

[Sh. Ramendra Kumar Ravi Yadav]

[English]

sands of cattle, thousands of kilometres long pucca roads, crops standing in lakhs of acres of land are damaged and lives of thousands of people are adversely affected by it. Every year Bihar Government has to incur loss to the tune of crores of rupees due to devastating floods in the above river. The people of North Bihar had started an agitation for construction of a multipurpose dam on Kosi river in 1987 with a view to provide protection from the floods in the Kosi river, but Kosi Dam has not been constructed so far. Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government that a multi-purpose dam should be constructed on Kosi river in Bihar in consultation with Nepal Government at the earliest.

(iii) **Need to set up Industries based on Telecommunication net work in Bihar**

SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Bihar is a backward state of our country. During the last 43 years, there has been little development in Bihar in comparison to other States. In regard to telecommunication industries it is very backward. The outlay in the Seventh Five Year Plan was Rs. 9,000 crores. There is a provision of Rs. 19,000 crores in the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Department of Telecommunications has opened its factories almost in all the states of the country. Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Delhi are very much forward in this industry. But Bihar and Orissa are deprived of such industries so far. Keeping in view the backwardness and unemployment in Bihar and Orissa a provision should be made in the Eight Five Year Plan for setting up of telecommunication industries there. Many training centres and colleges connected with this industry particularly in Bihar are running there.

Therefore, the Planning Commission is requested that provision may be made for setting up telecommunication industries in Bihar.

(iv) **Need to electrify Railway line between Ranaghat-Bangaon section**

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): Sir, Ranaghat-Bangaon section covers 33 Km. of distance. Rail service is the only means of communication on this section. Out-dated diesel locomotives run in this section with disruptive rail services. As a result, thousands of passengers suffer regularly and can not go to their respective destinations in time. Railway authority adopts the practice of using damaged and unsuitable rakes keeping the passengers in danger. Moreover, there is neither a shed nor an over-bridge in this section and in some stations there is no platform even.

To remove the sufferings of the people electrification of this section is urgently needed. The local Railway authority (Sealdah) had recommended the electrification of this line in public interest but no action has been taken by the Railway Board so far.

I would, therefore, request the Railway Minister to fulfil the long-standing demands of this section at the earliest.

[Translation]

(v) **Need to provide financial assistance to Bihar Government for boring tubewells in Jahanabad and Gaya districts to cope with the drinking water problem there**

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir persons and animals are dying due to Shortage of drinking water in Bihar. The state Government has failed to solve this problem. People are crying for water, particularly in hundreds of villages of Jahanabad and Gaya district. That area is a rocky area and water is not available even after boring. Children and