

As this road is the only road available for the people of this district to reach Vizanagaram railway station for passenger and goods traffic, I draw the attention of the Central Government to get this road turning repaired immediately to avoid any risk in future. Thank you.

(iv) **Need to instal high power transmitter at Calicut Doordarshan Centre.**

SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN (Calicut): Sir, Calicut Doordarshan Centre, at present, has a low power capacity. The Government had taken steps to change it to a high power station. Accordingly the high power transmitter with accessories was procured and is now lying in the yard of All India Radio, Calicut. The Kerala Government had given the land for construction of building. But unfortunately the land has not yet been utilised for the purpose. Unless this high power transmitter comes into operation, the people of entire northern part of Kerala will not be able to view the programme properly. I, therefore, request the Central Government to start the construction of building and instal the equipment which can benefit the entire people of Malabar, especially Wynad district which is thickly populated by tribals, adivasls and harijans. Thank you.

(v) **Need to constitute regional councils for Laddakh and Jammu regions**

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): The people of Jammu have been agitating over the question of constituting zonal councils and rehabilitating the people who have migrated from Kashmir Valley. According to people of Jammu and Laddakh regions, the Government had allocated nearly Rs. 75 crores to the State but major portion of it has been spent on Kashmir Valley. A very small amount was spent on the development of Jammu and Laddakh regions.

As such, I would request the Government to constitute seperate zonal councils for Laddakh, Jammu and Kashmir Valley so as to ensure coordinated development in

these regions.

(vi) **Need to provide more ships to the Andaman and Nicobar islands**

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat): The Government is not paying as much attention towards Andaman and Nicobar as it ought to. Lakhs of people visit these places since the day the Ceilular Jail of this historical place of freedom struggle became a national moments. Apart from this, thousands of people from West Bengal and Tamil Nadu have made major Contribution towards the development of this State. Thousands of people live from these two states there. Adequate transport facilities are not available for the local population. Ships are not available in adequate numbers between Calcutta and Madrass to Port Blair in Andaman. Due to this thousands of people have to wait for ships for nearly two to three months. Sometimes, they have to pay Rs. 1000 to Rs. 1500 as fare whereas the actual fare is Rs. 150. The State -owned ship "Harshvardhan" is not able to cope with the traffic. Ships available there used for transportation of and movement of Haj pilgrims of and movement of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka. Due to this, the thousands of people living in Andamans are facing great hardship. This has an adverse effect on the price front. The prices shoot up and commodities take three to five months to move from one place to other.

In view of the foregoing I would request the Government to provide sufficient number of ships for the convenience of thoudands of people living in the Andamans. In addition, these ships should be used only for the people of andamans and not for only other purpose.

(vii) **Need to run a super fast train from Aurangabad to Bombay**

[*English*]

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE (Jalna): The conversion from metre guage to broad guage from Aurangabad to Manmad has been completed and also a new train is running from, Aurangabad to Bombay, but

the said train takes about 12 hours to reach Bombay, from Aurangabad and vice versa. Also the timings given for the same are most inconvenient to the people. One Super Fast Express train from Aurangabad to Bombay and vice versa should be started. Its departure time should be 11 p.m. from Bombay and Aurangabad both and it should reach at 6 A.M. at both the places. By starting this Super Fast Express train by name of Deogiri Express, the purpose of this conversion would be fulfilled. I earnestly request the Central Government to start the train with immediate effect.

(viii) **Need to reduce the excise duty in cotton yarn to pre-Budget level**

DR. (SHRIMATI K.S. SOUNDARAM (Tiruchengode): There are a number of small spinning mills in the country supplying coarse and medium counts of cotton yarn to the small handloom prices and other inputs the mills have suffered huge losses and some of them have been even closed. When these mills were expecting some relief, enormous increase in the excise duty on cotton yarn and on viscose staple fibre has resulted in the closure of a number of mills which adversely affected the handloom weavers. If the excise duty is not withdrawn, the mills will have no option but to pass it on to the consumers i.e., the common man who buys clothes made out of cotton yarn of counts 40's and below.

In order to save these mills from enclosre and rendering thousands of workers in the rural areas unemployed, I urge upon the Central Government to reduce the excise duty on cotton yarn to pre-budget level,

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned for Lunch to re-assemble at 2.20 p.m.

13.18 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Twenty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

*Demands for Grants (Gen.), 744  
1992-93 Ministry of Rural Development; Food; Agriculture; and Civil Supplies & Public Distribution  
The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at twenty seven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

[RAO RAM SINGH in the Chair]

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL),  
1992-93-CONTD.

**Ministry of Rural Development; Ministry of Food; Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Civil Supplies and Public Distribution CONTD.**

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am glad to see that everybody is in a good mood today.

SHRIP.M. SAYEED (Lakshdweep): You are always cheerful, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri R. Jeevarathnam will now speak.

[Translation]

\*SHRI R. JEEVARATNAM (Arakkonam): Mr. Chairman Sir, as I rise to support the demands for grants for the Ministry of Agriculture, I wish to make a few points.

I can peel off from my memory the deflation of the Congress Party before Independence that, it would do away with land tax after India became a sovereign state. But even 45 years after Independence nothing has been done. So, I request the Government to withdraw land tax atleast for small and marginal farmers who do not have more than 5 acres of land. And farmers who use 3 H.P. or less rated motors for irrigation should be given concession on power tariff. They should not be charged 50 paise per unit of electricity as is done in case of large farmers. I learn that in the recent meeting of the State Power Ministers, it was decided to charge 50 paise per unit of electricity. But I would like to say that this should not be done for all farmers, Government should review this decision and charge less power tariff from farmers having not more than five acres

\*Translation of the speech Originally delivered in Tamil