

Kashmir State especially in Jammu region speak Dogri language. Dogri is the language of the Dogras who are well-known fighters, warriors and brave soldiers in the country.

I would like to urge upon the Government to include Dogri language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India.

[*Translation*]

(iv) Need to extend pension benefits to the armed forces personnel who are removed from service on medical grounds

SHRI M.S. PAL (Nainital): At the time of recruitment of armed forces every soldier under goes a thoroughly medical examination. But if a soldier suffers from an incurable disease after 8 to 9 years of service, he is dismissed from the army by the Medical Board. Such soldiers are not entitled to any pension. In case he dies later, his widow and children suffer a lot.

If a civilian employe dies after putting in one year of service, his dependents are entitled to receive family pension while on the other hand injustice is being done to these soldiers because of pension rules which are in force since the British period.

Now when the Government is rehabilitating the deserters, which is a welcome step, it should also modify the pension rules with a view to providing pensionary benefits to these soldiers/their widows. Besides, military nursing Service should be given the status of military corps.

[*English*]

(v) Need to electrify railway line between Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar

SHRIPRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT (Baroda): Sir, Gandhinagar is a capital city of Gujarat. The existing railway line between Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar is laid purely for serving this city. With the fast develop-

ment of the new capital, the adjoining areas are also being developed. Gujarat Electricity Board's Power Station and IFFCO near Sertha have passenger and goods traffic potential.

There is only one train trip between Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar which takes about one and half hour to travel a short distance of 30 kms.

Bombay-Sabarmati section is already electrified. If this electrification is extended upto Gandhinagar, it would bring a number of benefits, e.g.

- (a) Railways would be able to extend two or three long distance passenger trains to terminate and originate from Gandhinagar.
- (b) In due course, additional long distance trains could be introduced to serve Ahmedabad as well as Gandhinagar.
- (c) Commuters between Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar would be benefited substantially with the extension of E.M.U. services planned by the Railways between Baroda and Ahmedabad.
- (d) It will help reduce congestion on roads to Gandhinagar and also reduce pollution.
- (e) Full requirements of coal for the expanded power house at Gandhinagar would be met with conveniently by the Railways.

I hope that the Government will take immediate decision in this regard.

[*Translation*]

(vi) Need to take steps for providing drinking water in Bayana, Rajasthan

SHRI THAN SINGH JATAV (Bayana):

[Sh. Than Singh Jatav]

There is acute shortage of water in Bayana in Rajasthan. The drinking water is not available. The level of water in wells has receded. The hand pumps are out of order and people are crying for water. Women have to go to long distances to fetch water. The water of the wells meant for irrigation has also dried up. There is acute shortage of water in 15 panchayats of Vaar, 17 panchayats of Roopvas, 24 panchayats of Bayana and 14 panchayats of Dang in Wadi tehsil. There is acute shortage of water everywhere. Water is being supplied to Sarbhanthra-Badi-Basedi by tankers but it is not sufficient

Many panchayats have completed minor drinking water schemes but these can not be commissioned for want of electric connections. The people are in real trouble. The panghat schemes are pending because there is no water in the wells. There is absolutely no water in the areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

The policy of the Government is to provide drinking water according to a time bound schedule. I demand that drinking water should be supplied at the earliest in my area. Small barrages should be built on the rainfed rivers so that the level of water can be raised. Tubewells should be dug in the beds of rivers. The terrain of Roopvas is rocky and therefore deep bore wells should be dug there.

[English]

(vii) Need to allocate more funds for early completion of Tamluk-Digha railway line

SHRISATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk): The Railway Ministry took up the construction of Tamluk-Digha Railway line after prolonged demand of the people of West Bengal. This railway line, when completed, will connect the famous tourist spot of Digha with other parts of the country.

The estimated cost of the project is Rs.

73.71 crores and up to the financial year of 1989-90, only Rs. 9.17 crores have been spent on the project. The Budget allocation for the financial year of 1990-91 is only Rs. 3 crores and the balance will be Rs. 61.53 crores. And if the Railway Ministry goes on allocating the Rs. 3 crores on an average each year, the simple arithmetical calculation will show that it will take more than 20 years to complete the project. In the meantime, the cost of construction is bound to go up creating an uncertain situation for the completion of the project.

Therefore, I urge upon the Ministry of Railways as well as the Ministry of Finance to look into the matter seriously and allot a sufficient amount so that the construction of Tamluk-Digha railway line can be completed within a reasonable period of time thereby fulfilling the dream of the people of West Bengal.

(viii) Need to write off loans, including those from Cooperatives, upto Rs. 10,000 of small/marginal cultivators and artisans

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Sir, Indebted rural poor, peasants and artisans crushed under debt burden all over the country were elated by the election promise of the Government to "Write off loans up to Rs. 10,000/- of small marginal cultivators and artisans as on October 2, 1989." Prime Minister's declaration of "Action Plan" roused hopes further.

But now due to a number of "ifs and buts" created by various declarations, including that in the Budget Speech and provisions made by the Government, the peasants are not feeling sure about the full and immediate implementation of the promise. For example, leaving the part of the financial responsibility of waiving Cooperative loans of the above categories to the State Governments has created difficulty due to resource constraint of some of them. Then again, the mention of 'wilful defaulters would be excluded' in the budget speech of the hon. Finance Minister has created the apprehen-