

[Dr. G.S. Rajhans]

of North Eastern Railway. Unfortunately, it is being neglected by the Union Transport Ministry. In 1977, it was bifurcated into two and a new Sonepur Division was carved out of it. It is really surprising that broad gauge trains which either stop at Samastipur Station or pass through it, are controlled by Sonepur Division. Formerly three trains used to run between Samastipur and Howrah and one from Samastipur to Delhi. All of them have been discontinued. Besides, Assam Mail which used to pass through Samastipur has also been discontinued.

A railway workshop was established at Samastipur in 1981 where more than three thousand workers were working. But gradually most of the machines were shifted to Gorakhpur. Now, even for minor repairs, engines, wagons and coaches are sent to Gorakhpur from Samastipur. This has resulted in the heavy reduction of labour force. The problem of unemployment is already acute in Mithila region. This has further accentuated it.

The developmental work under Samastipur Railway Division has also been grossly neglected. It is understood that the Union Transport Ministry is considering a proposal to lay broad gauge line parallel to metre gauge. I earnestly request the Union Transport Minister to get this project implemented expeditiously so that people in Mithila region feel relieved.

At the same time, I would request the Hon'ble Transport Minister to get the work of Sakri-Hasanpur line executed for which survey has been completed and land acquired by the Government. This project also belongs to Samastipur Railway Division.

- (iv) Demand for additional financial assistance of Rs. 13.56 crores to Madhya Pradesh Government for water supply schemes in problem villages and towns of the State.

KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI (Raigarh) :
In the last three decades efforts are being made to provide drinking water to every village in the States of Madhya Pradesh.

In spite of all these efforts, whenever there has been failure of rainfall, drinking water problem has been acute in many parts of Madhya Pradesh. Even in normal year in summer months drinking water problem becomes very acute in the State. Latest survey shows that about 8000 villages and 130 towns excluding 13000 problem villages where works being undertaken under the normal plan are experiencing acute water shortage. To meet the situation it is necessary to dig tube wells in 5000 villages. In the remaining 2086 villages efforts should be made to deepen the wells and where it is not possible water be transported by tankers and bullock carts. In some cities like Sagar and Ujjain water supply situation continues to be critical.

To meet the expenses for implementing water supply scheme, the Government of Madhya Pradesh had made demand for Rs. 18.28 crores from the Central Government. As against this an assistance of Rs. 486 crores has been made available in 1984-85 and 1985-86 financial year. This assistance is meagre compared to the requirement of the State to implement various water supply schemes to meet the situation. Therefore, additional Central assistance of Rs. 13.56 crores is absolutely essential.

In the circumstances stated above, I urge upon the Government of India to sanction additional funds to implement water supply schemes in the problem villages and towns.

- (v) Demand for erecting a monument in memory of the late Sibte Hasan

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Sibte Hasan was an eminent scholar writer, critic and thinker of the sub-continent. As an Urdu writer known for his progressive and creative works, he is rated among the literary giants like Faiz Ahmed Faiz and Sajjad Zahir etc. who have brought luster to literature by their progressive thought and creative writings and are known throughout the world.

He had also taken part in the freedom struggle through his pen and a collection of his poems named '*Azadi-Ki-Nazmain*' (Poems of Freedom Struggle) was banned and the

book forfeited by the then British Government as it preached sedition. He had also been on the editorial staff of National Herald during pre-independence era, when the paper was started by Jawaharlal Nehru.

After independence he migrated to Pakistan and through-out his life he continued to fight the dictatorial regime of Pakistan and the anti-secular, anti-democratic and anti-progressive policies of its rulers through his writings and till his last breath continued to struggle against them through his progressive and creative thoughts to make this world a better place to live in.

He came to India to take part in the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Progressive Writers Association of which he was one of the founding fathers, and unfortunately died here, after the Conference was over, only about a fortnight ago.

In view of his distinguished past and service, a monument should be erected in his revered memory to pay our real tribute to him.

The Ministry of Culture should initiate action in this direction. In addition to this, monuments should also be erected in memory of persons like Faiz Ahmed Faiz Sajjad Zahir for their great universal, creative and progressive contribution for the establishment of a new social order.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Let the Minister give some assurance.

[*Translation*]

You may forget us, but Faiz should not be forgotten.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): He has a smiling face. We may speak anything.

[*English*]

These are very laudable suggestions. It is proper that the Minister kindly reacts to these.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): This will come to me. I will consider the matter and send a reply. I will take whatever action needs to be taken.

(vi) **Need to extend financial assistance to the Kamla (Textile) Mills Private Ltd., Bombay.**

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol): Sir, the Kamla Mills Private Ltd., Bombay (Textile Mills) have requested the IDBI for a package deal to revive its financial problems. The management is trying hard to keep the viability of the textile mills for the last two years. They have injected an amount of more than Rs. 1.5 crores in the mills to keep its running. So also the management has requested the IDBI, State Government and other agencies and financiers to give them financial assistance to prevent the mills from going sick. This request is as old as 1984. But it appears that the IDBI is not giving full attention to the seriousness of the problem. Hence I urge upon the Minister of Industries to immediately pay attention to the problems the mill is facing and instruct the concerned authorities to extend necessary financial assistance so that the mill may be prevented from going sick and the workers may not be thrown out of employment.

[*Translation*]

(vii) **Demand for construction of bridges at railway crossings over National high-ways in the country by the Railway administration itself.**

SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN (Damoh): Mr. Speaker. Sir, it is the policy of the Railway Department that wherever over bridges or under-bridges are required to be constructed, the expenditure involved for the construction of approach roads is borne by State Government and its organisations like the Municipal Corporations etc. Due to this policy, over-bridges or under-bridges at several important places have not been constructed till today. The State Governments are often unable to bear the