

railway projects have been lying pending for the last several years in North Bihar. Survey work on all these has been completed. Crores of rupees were spent on survey by the Government. North Bihar is extremely backward in the matter of transport, due to which unemployment and poverty are increasing there. A survey of Sakri-Hasanpur railway line and Darbhanga-Samastipur B.G. railway line was completed and work on these lines had commenced but later on it was shelved. Therefore, people are agitated over it. There are no railway services worth the name available in North-Bihar. Trains do not run on time. People prefer travelling by bus for lack of Super-fast trains. Today 3 crore people of North Bihar are deprived of rail services.

Government of India is, therefore, requested to restart the construction work of Sakri-Hasanpur rail line and Darbhanga-Samastipur B.G. rail line without any further delay. With completion of these projects pending for a long time, people will get employment which will bring economic prosperity to them.

- (v) **Need to direct Jammu and Kashmir Government to provide basic amenities to pilgrims of Amarnathji**

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards a very holy and famous place of pilgrimage, viz. Shri Amarnathji. A large number of pilgrims from all over the country and foreign tourists visit this place daily. But it is a matter of regret that basic amenities are not made available there to the pilgrims as a result of which only less than half of the devotees, are able to have 'darshan' of Amarnathji. No road has been constructed there and the track is not suitable for being covered on foot. No eatables are available en route and there are also no arrangements for medical aid for the pilgrims.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central

Government to direct the state Government to remove these difficulties and provide adequate financial assistance to the State Government for constructing a road.

[English]

- (vi) **Need to provide Financial Assistance to Manipur to meet the flood situation in the State**

SHRIN. TOMBISINGH (Inner Manipur): Manipur valley particularly the capital city, Imphal is in the grip of unprecedented flood havoc these days and there is no sign of early relief from this crisis which has rendered thousands homeless and all normal life including road communication, business activities and social activities; administration, educational activities impossible in the State capital and its suburbs in the Eastern and Western sector. The major rivers flowing in the Manipur valley are above danger level and the Nambul has overflowed submerging badly the Central and Western portions of the Imphal city including the main business centre Khawairamband Bazar. The Imphal river banks had breached at very crucial points in the north of Imphal causing flash floods in the northern sector of the town and marooning thousands of people needing rescue. Imphal East is also flooded due to breaches in the Iril river banks. The scene is unprecedented in memorable history and the the relief and rescue operations will have to be massive. The losses will be colossal. Union Government is requested to assist the State in a massive way. The Government is also requested to help the State in taking long term measures against recurrence of such havocs.

- (vii) **Need to increase the supply of rice, oil and sugar to Kerala**

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): The staple food of the people of Kerala is rice. The people of Kerala depend to a great extent on the rice distributed through Fair Price Shops. However, the present allocation is insufficient to meet their needs. This is also the case with Palmolien