Considering the prospect of development and the traffic density, I request that urgent steps be taken for declaring the Trivandrum aerodrome as an International airport.

[Translation]

(iii) Need to change the timings of trains running between Tumkur and Bangalore due to introduction of five day week

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur) Sir, from my constituency, Tumkur, about three thousand persons travel every day to Bangalore, the Capital city of Karnataka. Among them fifteen hundred are businessmen and another fifteen hundred are the employees of State and Central Governments. These employees and the business community completely depend on trains for their daily journey.

But now the State Government offices are also switching over to the system of five day week from the month of August, 1985. Naturally, the timings of the offices will also change accordingly. This has caused great concern among the employees of the State and Central Governments because they cannot depend upon any other mode of transportation. Therefore, it has become very essential to change the timings of the trains which run from Bangalore to Tumkur and vice-versa. Train No. 224 which leaves Tumkur in the morning should leave at 7.25 a.m. and reach Bangalore at 9.30 a.m. Train No. 223 which leaves Bangalore in the evening should start at 6.30 p.m. and arrive at Tumkur at 8.30 p.m.

At present train No. 223 halts at Doddabele for forty minutes to allow train No. 291 to pass. Instead of this the crossing point may please be switched over to Gollahalli which would be very convenient to maximum number of commuters.

(iv) Need to improve telephone services in Bihar and provide automatic exchanges at Begusarai and Barauni

PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI (Balia): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for some time past the telephone service in North Bihar has deteriorated considerably. In fact telephone is no longer an item of luxury in this industrial age, rather it is a medium of economic progress and any laxity or shortcoming in its functioning can hamper the economic development. I would like that the Minister of Communications should pay special attention to it and try to bring about maximum efficiency in the telephone services.

In this context, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the difficulties being experienced by the people of the district Begusarai in the matter of telecommunication services. District Begusarai is a headquarter and is one of the prominent industrial areas of Bihar. The proximity of Barauni Fertilizer and the Thermal Refinery to this famous city has added to its importance in the industrial field. At present, the telephone exchange at Begusarai is a manually operated one, as a result of which the people are not getting the telephone facility which should be available to them. The work on converting the manually operated telephone exchange into an automatic exchange was started, but it is understood that the work on the proposed automatic telephone exchange has not yet been completed due to non-availability of some vital equipments. An automatic telephone exchange at Begusarai is a must and this has great importance. I would request the Hon. Minister that for the all round development of an industrial area like Barauni he should take effective steps in the direction of installing an automatic telephone exchange at Begusarai under a time-bound schedule.

12.25 hrs.

[MR. N. VENKATA RATNAM in the Chair]

[English]

(v) Need to introduce legislation providing ownership rights to tenants by duly compensating the Landlords

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Bombay South): A serious problem we have today in our cities is that of tenants in old and dilapidated buildings. Landlords do not maintain their aging buildings, the plea being the return they get by way of rent does not justify spending on repairs and upkeep. But since estate values keep going up, decay of the buildings does not worry the landlords.

*The Speech was originally delivered in Kannada.