

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : This is the point.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, programming staff in the AIR and Doordarshan have its own importance. Disparities in their pay has resulted in a lot of resentment among them. They have decided to start agitation on this issue. Through you, I want to submit to the hon. Minister of Communications that he should pay attention to it and take an early decision in this regard positively so that disparities in their pay could be removed.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of Central Government to UP. In the situation that prevails in the State, the Central Government has assumed all powers of the State. Only 15-20 days left before the sowing of rabi crops comes to an end, but the farmers are neither getting fertilizer nor seeds. UP Government arrange supply of fertilizer and seed through the Departments of Agriculture and Cooperation. These two departments of the Government of UP have made purchases of lakhs of tonnes of seeds and fertilizer but I fail to understand whether these supplies all going to the farmers or are being diverted to the black market. The farmers in UP are not getting seeds and fertilizer. The farmers belonging to weaker sections in Jhansi, Lalitpur, Banda, Hamirpur and Jalaun districts are facing ruin. Due to non-availability of seeds and fertilizer, they have yet to start sowing operations and only 20 days are left of the sowing season. The Governor of UP is leading a luxurious life and the Central Government is ruling the State by proxy.

I would request the hon. Minister of Agriculture to immediately arrange seeds for rabi sowing to the farmers of UP. At the same time inquiry should be conducted to find out the whereabouts of lakhs of tonnes of seeds and fertilizer purchased by the Department of Cooperation and Agriculture as the same have not reached the farmers...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (Arariya) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my name is listed at Sl. No. 12.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You all telling the Sl. No., good.

[English]

SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY (Tripura West) : Sir, Tripura is almost surrounded by Bangladesh. It is practically an enclave inside Bangladesh with a small opening through Assam which connects Tripura to the mainland. Tripura shares 84 per cent of our border with Bangladesh and the balance 16 per cent with Mizoram and Assam. Tripura was earlier princely tribal majority State. After partition, several lakhs of refugees had migrated to this State and now today the non-tribals belong to 70 per cent of the total population. After implementation of India-Mujib Accord, thousands of

foreigners are still coming due to unguarded international borders with Bangladesh. All these have created a pressure on the political, economical and social life of the people of Tripura. Nowadays, the extremists have increased their insurgent activities. Due to advantage of a porous and ineffectively policed border, extremist groups have easy access to the neighbouring country for shelter, training, acquisition of sophisticated arms etc. as also for coming back at opportune moments.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Reading is not allowed during zero hour. You can make an oral submission.

[English]

SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : The Government of India has already taken some steps like erection of fencing in Indo-Bangladesh border by barbed wires, construction of IBB road, increasing the number of BSF personnel, strengthening the State Mobile Task Forces etc. But all these works were not in the list except the construction of border roads in Tripura-Bangladesh border. Now realising the importance of the situation, the Central Government, the Ministry of Home Affairs, has taken up two projects namely, erection of fencing by barbed wires in Indo-Bangladesh border-Phase II and strengthening of State Mobile Forces. But due to non-approval of the Finance Ministry, the projects are not coming into force. I, therefore, request the Government of India to approve the projects as soon as possible, keeping in view the present abnormal situation in the State as also the excitement prevailing in the Tripura-Bangladesh border areas and to stop the migration of foreigners...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All issues are important. I shall give an opportunity to all.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : I am rising to speak with a heavy heart. We have no objection to the hon. Minister doing extensive railway development in Bihar. But I am constrained to point out that MP is being grossly neglected in the matter of railway development. My constituency Indore, which is the industrial capital of the State is being grossly neglected. I have taken up a number of issues concerning railways, but none of them was replied to by the railway authorities. Two trains start from Indore-one of them goes upto Jammu and the other named 'Inter City Express' runs between Indore and Nizamuddin. On the orders of a railway official, the rakes of these two trains have started interchanging. This is resulting in late departure of both of these trains. On my journey to New Delhi, I saw an old couple travelling in my A.C. coach and their destination was Jammu. They were to undertake their return journey too. In all, 6-7 days' journey was involved in their case but there was no arrangement of a bed roll for them.

Not a single work concerning railways is being done in my constituency. For a long time, we have been demanding that the train which runs between Indore and Mumbai should be extended upto Mumbai Central, but no attention is being paid to our demand.

We had made another demand that an inter-city should be run to connect Indore with the State Capital Bhopal and it should take three and a half hour time. But it takes about six hours. The basic reason for this is that electrification of a sixty k.m. distance between Ujjain and Indore has not been done. Therefore, engine is to be changed two times. Indore is such a big city and the railway station there has been declared as a Model Railway Station. Despite that nothing is being done there and the Railway Minister is not taking any interest. If you want I am prepared to stage a 'Dharna'. I would like to request the Railway Minister to kindly pay attention towards Madhya Pradesh. Indore wants to achieve a prominent place in the Indian map as far as railways are concerned.

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : It is a fact that one does not get place to sit in Malwa Express. If there are 46 berths in a bogie, only 13 are supplied bed rolls whereas rent is charged from everybody. There is heavy rush in every train coming from Jammu. Even in A.C. compartments two persons are accommodated on each seat.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You please sit down. Mr. Roy I will request you one thing. In future, please do not lose patience.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon'ble Railway Minister wants to say something. Please listen.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are three issues involved in it. As far as the question of additional train is concerned, we shall discuss it in detail at the time of Supplementary budget. The other issue with regard to electrification can also be raised at that time. In so far as the question of bedding and maintenance is concerned, I have already said that we are concerned about this. We are going on increasing the trains, but there is shortage of coaches. But as far as the question shortage of bedding is concerned, we assure you that we shall do the needful and also try to remove such complaints.

SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is a matter of regret that land has caved in in Jharia and more than five hundred families have been affected and there has been loss of life and property. On the same day there was a news that CMD of BCCL visited Dugdha Coal Washery, which is a plant of BCCL, on 26.11.96 and announced closure of washery on the

same day, as a result of which about there thousand labourers were rendered jobless. I had informed the C.M.D. of BCCL that I will go there in the capacity of member of Coal Consultative Committee and also the members of Coal Standing Committee and see what is going on there. I am pained to inform that what to talk of CMD, no officer was present there. I had not asked for vehicle and neither I had asked somebody should accompany me because arrangement for shifting and rehabilitation of the residents is to be made.

I would like to know why Dugdha Coal Washery has been closed down and when it would be restarted. This plant was established in 1962 and now 1996 is going on. 34 years have passed Neither this plant has been renominated, modernised and nor diversified. This plant has been shut down with immediate effect. We have huge deposits of coal but we are importing good quality coal from foreign countries. We are depending on foreign countries and are closing down our washeries. They are earning more and more profits. Such type of looting is going on. Through you, I want to tell the Government that adequate arrangements should be made for the shifting and rehabilitation of the people from the area where land has caved in and for restarting the coal washery thousands of people are in danger. So, there is a need for proper rehabilitation of the people of Jharia. There is also a need that Coal India and BCCL should immediately start the rehabilitation work and replace the rehabilitated people who are affected because of fire and subsidence in Jharia township.

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj) : My constituency, Karimganj (SC), Assam, consists of Karimganj and Hailakandi Districts of which Karimganj is the border district, that is, adjacent to Bangladesh which is on the right bank of the river Kushiara. The border security forces of this border are divided into three sectors - one at Dholcherra, second at Machimpur and the third at Karimganj - the border town and the headquarters of the district.

Sir, smuggling is a common feature on this border and only on that day, i.e. the 2nd November, 1996, a BSF *jawan*, by name Ram Singh, was killed on the border, on the bank of the River Kushiara.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Das, please hurry up.

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : So, I urge upon the Government to make Karimganj the regional headquarters of BSF and to station a DIG. BSF there to coordinate the BSF operations of the three aforesaid sectors...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Das, you are a senior Member. Reading is not allowed in Zero Hour.

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : This should be done in order to check smuggling and other unlawful activities along the border.