

of Kota relay centre should be increased to 10 Kilowatt so that the people residing in Kota, Bundi, Jhalawar and Sawai-Madhopur and Morena and Mandasaur districts of Madhya Pradesh may also get the facility of Doordarshan programmes."

[English]

(v) Need to set up a nickel extraction plant in Sukinda area of Orissa.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack) : The Government of India had approved a proposal for establishment of a nickel extraction plant in Sukinda area in the district of Cuttack in Orissa in 1974. But the project has not been taken up so far on the pretext of certain technical difficulties. Sukinda area contains the only commercially workable deposits of nickel ore in the country. As India is a net importer of nickel metal involving sizable foreign exchange, production of nickel from ores available in the country is necessary from all considerations.

It is understood that the Ministry of Steel and Mines had approached Government of Canada for assistance in providing an appropriate technology for setting up a Nickel Extraction plant in Orissa. This project should be implemented expeditiously as otherwise the cost which has already escalated appreciably, will increase still further. It is already nine years since the Government of India accorded approval to this project. Further delay of this project will create discontentment among the local people. Therefore, I demand that the nickel extraction plant should be set up in Sukinda area in Orissa forthwith.

(vi) Need to provide a ring electric Railway system in Trivandrum city.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : Trivandrum, the capital of Kerala, is a fast developing city. Unfortunately the roads of this city are very narrow and there is no scope for developing these roads. Road traffic in this city is very congested and it may take hours together to pass through the city during peak hours. The State Transport system is also far too

inadequate to meet the growing demands. The only way to tide over the difficulty is to provide electric trains connecting the city, with the suburban areas. Electricity is also available in abundance, comparatively at a cheaper rate and the State Government has agreed to give electricity at half the rate in case electric train is provided. There are a number of Central Government offices here including the famous Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, the Southern Air Command and the Southern Military Command. It would also attract tourists since the internationally famous Kovalam beach resort is only about 12 km. from the city. It would be a real blessing to the several lakhs of passengers if a ring electric railway system is provided to this neglected city as early as possible.

I, therefore, request that the hon. Minister of Railways may look into this very genuine need of this capital city and take immediate steps for conducting the necessary survey of this railway during 1986 itself and the railway project completed in the Seventh Plan, connecting the following places :—

Trivandrum—Medical College—Kazhakkuttam—Mannanthala—Nedumargad—Kattakada — Neyyattinkava — Kanjramkulam—Kovilam—Trivandrum.

(vii) Need to streamline the drug policy and regulate the production and marketing of drugs.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynasar) : It is a matter of grave concern that a study made by the Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI) has revealed that more than 10,000 of the 15,000 basic drugs produced in India are 'worthless' and nearly 40 per cent of them are 'either harmful or potentially harmful' to human beings.

Although the Hathi Committee had recommended in 1975 that just 117 drugs would meet the needs of the entire country, more than 8,000 firms continued to produce and market at least 45,000 combination drug formulations in India, most of which were either tonics, vitamins, cough syrups, analgesics or balms.

It appears that there exists a very flourishing racket in India where cheaply manufactured vitamins, cough syrups and health tonics, were aggressively advertised and sold for very high profits. Doctors were given free samples and gifts and they thus 'induced' the use of these sub-standard drugs.

Even on the C.G.H.S. side comparatively cheaper drugs have recently been introduced and the result is that these are not only at times ineffective but are also issued without being wrapped in foils and one cannot make out what it is. It is high time that Government even at the expense of ignoring whatever little money might be saved in getting tablets open without being wrapped in foils, should make it a rule that all tablets be sold in foils which should be properly labelled and the name of the manufacturing drug unit indicated thereon. No encouragement in the name of promotion of small scale industries be given to any units lacking in any proper research and testing apparatus. Government should take immediately steps to streamline their drug policy and regulate the production and marketing of drugs and see that none of these drugs have got any side effects.

(viii) Need to consider the proposal of the Bihar citizens' council on Education for improvement of Education in elementary schools in Bihar.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : The condition of elementary education in Bihar is in a deplorable condition.

A survey conducted this year by the Bihar Citizens Council on Education General Secretary, Prof. Harishanker Prasad Sinha, who is a reader of political science in Patna University reveals that about 70 per cent schools in Patna have teachers fewer than the number of classes; 24 per cent have only one room or only a verandah for holding four or even five classes; 50 per cent are in a very bad condition for want of proper repair; and 48 per cent of the schools do not have latrines or even urinals.

Besides, there is hardly any school in Patna where teaching aids are available, not to speak of children undergoing any medical check up.

The Bihar Citizens' Council on Education has from time to time been bringing to the State Government's notice the problems that beset elementary education in Patna, in particular, and Bihar in general. While the children of the privileged classes receive education in the private or missionary schools like the St. Michals, St. Xavier's Notse Dame, St. Joseph's Convent, etc., the rest continue to be hampered by poor standards, inadequate facilities and over crowding in schools maintained by the State Government, says a note prepared by the Council.

In view of that, I urge upon the Central Government to give serious thought to the several constructive proposals of the Citizens' Council for improvement of elementary school education in Patna and Bihar and also to implement the suggestions of the Kothari Commission.

PRESENTATION OF PETITION

[Translation]

SHRI KAMMODI LAL JATAV (Morena) : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to present a petition signed by shri Sadhu Singh Tomar, Vice-President, District Congress (I), Morena, regarding construction of a 'pucca' bridge on Chambal River.

12.26 hrs.

MOTION RE : SEVENTH FIVE
YEAR PLAN, 1985-90—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will now take up item No. 19. Prof. Madhu Dandavate.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : On which subject, Sir? I thought, you allowed my motion.