

electricity capacity of Himachal in the Seminars organised by the State Electricity Boards in different parts of the country. The loan being given by the World Bank can be helpful for these works which is being allocated for such schemes at present. The fact is, hydro electric projects are cheaper than thermal power projects and the coal stock of our country can be used for other purposes. In my opinion, the coal stock should be reserved so that the coming generations may take full advantage of this stock. The Central Government should implement more and more hydro electric schemes. It will be helpful for nation's development, and unemployed engineers and other educated men and women will get employment in these schemes.

I demand from the Central Government that among hilly areas, more schemes for electricity generation be prepared for Himachal Pradesh and 20 thousand megawatt electricity be generated after utilising total present resources. I have also to state that a large portion of Punjab was included in Himachal Pradesh but only 2.19 percent electricity was provided to Himachal Pradesh. Therefore, crores of rupees of State Government are due. I have also to state here that all those states which owe payment to Himachal Pradesh must pay it to the state so that the same may be utilized for electricity programmes.

**(iii) Need to halt mail trains at Naupada railway station, Andhra Pradesh.**

[English]

DR. VISWANATHAM K. NITHI (Srikulam) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Naupada lies on broad gauge railway line between Madras and Calcutta. The travelling public of Naupada and its surrounding areas in Waltair division of South Eastern railways face a lot of problems. The only two fast mail trains used to stop at Naupada till 1976.

In the year 1976, the Railways introduced a system that tickets to the passengers travelling below 200 kms. would not be issued for the convenience of long distance passengers. This has resulted in the fall in revenue at Naupada station which is on the broad gauge double railway line between Madras and Calcutta. On this ground, the mail trains ceased to stop at Naupada causing a lot of hardship to the travelling public of this area. This being the station for the revenue Divisional headquarters,

a railway junction and an importance centre, it deserves due recognition. The Express trains halt at many other places of less importance. This action on the part of the Railways had resulted in a number of agitations like rail *roko*, hunger strikes etc.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to ensure that all the Mail trains halt at Naupada, immediately.

**(iv) Need to review the decision to supply inland letters with reduced size.**

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North) : The inland letters and postcards issued by the Postal Department are largely used for communication by the common man from the rural as well as urban parts of the country. The inland letter is preferred over post-card because it gives more writing space and also keeps the contents more confidential than the open post-card. The Ministry of Telecommunications have suddenly reduced the size of the inland letter and the quality of paper is also inferior as compared to the earlier inland letter. The writing space has been reduced from 24.5×18 cm. of the front page of old inland letter to 26.5×15 cms. of the new letter, and the back page writing space has been reduced from 11.6×18 cms. to 8.7×15 cms. The net effect is reduction of writing space from 660.60 sq. cms. to 528 sq. cms., i.e. 132.60 cms. which works out to 20%. This reduction of size is causing considerable inconvenience to the people and is also a back-door method of earning revenue without the approval of Parliament.

I, therefore, urge upon the Minister for Communications to withdraw the new inland letters and supply them as per old size. For the people who have already purchased the new inland letters, the Government should refund the money at the rate of 15 paise per piece.

**(v) Need for construction of a overbridge at Damoh in Madhya Pradesh.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA (Damoh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to this very important issue under Rule 377.

An overbridge on railway line at Damoh Headquarters of Damoh district in Madhya Pradesh was sanctioned two years ago. In spite of this the construction of this overbridge is