

- (iv) Need for issuing directions to all State Governments for nationalising passenger road transport.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Sir, it has been seen that despite the fact that 40 years have passed after our Independence, passenger road transport, which is and ought to be the basic responsibility of the Government, has been left in the hands of private individuals and companies in several States. In fact, in the framework of socialistic pattern of society that we have adopted, we have broadly laid down the spheres of activities for the State and for private sector. Where basically service is the motto, profit aspect coming only next to it, it will be absurd to expect service from individuals and companies having business stakes in transport, to serve the people in a manner the Government would do. As a result, in the States where passenger road transport is in private hands, routes in the rural areas are neglected on grounds of their being uneconomic. In a State like Goa where along with private bus operators there also ply Government Corporation buses, private operators do not apply for uneconomic routes. Therefore, the State Government who cannot shirk the responsibility of service to the people, has to ask their corporation to apply for plying passenger buses on the said routes.

I, therefore, request that Central Government should give directions to all the State Governments to nationalise passenger road transport and, also give necessary financial assistance in needy cases like that of Goa for the purpose.

- (v) Demand for sufficient funds for early completion of the Jankhapura-Bansabani Railway line in Orissa.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : Sir, Jankhapura Bansabani rail line is under implementation. The first phase is completed. But there has been no allocation of funds for the second phase. Jankhapura-Bansabani rail line will promote the industrial and commercial growth of the State. It passes through the industrial and mining belt of Orissa, and this rail line will also promote the growth of Paradeep Port. The State Government of Orissa have undertaken to acquire the land at their own cost and it has been done.

The Railway Ministry is running short of resources but the on-going projects in a backward State like Orissa need to be given priority. I am therefore urging upon the Government to provide adequate required funds for implementation of the aforesaid project and completion according to the schedule time.

[Translation]

- (vi) Demand for steps to solve the problems faced by handloom weavers adversely affected by the New Textile Policy.

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House towards the following matter of public importance under rule 377.

12.13 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the chair*]

Uttar Pradesh especially the area comprising Gorakhpur and its nearby places, is an important centre of weavers. Lakhs of weavers there are facing unemployment and starvation due to faulty implementation of the new textile policy, unprecedented increase in the prices of yarn, fall in the demand and prices of handloom cloth and the competition between handloom and powerloom units. If effective steps are not taken by the Central Government and the State Government immediately to solve this problem, lakhs of families of weavers will have to face an unprecedented crisis.

I would, therefore, like to suggest that this problem may please be given serious consideration in the House immediately and the weavers be given relief by Government by taking immediate effective steps in this regard.

- (vii) Demand for directing the Electronics Corporation of India to take up production of Colour TVs, VCRs and VCPs at its Tirupati Andhra Pradesh unit.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati) : Sir, Tirupati is the most backward area which comes under Rayalaseema of Andhra Pradesh where people are below poverty-line without any source of employment.

Keeping this in view, M/s. Electronics Corporation of India Ltd started in 1982 manufacturing of TV sets at Tirupati and the production reached to Rs. 2.5 crores by 1984.

At the time of starting this unit in 1982, the Government promised to start VCR, VCP and colour TV units in Tirupati with a capital of Rs. 100 crores.

But, so far, nothing has moved in this direction. I request the Government of India to start production of colour TV, VCR, VCP units in Tirupati immediately.

- (viii) Demand for withdrawal of notifications which have done away with the concessions of excise duty given to small scale units.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : Sir, the Government of India, by a series of excise notifications on 22-9-1987, withdrew the concessions given to the Small Scale Units. Already a large number of SSI units have become sick and consequent on the withdrawal of concessional rate of excise duty to SSI Units supplying goods to trade-name and brand-name manufacturers including Public Sector Undertakings, still more number of SSI units are going to become sick. The nationalised banks have given a huge sum to these Small Scale units as loan and if these units become sick, the nationalised banks will have to write off crores of rupees as bad debts.

In the interest of encouraging small scale units, it is necessary to immediately withdraw the recent notifications taking away the concessions given to SSI units.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we take up Item No. 6 Statutory Resolution :

Shri C. Madhav Reddy —Not present;

Shri Syed Shahabuddin —Not present;

Shri K. P. Unnikrishnan —Not present.

Now I go to Item No. 7.

12.15 hrs.

AUROVILLE (EMERGENCY PROVISIONS) AMENDMENT BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : I beg to move* :

“That the Bill further to amend the Auroville (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1980 be taken into consideration.”

As a background for the consideration of this Bill, I should like to mention a few points which are directly relevant to the understanding of the situation in Auroville and the reasons why we are seeking the extension of the period of the Act for a further period of one year beyond 9th November, 1987.

As is well known, Auroville was founded on the 28th February, 1968 on the basis of a Charter which declares that it is the place of perpetual education, that it is dedicated to material and spiritual researches, and that its aim is to realise human unity. In India, we have held the ideal of the entire world as one family, and the aims and objectives envisaged for Auroville by Sri Aurobindo and The Mother are in full conformity with that ideal.

From 1958 to 1973, Auroville grew rapidly, and it was becoming more and more self-organised and self-sustaining. UNESCO passed three Resolutions urging the people and Member-States to promote the growth of Auroville. Things, however, changed after The Mother left Her body in 1973. The next three year were marked by various conflicts and, therefore, we had some trouble in running Auroville as wanted to. It was not possible to run Auroville as it was intended by The Mother. In the context of conflicts as also of complaints in regard to financial irregularities, the Central Government constituted in 1976 under the Chairmanship of the-then Lt Governor of Pondicherry, a Committee which gave a report in 1977 indicating a number of financial irregularities, improprieties. The Committee recommended

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.