

[English]

(III) Need to include the project of extension of metre gauge line upto Agartala, Tripura in 8th Plan

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: (Tripura West): Consequent upon the partition of the country, Tripura was completely cut off from the rest of India being surrounded on three sides by East Pakistan new Bangladesh with geographical continuity, only to northern and with the Cachar district of Assam.

Originally, the railway stations in the surrounding district of Bangladesh were within stone's throw from some of the subdivisional towns in Tripura and those were the main transport facility. As a result of partition these railway stations fell in Bangladesh and thereby disrupting communication system of Tripura with the rest of India.

The land locked Tripura, is presently served by a stretch of 45.5 Km of Metre gauge railway line under NF Railway extend upto Kumarghat in the North District of the State.

The economic development of the State has seriously suffered due to the absence of infrastructure.

For development of industrial sector, the extension of railway line in Tripura is essential.

According to the Traffic-cum-Engineering survey the construction cost of 120 Km line will be Rs. 153.0 crores with a financial return ranging from 0.82% to 1.27% only. In the meeting of Working Group held at Maligaon on 4.10.89 the extension of MG line upto Agartala was agreed. It was recommended by the Working Group that after examining the Bimodal study report of RITES, the Planning Commission would take up the extension of the Railway network from Kumarghat to Agartala (MG line) in the 8th Plan. I request the Government to include the above project in Eighth Plan.

[Translation]

(IV) Need to install high power T.V. Transmitter at Doordarshan Centre Saharsa in Bihar

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the transmission capability of Doordarshan Centre, Saharsa is so low that its programmes cannot be seen within the entire area of Saharsa Municipal Corporation. As a result the people of Koshi and other tehsils of Saharsa district which are located at a distance of 100 KMS or more from Saharsa Division fail to view its programmes. As a result there is a great resentment among the local people. In Saharsa area the Doordarshan facility is poor even now while 80% area of the country enjoy it. Therefore, a powerful transmitter should be installed in place of the existing one of low-capacity.

Therefore, I would like to request that the Government should take immediate steps to facilitate installation of a high power transmitter at Saharsa Doordarshan Centre so that the people there are not deprived of entertainment and are able to view the programmes of Doordarshan and get benefit therefrom.

(V) Need to open a Central Research University in Uttarakhand In Uttar Pradesh

SHRI M.S. PAL (Nainital): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Uttarakhand region of Uttar Pradesh has unlimited natural resources and its climate is akin to that of Switzerland and Japan. Therefore the Central Government should explore the possibility of setting up a Central Research Centre in this region for the exploration of mineral wealth, to conduct research on the various species of plants available in forests, to put it to daily use as a source of alternative energy, to set up tourism industry and to set up industries based on Management of fruits and vegetables. Considering this situation a Central Research University should immediately be opened there.