

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 If the excise duty is not withdrawn, the mills will have no option but to pass it on to the consumers i.e., the common man who buys clothes made out of cotton yarn of counts 40's and below.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