

(vi) Need to restore certain railway facilities at Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar, West Bengal.

[English]

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri): Sir, I like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the people of the District of North Bengal, specially Coochbehar and Jalpaiguri have welcomed the introduction of the new tri-weekly train, Teesta-Topra Express. But the bogies attached to the train are in a dilapidated condition. There are no 1st class and AC II tier bogies on the train running from Haldinbani to Sealdah. It is, therefore, imperative that the bogies are replaced soon and the 1st class and AC II tier bogies are replaced soon and the 1st class and AC DO tier bogies attached with the train and the train runs daily.

Secondly, after the introduction of this train, the Railway authorities have curtailed some facilities enjoyed by the people of the district of North Bengal. Withdrawal of stoppages of some trains from some stations, curtailment of the reservation quota are some of the curtailments. On these points the people of the district of Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar are agitated and have started a movement. I request, the Central Government to take immediate necessary measures so that facilities relating to train-stoppages and reservation quota enjoyed by the people of Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar may be restored.

(vii) Need to take steps for Balanced development of Nawada, Jahabad and Aurangabad Districts in Bihar for checking growing Menace of Terrorism in these areas

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, democracy is in jeopardy due to the growing acts of terrorism in the country. The ancient Gaya

district, famous all over the world for Buddhist religion and peace and where Gautam Buddha was enlightened and got peace, is now in the grip of terrorism. All the three districts, Nawada, Jahanabad and Aurangabad are in the grip of terrorism. This is attributed to unbalanced growth in the area.

If the growing menace of terrorism is to be rooted out completely the development processes would have to be directed towards the villages of backward classes and Harijans. For this, the first and foremost necessity is to provide educational facilities to all villages which have a population of about 1500 and provision of clean drinking water will have to be made in their villages on a war footing. The Land Ceiling Act will have to be enforced strictly because land is the root cause of all clashes. Medical facilities will have to be provided to these villages.

Therefore, I demand from Government to take steps to completely root out terrorism and take action immediately on all these measures so that terrorism does not increase any further.

(viii) Need for Land reforms in the country and to Ensure that Scheduled Caste get Possession of the Land Allotted to them

SHRI RAM BADAN (Lalganj): At the time of independence 45 years ago, distribution of land to landless farmers especially the Harijans has been accorded top priority in the national reconstruction programme but except for a few States, no significant achievement had been made in this regard in other States. Unequitable distribution of land is a hurdle reforms should be strictly implemented in order to put an end to exploitation in land use. Till now, out of total acquired land of 56 lakh thousand acres only 48 lakh thousand acres of land has been distributed. Out of this, fifty percent of land has reportedly been distributed among scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but the fact is something else. These people have not been given possession of more than half the land allotted to them.