

by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in 1958 to conduct research on arecanut and other related crops for the benefit of Maidan tracts of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. The total area of this centre is 16-24 hectares. It also acts as a centre of the All India Co-ordinated coconut and arecanut improvement project. This centre has not so far been provided with full staff and now it is being suggested that the centre may be handed over to the University of Agricultural Science, Bangalore. The Centre is at present doing trials with coconut varieties and hybrids and developing integrated farming system involving these crops.

I would, therefore, request the Minister of Agriculture that since this centre is doing good research work for the benefit of arecanut and other crops, which will benefit farmers of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, the Hirehalli centre should remain with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research itself and should not be transferred to the University of Agricultural Science, Bangalore. I also request that more staff may be provided so that research work could be pursued further.

12.21 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

(iii) Need to take appropriate steps to save Konark Sun Temple and Jagannath Temple in Orissa from the effects of erosion

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri): Sir, the Konark Sun Temple and the Jagannath Temple, Puri are being affected by erosion. The studies undertaken by Ravenshaw College, Cuttack indicate that chloride ion concentration, present in the atmosphere, gets diluted in the rain water

and settles down on the surface of the temple causing stone erosion which affects the two temples mainly in rainy season.

The diluted ammonia or Zinc-zilico fluoride solution, used by ISI in cleaning process is also accelerating biological corrosion as alkaline medium helps the growth of algae and some common moss. The study claims that the chemicals used for cleaning are likely to destroy the structure. The random plantation of trees around the temple will not solve the problem.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to consider the study made by the Ravenshaw College, Cuttack so that these two historical monuments could be saved.

[*Translation*]

(iv) Need to complete the remaining portion of rail link between Daitari and Banspani in Orissa

*SHRI HARIHAR SOREN (Keonjhar): Sir, development of infrastructure facilities such as roads, railway and port are essential pre-requisites for development of the mineral resources in Orissa. Although Orissa is endowed with vast and varied mineral resources, development of infrastructure facilities leaves much room for improvement.

In this connection, development of a direct rail link from the mining areas around Jeda, Barbil and Koira with Paradeep Port is most urgent and needs to be completed at the earliest. Construction of this rail link connecting Banaspani with Jakhapura has been sanctioned by Government of India and part of this link between Daitari and Jakhapura has already been constructed and opened for traffic. The portion between Daitari and Banspani remains to be completed. It is necessary that this rail link is

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