

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

[Sh. Prakash Koko Brahmhatt]

the air terminal would be undertaken soon. He had also assured that the National Airports Authority would make all possible efforts to complete the works so that International flights could start soon.

I once again urge the Union Government that they should impress upon the National Airports Authority to have a time-bound programme for the development of the airports so that it comes up to international standard by 1990.

14.20 hrs.

#### DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (PUNJAB) 1990-91

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we take up the discussion on Punjab Budget. Demands for grants Nos. 1 to 30 moved on 3-9-1990.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPIA (Midnapore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, once again this House is called upon to approve of a budget allotment for the State of Punjab. I do not know how long this situation is going to continue. The agony of Punjab is continuing without any let up. Punjab is bleeding and I think it is too serious a matter for our country. Nobody should try to make it a party issue. It is a national issue in every sense of the word and we can, of course, during a debate try to blame each other of going way back into the history, to try to trace the genesis of this crisis which has developed. But it is not going to help us. At the moment, we have to think more about the future. Prof. Madhu Dandavate's budget allocations in the present situation would naturally have to cover broadly two spheres—one is the sphere of security, the other is the sphere of development. And I think that for both these requirements there, one cannot be emphasised to the exclusion of the

other. Such a situation has not yet come about. But, Sir, this session is due to end in another two days' time and normally by the time the House assembles again, it will be the month of November and by the month of November, this period of President's rule which was extended for six months will be over. Now, therefore, let us try to face the question which is there uppermost, I think, in the minds of everybody: What is going to be done by the Government, by the will of the Parliament in the next three or four months? We have certain options before us; they have been mentioned here by other speakers also. Either we decide to go in for elections to the State Assembly in Punjab or we decide again to prolong President's Rule for a further spell. The third option which is being talked about in the air, namely, to revive the old Assembly, I don't consider it to be a serious option at all. I don't know if the Government is really interested in such a perspective of trying to revive an Assembly which I don't think will carry any credibility to the people of the Punjab. But we are in a dilemma, the whole country is facing a dilemma. If we don't go in for elections, if the people of Punjab—by 'people of Punjab' I don't mean only the Sikhs—continue to feel that they are being permanently excluded from the democratic process of elections, which is available for other parts of the country, that will have nothing but negative consequences, I am sure of that. The feeling of alienation of the people which has already gone so far will be further intensified. So, this is one thing that if we go in for further extension of President's Rule for which I suppose now if the Government decides to do that, they will have to call another Session of this Parliament before November; otherwise it will not be possible to go through that constitutional process. So, if the President's Rule is to be further extended, Sir, and if elections are not to be held and they are to be further postponed, the argument offered for it is that in the present situation no election can be held in free and fair manner. Election will be dictated by the gun. The argument is that people will be too