

Minister of Human Resources Development to sanction Rs. 25 lakhs per year for the purpose.

- (v) **Demand for a railway line between Gurgaon and Alwar via Sohna, Nuh and Ferozpur Jhirka towns**

CHOUHDARY KHURSHID AHMED (Faridabad): Sir, There is public demand for linking Gurgaon town with Alwar (Rajasthan) via Sohna, Nuh and Ferozpur Jhirka towns of Gurgaon district in Haryana.

I would, therefore, request the Government that a survey for linking Gurgaon town with Alwar (Rajasthan) may be carried out in public interest at the earliest and the project included in the Eighth Plan.

- (vi) **Demand for developing and announcing Kuduthurai in Bhavani (Periyar district of Tamil Nadu) as a national tourist centre**

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): Sir, Bhavani in Periyar district, Tamil Nadu, is a place of historical importance. It is also known as Dakshina Prayag like Allahabad because of its situation at the confluence of two rivers Cauvery and Bhavani. The famous temple of Lord Sangameswara which is one thousand years old is situated in between the hillocks of Vedagiri, Padmagiri, Nagagiri and Mangalagiri. Since it is situated at the river bank of Cauvery, it is called as Sabthari Madhya Pradesh. It needs to be developed as a religious, tourist and pilgrim centre. The Railway junction, Erode, is situated within 12 Km. The National Highway No. 47 runs very near to this tourist spot. This has got a natural attraction of the hillocks, confluence of rivers and is surrounded by paddy fields. The Postal Department has already on 25-8-77 introduced a special cover depicting the beautiful confluence called 'Kuduthurai' with the beautiful background of the Tower Sangameswarar and the grand hillocks Urachikottai. The hon. Minister for Tourism

is requested to announce 'Kuduthurai' in Bhavani Tamil Nadu as a national tourist centre in order to attract international tourists.

- (vii) **Demand for financial assistance to Bihar Government for converting the 'Kucha' roads into 'pucca' roads and repairing the embankments breached/damaged by floods or earthquake**

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Sir, Mithila region of North Bihar has been badly ravaged by the devastating floods of 1987 and dreadful earthquake of 1988. In this region the Pucca roads are few and far between. All the Kucha roads and culverts were either washed away by the floods or destroyed by earthquake.

Mithila is strategically placed, in the sense that it is located on the border of Nepal. For a variety of reasons, it is essential that a network of Pucca and all-weather roads be constructed there on a war-footing. Unfortunately, despite our repeated requests, no attention is being paid to this problem of paramount importance.

Lack of Pucca roads has adversely affected the economic growth of Mithila region. Miseries of the people during rains cannot be described in words. For weeks together, people cannot obtain goods of daily consumption from the neighbouring market. They cannot take the ailing patients and expectant mothers to neighbouring hospitals.

Therefore, the only remedy to these maladies is that the Government of India should provide an assistance of Rs. 100 crores to the Government of Bihar during the current financial year to enable the State Government to convert the Kucha roads into all-weather Pucca roads, and to get the breached embankments repaired on a war-footing.

The State Government is not in a posi-