

[Sh. Anadi Charan Das]

for the Dam had been selected during the year 1973 but so far nothing has been done in the matter. The proposal is pending with Government since long despite repeated reminders. This Dam will help in irrigation of a large area of Cuttack and Baleshwar Districts besides generating sufficient electricity. I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to clear this project and include it in the Eighth Plan.

(iv) Need for expediting rehabilitation of the 5000 families affected by proposed construction of the Coffor Dam of Multi-crore Tehri Project

SHRI C.M. NEGI (Garhwal): Sir, the Tehri Hydro-electric Development Corporation has decided to construct Coffor Dam of multi-crore Tehri Project for which last date of submitting tenders is 31st August, 1990. But rehabilitation of five thousand families of Tehri has not been done yet. If the people of the township are not shifted, there will be a grave danger to the local population as the area might be submerged due to choking of underground tunnels or by any other fault caused during the construction of above dam.

I request the Government to look into the matter.

(v) Need for upgrading the Lalitpur district of U.P. to 'A' grade city

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Uttar Pradesh Government had formed the Lalitpur district in the last decade. Even after completing 43 years of independence, this area is totally backward from industrial, economic and agricultural point of view. No such developmental process as would bring Lalitpur at par with the other districts of the State was launched here.

The percentage of agricultural land in Lalitpur district is the minimum as compared to other districts. Then there are no adequate irrigation facilities. A decade ago Lalitpur was one of the major Tehsils of district Jhansi. But even after being declared as a district, Lalitpur was denied its independent existence by declaring it as a Jhansi-Lalitpur parliamentary constituency and keeping it tagged with Jhansi. The consequent effect was that all the developmental programmes got channelised towards district Jhansi alone and Lalitpur was left to remain backward.

Jhansi and Lalitpur are both 'B' grade cities. The successive developmental processes is helping the development of Jhansi but the condition of Lalitpur did not under go any change. Lalitpur is a no industry district even today.

The district holds a populace of approximately twelve lakh people. No opportunities of employment are available there. Alongwith the establishment of large and medium scale industries in the district, Lalitpur should be upgraded to the category of 'A' grade city in order to achieve its all round development so that the industries get an opportunity to flourish there. There is no justification in keeping it as 'B' grade city.

(vi) Need for expanding the telecommunication network in Rajasthan

[English]

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE (Jhalawar): Sir, it is a matter of great concern that adequate attention has not been paid to the expansion of Telecommunication network in Rajasthan. According to the reply given by Hon. Minister of State for Communications in Lok Sabha to the Unstarred Question No. 10218, dated 24th May, 1990, no new Post Office has been opened in 9 Districts of Rajasthan in the last three years. In 1987-88 and 1988-89 no new Post Office has been opened in 11 Districts of the State. It is regrettable that not a single Post Office was opened in 17 Districts of Rajasthan in

1989-90. The position is almost similar in respect of new Telegraph Offices in the State.

The State of Rajasthan is very famous for its Tourism potential and now there has been considerable growth in both domestic as well as foreign tourist traffic in that State. Modern telecommunication facilities play a vital role in the promotion of tourism which is one of the biggest foreign exchange earning Industries. There is therefore a greater need for expansion of telecommunication network in Rajasthan.

As such, I urge the Minister of Communications to expand the telecommunication network in Rajasthan without any further delay.

[*Translation*]

(vii) Need to set up a paper mill at Balaghat in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI KANKAR MUNJARE (Balaghat): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Balaghat is the most backward area of Madhya Pradesh having a population of about 12 lakh. There are negligible sources of employment for their livelihood. Bamboo and other allied material are available in abundance there. Opportunities of employment and economic development can be provided to the people of the area if a paper mill under public sector is established there. Thus the Government should consider setting up a paper mill at Balaghat as soon as possible.

[*English*]

(viii) Need for financial assistance to Orissa Government for expeditions completion of widening of Panikoeli to Ranchi and Panikodi to Rourkela (via Keonjhar Garh) Road

SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA (Keonjhar): The Government of Orissa had sent a proposal to the Central Government for widening the existing road from Panikoeli

in Orissa to Ranchi in Bihar and to declare it a national highway. Panikoeli is a tribal belt and a mining area. Road from Panikoeli to Rourkela via Keonjhar Garh also requires to be widened and declared as a national highway. The economic condition of the tribals in Keonjhar Garh which falls in my constituency is pitiable even though it is a mining area. Panchayat Samiti road in my constituency also requires to be completed. Because of lack of proper communication, the entire belt remains under-developed. Presently these areas are not linked by any railway line. For the economic development of this belt of tribals, proper road communication is of utmost importance.

I would, therefore, urge the Government to give adequate financial assistance to the State Government of Orissa to accelerate the progress of widening of the existing road from Panikoeli to Ranchi and also from Panikoeli to Rourkela via Keonjhar Garh. Special attention may also be given to the completion of Panchayat Samiti road in my constituency.

(ix) Need to look into the functioning of the E.S.I. Scheme so that the medical needs of poor employed and their families covered there under are proper

SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN (Calicut): I bring to the attention of this House the problem faced by workers covered under E.S.I. Scheme. The E.S.I. Scheme is not working effectively. Even though E.S.I. is a Central Scheme, the administration thereof comes under State Government. All State Governments give secondary importance to E.S.I. hospitals/dispensaries. No E.S.I. hospital has got specialist doctors. Even common medicines are not available in some E.S.I. hospitals/dispensaries. No special care or attention is given in medical college hospitals and other district hospitals to the patients covered by E.S.I. E.S.I. dispensaries are now a days used by workers only for getting medical leave.

The scheme was started for a noble