

[Sh. Ganga Ram]

and intensively thereby removing the backwardness of the area. Sir, the successful implementation of the plans and the schemes for various development can only be possible when taking in view the geographical situation and the density of the population, the administrative unit is smaller as far as possible just as this principle is applicable on the reorganisation of the big States resulting in their forming of smaller states separately by dividing them. With this in view, the Central Government had formed smaller States. According to this principle the administrative units of the states should be reorganised into smaller units. The district units in the different states of the country should be reorganised into smaller units. Thus it would be desirable to bifurcate Agra district into two separate districts of Firozabad and Agra. From the point of view of administrative convenience. Intensive agitation is also going on in Firozabad for this purpose. For solving the problem the Government is requested to provide financial help to the Uttar Pradesh Government.

[English]

**(iv) Need to exercise influence to bring an end to Iran-Iraq War.**

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna): The recent violent incidents in the holy City of Mecca, during the Haj pilgrimage of 1987, is a cause of anguish and worry for millions of Muslims of India in particular and for crores of other peace-loving people in general.

India has been a most sincere friend of Arab and Muslim countries from times immemorial. Whether it had been the issue of restoration of Khilafat in Turkey or the issue of Palestine, or the Anglo-French Israel aggression on Suez Canal, our leaders have always stood by their Arab and Muslim friends, when on some occasions even

countries like Pakistan have opposed the Arab cause. While one has full sympathy with the people killed during these incidents, one is compelled to recognise the absolute right of the Government of Saudi Arabia to administer control and make the necessary arrangements during Haj for all the pilgrims without any distinction of country or nationality. One cannot but agree that no political demonstration or procession should be organised or allowed to take place during such holy occasion which is one of the greatest obligations of Islam.

These incidents might add fuel to the fire in respect of Iran-Iraq War and may escalate to a larger area which can endanger the world peace and adversely affect the trade, commerce, and employment and other interests of millions of India.

The presence of super powers and American declaration to establish a naval base in the Arabian Gulf is also a matter of constant worry.

The Government of India should use its good offices to bring an end to the Iran-Iraq war so that a cordial and friendly atmosphere is created and such incidents as happened in Mecca do not recur.

[Translation]

**(v) Need to implement the multi-purpose project to channelise the water of Pindar river into Saryu, Gomti and Ramganga.**

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a long standing demand for formulating a multi-purpose project to channelise a part of the water of Pindar river into Saryu, Gomti and Ramganga rivers. This project will go a long way in meeting the electricity requirements and also the drinking water and irrigation

requirements of Almora and Nanital districts of the state.

A survey of the project was conducted in the recent past. A follow up action on the survey report is yet to begin. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Planning and the Minister of Water Resources to take up the construction of the project at the earliest.

[English]

- (vi) **Need to ban poaching in Chilka lake to protect wild life there.**

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri): The current dry spell in North India is driving scores of birds eastwards and unprecedented influx of migratory birds to the Chilka Sanctuary in Orissa in anticipated during the winter. The birds came from Ladakh, Mangolian Steppes, Caspian Lake in West Russian, Baikal Lake (Eastern Russian) North Pole and North Asian Regions to Chilka. This year on account of a number of lakes and lagoons in the country getting dried up, the birds coming from different regions of the world will congregate in Chilka which spreads over 1100 sq. kms. and 45 km midway island of Nalabana. Now, it has been ascertained that 3052 people are engaged in bird poaching in Chilka Lake. So, it is urged upon the Union Government to take appropriate steps to ban the poaching of birds so as to protect the wild life in Chilka Lake.

- (vii) **Need to start a direct train between Visakhapatnam and Tirupati.**

SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA THOTA (Kakinada): Pilgrimage to Tirupati, the abode of Lord Venkateswara, is more sacred to Hindus all over India, particularly, for the residents of South India namely, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, etc. To meet the

needs of North coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh an Express Train by name of Tirumala Express was introduced after several representations were made. This train starts from Kakinada at 2.00 A.M. and reaches Tirupathi the next day. This train is most convenient for the pilgrims of East and West Godavari districts which are densely populated. This train is just meeting the requirements of these two districts. But the North coastal districts namely Viskhapatnam, Srikakulam and Vizianagram and greatly in need of direct train from Visakhapatnam to Tirupati. In Visakhapatnam there is every facility to introduce a new train direct to Tirupati, as it is the Headquarters of South Eastern Railway.

The people of these three northern coastal districts are requesting time and again for a direct train from Visakhapatnam to Tirupati. At present there is one train from Puri to Tirupati, which is not at all serving the needs of these districts and is inadequate to meet the ever increasing passenger traffic. I therefore, request the Railway Minister to accede to the request of these people and introduce the train at the earliest.

- (viii) **Need to Improve the functioning of Brahmaputra Board and also to take decision on Master Plan of the Brahmaputra.**

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA (Jorhat): The Brahmaputra Board was constituted by the Government of India in December, 1981 and it started functioning from February, 1982. Among the principal objectives of its constitution was that the Board will undertake scientific and analytical study of the mighty river together with its tributaries and prepare a Master Plan for controlling the recurring floods that cause wide-spread damage to the region, mainly Assam. The Board was also to undertake measure for execution of the Plan.