

(vi) Need to Give stringent Punishment to People violating Provisions of Child Marriage laws

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU (Visakhapatnam): Thousands of child marriages, in gross violation of the Sharda Act were solemnised in various parts of Rajasthan recently. This archaic and reprehensible practice, is appalling, 1990 has been declared the SAARC year of the girl child. It is ironic that during this year the Government should remain silent on such social evils. If Indian women are to be given their place in society and a life of dignity, if the year of the girl-child has to have any true meaning the Government must abolish and eradicate these social evils, and penalise those violating the child marriage Laws and Sharda Act. Simultaneously the Government must launch social awareness campaigns to drive home the negative aspect of this social evil to persuade people to abandon these practices.

[Translation]

(vii) Need to construct Railway Line between Satna and Rewa in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI (Rewa): In May, 1984 the then Prime Minister had laid the foundation stone of the railway line to be constructed between Satna to Rewa (51km) in Madhya Pradesh but even after the passage of six years since then, the construction of railway line has not been started so far. For want of railway services, this region has not seen the light of development. Despite the availability of lime stone, bauxite, coal and forest wealth, it has not been possible to set up industries in this region because there is no provision of railway lines in this area. In 1956, the State Reorganisation Commission in their report had also recommended the construction of a railway line in this region. But even after a long period of 34 years of this recommendation, the railway lines have not been constructed there.

The average per capita income in Rewa Division is the lowest in the country. Unemployed youth find no opportunities for employment.

Therefore I would like to urge upon the Government to take measures to complete the construction of the railway line between Satna and Rewa by the year 1991.

(viii) Need to construct an overbridge over Railway Bridge on Kamla Balan river near Jhanjharpur in Madhubani District of Bihar

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): There is an old railway bridge over Kamla Balan river under the Eastern Railway near Jhanjharpur in Madhubani district of Bihar. Even after 42 years of our independence it is the only bridge in the region on which besides the movement of trains all the vehicles like buses, taxi and rikshaws ply. A little negligence can cause a major rail accident which may result in a heavy loss of life and property. It is a very important road because this is the only road which passes through this railway bridge and leads to Nepal. When the Gumiti is closed, road traffic comes to a standstill for hours together which results in lot of hardships to the passengers as they are not in a position to reach the place of their destination in time. To keep this bridge in its existing condition is not in the interest of the National security.

So, in view of the imminent threat to the security of the country and the hazard it poses to the life and property of the common man and the obstruction in the smooth movement of passenger traffic, I would like to urge upon the government to get an overbridge constructed at the earliest on Kamla Balan river near Jhanjharpur.