

The most populous city of Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur, having a population of nearly ten lakhs, having many defence establishments, State High Court, government offices and industries is thus deprived of the most basic air travel facility provided to otherwise much smaller cities and towns all over India.

In public interest it is essential to restore the Jabalpur flights immediately. It is, therefore, requested that the Government gives immediate consideration to extend this facility of direct Delhi Jabalpur Indian Airlines flight.

- (iv) Demand for financial assistance to Bihar Government for construction of pucca and all weather roads in Jhanjharpur

DR G S RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Sir, Jhanjharpur Parliamentary Constituency of North Bihar 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 road be constructed there on priority basis. Unfortunately, despite our repeated requests, no attention is being paid to this problem of paramount importance. Most of the villages are not connected with pucca road.

This is a flood-prone area. A large number of villages are submerged in water for more than six months in a year. As such, the *kucha* roads get damaged during rains. Small bridges and culverts generally are washed away by incessant rains and also by flooded rivers and thus the money spent by the government goes waste every year.

Lack of pucca roads has also adversely affected the economic growth of the 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.

Therefore, the only remedy to these maladies is that the Government of India should provide an assistance of Rs. 50 (fifty) crores to the Government of Bihar during 1987-88 to enable the State Government to convert *kucha* roads into all-weather pucca roads. The State Government is not in a position to solve this problem as its resources are limited. I would, therefore, request

the Central Government to take immediate steps to provide the above amount.

- (v) Need for Central Government's intervention to assist the fishermen in Goa and save Goa State Cooperative Bank from liquidation

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Sir, the mechanized fishing industry in Goa is in crisis affecting the livelihood of 40,000 families engaged in this trade. Most of the owners of the mechanized fishing boats are traditional fishermen, who obtained loans from the Goa, Daman and Diu Fisheries Cooperative Bank Ltd. According to the Loan Scheme approved by the Goa Government and Central Government, subsidy was available upto 50 per cent for marine engines and 25 per cent for hulls. Unfortunately, subsidy was stopped at a time when the Goa Government declared 'Fish Famine' for two years 1980-81 and 1981-82. Today it has become practically difficult for the borrowers of the Fisheries Federation to repay the loan amount along with the interest. The interest accrued is almost equal to the principal amount and, in some cases, it is more than the principal amount.

It is high time that the Central Government intervened to assist the fishermen and also the Goa State Cooperative Bank from going into liquidation.

- (vi) Need to review the recent Budget proposals and provide Income tax relief to salaried workers in Government and public sectors

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA (Vishnupur) : I wish to draw the attention of the Government of India to the heavy burdens imposed on the salaried workers as a result of certain proposals in the Budget for 1987-88.

Contrary to Government's assurances and expectations of salaried workers, dearness allowance has not been exempted from income tax. Also, the exemption of income tax limit has not been substantially raised. Soaring prices of essential commodities and continued fall in the rupee value make it necessary to increase these exemption limits.

Continued restriction of cent per cent exemption limit under Income Tax Act to