

with this unit as they have placed advance orders for their requirements upto March 1986 with the units which were set up before 1982.

This unit has invested Rs. 110 lakhs and has an employment potential of 80 persons. Due to lack of orders this unit is lying idle.

This matter was taken up with the Ministry and a system was devised for giving trial orders. The unit in Kerala has not got even trial orders.

Therefore, I would request the Government to issue necessary instructions to the oil companies to place orders with this unit.

**(iii) Need to set up a High power transmission T. V. Centre for Boriguma in Orissa**

**SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur) :** Koraput district, the largest district in the country, is predominantly inhabited by backward tribals who are at the lowest rung of our society educationally, socially and economically. After Independence huge amounts have been spent annually for their upliftment in various ways but the result is very disheartening. If this area can be covered by television network it will go a long way to educate them in various directions and help in their upliftment. The population of this district is much more than some small states like Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim. One low power transmission centre was commissioned at Koraput on 28-2-1985 and this centre covers nearly five per cent of the population on the hills and does not cater to the needs of the bulk of the people residing in the plains due to high hills in between.

It covers Koraput town, Sunabdea and Domanjodi where mostly Government employees live. The upper division Nowrangpur, Jeypore and Malkangire Sub-Divisions which are beyond the hills on plains adjacent to Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh do not derive the benefit of the existing centre. About 5000 TV sets were purchased here before the centre was commissioned and they are lying idle. If one high power transmission centre is set up at Boriguma it can cover the aforesaid area alongwith Bastar district. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister for Information

and Broadcasting to start a centre at Boriguma immediately to help in their upliftment of the people of that area.

**(iv) Need to declare residents of Ladakh region of J & K State as Scheduled Tribe**

**SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) :** It has been reported in the national Press that the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir State has given his concurrence and recommended to the Central Government for application of Article 342 of the Constitution of India to the Jammu and Kashmir State and also for declaring the residents of the entire Ladakh region as a Scheduled Tribe. The issue is now before the Government of India for giving its final approval. It may be recalled that the late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi during her visit to Leh and Kargil in April 1983, had assured the people in a public meeting that the Central Government has already agreed to grant Scheduled Tribe status to the entire residents of the Ladakh region, as soon as the concurrence of the State Government is received.

Now that the State Government's concurrence for application of Article 342 of the Constitution of India is before the Government of India, I urge upon the Central Government to issue a notification to this effect immediately for declaration of the residents of Ladakh as a Scheduled Tribe.

**(v) Need to sanction necessary funds for early completion of Somshila Project in Andhra Pradesh**

**SHRI A. PENCHALLIAH (Nellore) :** The construction work of Somshila Project across river Penna was taken up in the year 1975. It was then decided to complete the entire project involving two phases with an expenditure of Rs. 88 crores and Rs. 52 lakhs. The Planning Commission also okayed it in 1973. The State Government sanctioned Rs. 17.20 crores for the first phase.

About Rs. 63 crores have been spent so far on this project. Now due to the delay in completion, this project is estimated to cost Rs. 147 crores.

This project is very much connected with Telugu Ganga Project. Unless this project is completed, drinking water cannot be taken to Madras city through Telugu Ganga.

[Shri A. Panchalliah]

When completed, about 1.70 lakh hectares of land can be cultivated. Such is the importance of this project.

Apart from Rs. 68 crores, which is already spent, this project requires another Rs. 84 crores if it is to be completed in the Seventh Plan period.

Hence I request the Government of India to take up this project as a national project and sanction funds for its early completion.

**(vi) Need to remove difficulties caused to passengers by introduction of computerised reservations in Indian Airlines**

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : For some time past, the Indian Airlines have introduced computerised reservations and it is said that computer would bring relief to passengers and discipline to the organisation. It was also thought that computer would eradicate irregularities and have no room for corruption.

That computerised bookings have created difficulties for passengers is an obvious fact. What, however, is not yet known widely is that computer has been defrauded and passengers have been put to great hardship. It is for days now, that the passengers have to remain in queue before their travel is cleared. The personnel at the counter, will refer to the computer and say, 'Sorry, no vacancy' and that is all. Passengers feel helpless and frustrated and they keep asking as to why has introduction of computer created difficulties rather than having solved them. MPs and other so-called VIPs too have suffered inconvenience as the computer usually says no to a request for reservation. Many people do not know the fact that 'travel agents', touts and some officials of the Indian Airlines have organised the situation of scarcity and, therefore, reservations will continue to be limited. A travel agent will block 5 to 10 seats for instance but indicate only one name to the Airlines or fake names for all passengers. He will not deposit fare for ten seats and indicate names. Once seats are blocked, he will sell the seats at ease and at a price acceptable to him.

The computer has created a scare and the premium is Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 per ticket with the travel agent who makes no secret of the contention that he has to

pay a portion of the body to the officials. The premium at the Airport is Rs. 300 to Rs. 500 as some needy passengers to the Airport in the hope of getting hooked against the quota that is left over.

It is not that the computer has failed, but the fact is that computer has been defrauded. As a first step the Minister could cancel reservation for travel agencies. If that is not possible in a democracy, then the travel agents must pay for all seats in cash and indicate correct names in advance. There should be no room for blocking seats. As of now, corruption is rampant and the Minister must apply his mind to correct the things.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Azad, take note of the feelings of the House regarding computerisation. Will you please instruct the Minister in charge ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : Sir, I will bring it to the notice of the Minister... (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, make a note and take appropriate steps...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : All the other Members also say that...

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Yes, Sir, I will. It would be brought to the notice of the Minister concerned... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Immediate action is needed...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Now Shrimati Kishori Sinha.

**(vii) Demand for an inquiry into non-use and neglect of 'Hospitals on Wheels' obtained from abroad**

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali) : Sir, I raise the following matter under rule 377. The Hindustan Times of May 2, 1985 has reported that 318 'Hospitals on Wheels' obtained from abroad have become scrap due to non-use over a long period and neglect of its maintenance. The paper further reports that they are to be auctioned as they