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(vi) Need for early clearance of Subarnarekha Project Midnapore (West Bengal) (MJR377)

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the West Bengal Government has envisaged the Subarnarekha Project with a view to augmenting the area of land to be irrigated from the water resources of the river Subarnarekha and sent it to the Union Government for clearance. of the project The implementation would facilitate irrigation in a huge quantum of land to the immense benefit of lakhs of the agrarian people of the district of Midnapore. meantime the State Government has almost completed the infrastructural necessary to implement the project at a rapid pace. But as the Central Government has not cleared the project as yet the State Government is not in a position to go ahead further and consequently the peasants are in tremendous despair. I would, therefore, urge upon the Ministries of Environment and Forests and Water Resources to look into the matter urgently and clear the project as early as possible

(vii) Need to transfer the area between Visakhapatnam and Itchapuram to the South Central Railway (MUR3)

SHRI K. RAMA MOHAN RAO (Bobbili): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are about 5 lakh educated unemployed in the three districts of North Coastal Andhra, which falls under Visakhapatnam Railway Division of South Eastern Railway.

The association of unemployed youth of North Coastal Andhra complains that though this division contributes maximum to S.E. Rlys, the S.E. Railway provide less than 1% jobs to the youth of these three districts.

They also complain that they will not get justice in recruitment unless the area from 'isakhapatnam to Itchapuram is transferred to South Central Railway.

Hence, I request the Hon'ble Minister to consider the above matter.

(viii) Need to re-consider the recent increase in the service charges by banks

SHRI J.P. AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): The recent hike in bank service charges by 25 per cent on an average has given a big jolt to industry and trade, more particularly the small and petty traders, manufactu-The service rers and common man. charges have been increased for the second time within a short span of three years without any commensurate improvement in services. What is more disturbing is that the charges have been increased across the board. Moreover, certain new bank charges have been introduced for services like stop payment instructions, issue of MICR cheques processed in Bombay, Deihi, Madras and Calcutta etc.

The increase of these charges on grounds of hike in employees wages etc. cannot be justified. The enhancement of these charges is unwarranted particularly at a time when the Government is considering various means to contain price rise.

I, therefore, urge the Finance Minister to reconsider the whole issue and restore bank charges to the level prevailing before July 1, 1990.

14.32 hrs. 388 - 400, 473-9

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Statement made by the Minister of External Affairs regarding his recent visit to Moscow, Washington, Amman, Baghdad and Kuwait in connection with the situation in the Gulf.

[English] (DUR193)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we take up Discussion under Rule 193 on the statement made by the