

strict action against those challenging the ban. Any delay would only be disastrous to the cause of peace, communal harmony and justice in the country.

(vi) Need to approve and implement the Master Plan for development of Secunderabad cantonment area

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI (Siddipet): Sir, Secunderabad Cantonment area is one of the most important cantonment areas in the country. Four years back, under directions of the Ministry of Defence, the officials of Kirloskar Company prepared a Master Plan for allround development of this area. This Plan was forwarded to the Director-General, Cantonments and Defence Lands, R. K. Puram, New Delhi for its approval and implementation. But unfortunately, it is still pending before the above mentioned authority.

The population of cantonment area is more than three lakhs. Out of that, eighty per cent belong to weaker sections. Since no development activities have been taken up so far, the residents of the area are suffering for want of amenities like drinking water, street lights, underground drainage and general hospital. Housing schemes were not taken up and allotment of house sites of B-4 and 'C' class lands which are not useful for defence purposes, as they happen to be in the civil area, has also not been done so far.

The problems of residents of this cantonment area were raised several times earlier.

I again urge upon the Government of India to immediately approve and implement the Master Plan for Secunderabad Cantonment and release necessary funds for all-round developmental activities of this area.

(vii) Need to take urgent steps to control the fire in the mines of Jharia coal fields, Bihar

SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY (Hoshiarpur): According to a Press

report published on 27-8-1990, fires have been raging continuously for years in the mines of the Jharia coal-fields in South Bihar. Coal embedded deep below in these coal fields is being reduced to ashes as a result of these fires which are also discharging pollutants into the environment.

It is estimated that some 1864 M.T. of coal valued over Rs. 55,000 crores might be lost to the country due to these fires in course of time.

These fires are spread over an area of about 1700 square kilometres of the coal-fields. Scientific studies should be made into the causes of these fires and methods evolved to control these within a reasonable period of time. The Government should set apart adequate funds for this purpose. Otherwise the nation will lose a valuable source of power which is of utmost importance.

(viii) Need for speedy-development of Ahmedabad airport as an International Airport

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT (Baroda): Sir, the development of Ahmedabad Airport for bringing it upto International standards has been delayed for a long period.

The Government of Gujarat has been urging that there is a need for speedy completion of work for elevation of Ahmedabad Airport to International standard. Sir, there has been a great need for direct air services to foreign countries from the airport.

Gujarat Government has promised that all works connected with diversion of services and roads will be completed by Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and State Government by stipulated date.

The Chairman of the National Airports Authority had visited the Gujarat State in June, 1990 and had assured the State Government that steps to expedite works and commissioning