more comfortable as well as take less time.

A passenger shuttle train should be introduced between Jaipur and Sikar so that daily commuters may get some relief.

(iv) Need to take over Krishna Mill at Beawar city in Ajmer district of Rajasthan by NTC

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, life of thousands of labourers has become difficult due to closure of Krishna Mill in Beawar city of Ajmer dis-