

shoulder with Mahatma Gandhi during the freedom struggle and contributed a lot. Thousands of people of that region laid their lives and suffered torture in prisons. It was hoped that after the independence, the Information and Broadcasting Ministry would pay special attention towards the working field of the Father of Nation and the local people would enjoy the fruits of independence and would feel that the Central Government was aware of the historical background of this centre of Mahatma Gandhi. The people of this region are waiting as to when the concerned Department of the Central Government will pay attention towards this neglected area and set up a Television relay centre there so that the people of Motihari can enjoy T.V. programmes alongwith the people of other parts of the country.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to set up a T.V. Relay Centre in Motihari at the earliest.

- (ii) Demand for implementation of recommendations made by the working group of the Planning Commission for economic development of certain dacoit-infested areas of Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the working group of the Planning Commission had made certain recommendations in June, 1983 for the development of dacoit-infested areas of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, these related to the schemes regarding improvement of narrow valleys, construction of roads and bridges, and electrification of rural areas. Kanpur, Hamirpur, Etawah, Jalaun and other districts come under the dacoit-infested areas in Uttar Pradesh where the incidents of dacoital and murders take place every day. These are situated on the banks of the Yamuna river and are ravine areas.

Even after a lapse of such a long time since June 1983, the development schemes for this area have not yet been implemented. As a result of that this area is still the most backward and crime-infested one. If the recommendations of the working group of the Planning Commission are implemented, not only the area would be developed fastly but the people would also get job opportunities and the incidents of crimes would come down sharply. The expenditure on the

maintenance of law and order would also come down and the money thus saved could be utilised for other development works.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to implement these recommendations immediately to develop that area with the cooperation of the State Governments so that the people of that area can be liberated from the feeling of fear and committing crime and they can enjoy the benefits of development works.

- (iii) Demand for increasing reservation quota at Akbarpur, Malipur and Gosainganj railway stations in Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI R.P. SUMAN (Akbarpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Akbarpur Railway Junction on the Lucknow - Faizabad - Varanasi main line has assumed a special importance because a number of passengers travel everyday from here to the main big cities of the country. Moreover sufficient quantum of goods including mainly the bales of cotton is sent out from this Railway station by the side of which Shri Gandhi Ashram Uttar Pradesh State Spinning Mill is situated and a little further away a thermal power project and the religious places of Vichhochha Sharif and Govind Sahib are situated. But the reservation quota at Akbarpur Junction is very limited and there a lot of inconvenience is faced in respect of Transportation of goods. The reservation quotas for important stations of Malipur and Gosainganj are also limited although there is considerable movement of passengers as well as goods.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to increase the reservation quotas at Akbarpur, Malipur and Gosainganj railway stations and to provide godown facilities at the Akbarpur railway junction, and also to make arrangements for diverting and flushing the trains and to include Akbarpur railway station in the list of model stations as well.

[English]

- (iv) Establishment of an Agricultural Research Centre at Khandwa in M.P.

SHRI KALICHARAN SAKARGAYEN (Khandwa) : There has been a long pending demand of the people of Nimar region of Madhya Pradesh (Khandwa & Khargone Districts) that an Agriculture

College should be opened at Khandwa along with a full-fledged Agricultural Research Centre.

As per the assurance given by Hon'ble Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh Government, an Agriculture College was opened at Khandwa from February, 1987 under the auspices of Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur, but the Central Government has not yet taken any positive step to install a full-fledged Agricultural Research Centre, at Khandwa. I am informed that a team of experts from ICAR and JNKVV, Jabalpur had visited Khandwa for exploring the possibility of opening a research station with special reference to the cropping pattern and agro-climatic condition of the region. But many months have passed without any positive step in the direction of opening a full-fledged Agricultural Research Centre under ICAR or for strengthening and furnishing the existing research station under JNKVV at Khandwa.

12.14 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the *Chair*]

A Research Centre is an urgent necessity to protect the crops and to help the farmers to grow the important crops such as a cotton groundnut, chillies, bananas, citrus etc. Besides, the newly opened Agriculture College at Khandwa will be further benefited by a proper and well equipped Research Centre.

I, therefore, request that Central Government should expedite the establishment of research centre at Khandwa or to strengthen and appropriately equip the existing research station and fulfill the urgent demand of the farming community of the Nimar region.

(v) Demand for clearance of the proposed Thermal Station in Rayalseema in Andhra Pradesh and include it in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : Rayalaseema in Andhra Pradesh is a backward and drought-affected area. Irrigation facilities are meagre, and agriculturists depend on well irrigation, for which electricity is a must.

The Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board has submitted a feasibility report for the installation of a 2 × 210 MW thermal power station in Rayalaseema region to Central Electricity Authority on 8.4.1986 for techno-economic clearance. The State Government have also requested the Department of Power, Government of India in July 1986 for obtaining the techno-economic clearance of CEA to the above power station.

Subsequently, the Minister of Energy, Government of India informed the State Government, about the availability of coal linkage and clearance from the environmental, civil aviation and other technical aspects. The Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board has answered all the clarifications sought for.

Hence it is requested that the Government of India may be pleased to expedite the techno-economic clearance to the proposed thermal station in Rayalaseema, and include the project in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

[*Transition*]

(vi) Need for steps to protect Saran district in Bihar from devastation by flood and erosion of the river Ganga.

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH (Chapra) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House to the following important matter under Rule 377.

Since the day we achieved our independence, North Bihar has been facing devastation both economically and socially due to floods and erosion of the river Ganga every year. Demands have been made repeatedly that the North Bihar, particularly the Saran district, should be protected from this calamity. But it is unfortunate that no concrete steps have been taken in this regard so far.

It had been heard that in the Saran district headquarters, between Chapra and Sonapur on the northern bank of the river Ganga, there was a scheme to construct an embankment, but it is hanging