

starting of 'Vayudoot' Air Service in these areas to provide transport facilities to the people of these areas.

I would like to request the hon. Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation to start the Vayudoot Air Service in these areas at the earliest keeping in view the difficulties faced by the inhabitants of these areas.

[*Translation*]

(iv) Demand for making provision in the Seventh Plan for irrigation facilities to Barmer and Jalore Districts of Rajasthan from the Narmada river

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : The Narmada Water Dispute Tribunal in its award has allotted 0.50 million acre-feet of water of the Narmada river for irrigation in Barmer and Jalore districts of Rajasthan. The Rajasthan Government propose to irrigate 99,035 hectares of agricultural land in these districts but the project report has not been submitted so far. The Central Government should, therefore, impress upon the State Government to immediately prepare the project report and submit the same.

According to the construction work going on at present, the main canal in Gujarat is likely to be completed by 1995-96 upto Rajasthan border. The Rajasthan Government has emphasized the need for its completion by June 1991.

Being the representative of that area, it is my submission that in the desert and border districts of Barmer and Jalore, where there is acute Scarcity of drinking water, the waters of the Narmada may be made available by 1991 so that the land lying dry for thousands of years could be irrigated.

The Central Government should provide special assistance to the State Government keeping in view the backwardness of these districts, so that the work is undertaken on a war-footing and completed by 1991 in order to make the Narmada waters available to Barmer and Jalore districts for irrigation, thereby converting the desert area into fertile land.

[*English*]

(v) Need for Central Government's allotting Sufficient Funds for meeting the acute drinking water shortage in Anantpur district of A. P.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : Anantpur district in Andhra Pradesh is a chronic famine-affected area. This district has got the second lowest rainfall in the country. Continuous drought has created a very acute water problem in the talukas, namely, Kadiri, Satya-Sai, Penukonda, Dharmavaram, G.K. Palli, Hindupur and Madakasira. People in these Talukas are facing acute shortage of drinking water. All the drinking water sources are dried up. Drinking water bores have gone dry as water level is receding below. People are forced to go a few miles to fetch a pail of water. To save the people of this area from water famine Central Government is requested to allot sufficient funds and deploy deep drilling rigs to drill drinking water bores to a depth of 300 ft and save the people from thirst and also provide sufficient funds for single point distribution water system to all villages.

(vi) Demand for unconditional release of Swami Agnivesh and his Colleagues before the Tripartite meeting to settle quarry worker's dispute

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : While replying to my call attention notice on 20th March, 1985 on the stone quarry workers' agitation at Faridabad for the implementation of the Supreme Court's judgment regarding the workers and killing of a Harijan worker, the Union Labour Minister had announced on the floor of the House that a sympathetic view would be taken about the demands of the quarry workers and a tripartite meeting would be held to settle the dispute. Violating the spirit of this assurance, Swamy Agnivesh, the leader of the Bhanduao Mukti Morcha has been arrested along with his colleagues. I urge the Labour Minister to ensure unconditional release of Swamy Agnivesh and his colleagues prior to the tripartite meeting to settle the quarry workers' dispute.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : We support this,