

such agitations and to see that the Mahajan Commission's report is accepted in toto and implemented immediately.

[Translation]

- (iv) Need to revise the provisions of the National Rural Employment Programme

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the National Rural Employment Programme has proved a great success in the country. It has brought about a sea change in the condition of rural India.

Under the said scheme, permanent assets have been created in the rural areas. Pucca school buildings and panchayat buildings have been constructed in every village. At many places, permanent dispensaries and sub-centres have been constructed.

The rural populace has been provided employment under this scheme. The buildings are constructed by the village panchayats under this scheme. Provision of 60 per cent labour and 40 per cent material charges has been made under it. Any institution cannot at all construct permanent buildings with this provision.

Besides, there is no provision for repairs or further modifications in the buildings under the said programme. Therefore, I would request the Rural Development Minister of the Central Government to provide 40 per cent assistance for labour instead of 60 per cent and 60 per cent assistance for material instead of 40 per cent, so that the construction work is accomplished earnestly. Besides, the Government should make permanent provision for the repair and modifications in the buildings for which equal contribution should be made by the Centre and the State.

[English]

- (v) Need to lay double railway lines from Shoranur to Mangalore and to introduce automatic signalling system for overall development of the Malabar region

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore) : Mr. Deputy-

Speaker, Sir, The Madras-Mangalore Railway line is one of the oldest in India and that part of it lying between Shoranur and Mangalore is one of the most neglected lines in South India. It may be noted that this line covers the entire Malabar region stretching into Karnataka. This line caters to the needs of the six major districts of Malabar, that is Palghat, Malappuram, Calicut, Wynad, Cannanore and Kasaragod which constitute half the population of Kerala. This is a line with heavy passenger traffic and statistic will show that ticketless travel is extremely rare in this area.

Thousands of commuters are relying on this mode of transport. Lack of double lines and limited number of crossing stations result in inordinate delay and immense loss of man hours.

Development in other matters also is extremely poor in this area even as compared to other parts of the Southern Railways, for instance automatic signal systems have not yet been introduced here. This also causes much delay since the running time of even some prestigious trains is thereby adversely affected.

Hence, I urge upon the Minister of Transport to give urgent attention to this most neglected part of Southern Railways and to make arrangements to lay double lines from Shoranur to Mangalore and also introduce automatic signalling system. Any delay in this respect on the part of the Railways, which is the largest public utility service, will retard the development and progress of this part of Kerala.

[Translation]

- (vi) Need to issue 'Cheque Passes' to all the freedom-fighters in the Country

SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH (Mabarajganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, any step taken for the welfare of free-