

(iv) Need for Extension of Railway Line from Dullabcherra to Kanpur in Karimganj-Dullabcherra Section in Karimganj District Assam

[English]

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj) : Sir, there is a constant demand for extension of Railway line from Dullabcherra to Ranpur in Karimganj-Dullabcherra Branch section in Karimganj District, Assam. It would be an inter-State Railway communication connecting Mizoram. During monsoon people of southern Karimganj suffer a lot for want of communication. It is thoroughly a backward area inhabited by not less than two-and-a-half lakhs of people including a good number of tribal population. The people of this vast area have been approaching the Government for this extension since 1977-78.

I urge upon the Government to take up survey of this line with a length of 25 kilometers and to begin construction of the aforesaid extension at an early date.

(v) Need to bring Gonia and Niuagaon Blocks in Nayagarh District of Orissa under Employment Assurance Scheme

SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK (Bhubaneswar) : Sir, Apart from the I.T.D.A. blocks in the tribal areas of Orissa where employment assurance scheme was introduced, there are a number of other community development blocks with pockets of 50 per cent or more Scheduled Tribe population. They are treated as MADA blocks with special schemes for economic development of Scheduled Tribe/Scheduled caste people. Government of India had informed the State Government in last November to extend the Employment Assurance Scheme to MADA pockets. Accordingly, the MADA blocks of Daspalla, Gonia and Niuagaon in Nayagarh District were covered under the Scheme by the State Government. But the Union Government has sanctioned operation of Employment Assurance Scheme for only one out of the three blocks. Gonia and Niuagaon blocks with Scheduled Tribe population of 33.72 per cent and 31 per cent respectively and admittedly the most undeveloped areas of the district were excluded from its purview resulting in the discontentment among Scheduled Tribe/Scheduled Caste people there.

I urge upon the Union Government to sanction the extension of Employment Assurance Scheme to these two blocks of Gonia and Niuagaon in Nayagarh district of Orissa.

(vi) Need to set up Industries in Eastern Districts of U.P.

[Translation]

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD (Salempur) : Sir, the eastern region of Uttar Pradesh is without industry even after so many years of Independence. Patel Commission

was constituted to suggest measures for removal of poverty in eastern region and the report submitted by it was not implemented. The rural people of this region are migrating fast to cities and towns and to far off places of the country to earn their livelihood. Sugar mills, which Deoria and Padrauna districts have, were set up during British period. But no new industry has been set up till now and the above districts have been declared 'No-Industry' districts.

Therefore, I demand that Government of India should set up industries on a bigger scale in Deoria, Padrauna, Balia districts so as to remove unemployment prevailing there. The status of 'No-Industry' given to these districts be withdrawn.

(vii) Need to amend Urban Land Ceiling Act to Mitigate the Hardship of Farmers

[English]

SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL (Jabalpur) : Sir, I draw the attention of the Government to a grave problem faced by the poor farmers having agricultural land around and on peripheries of urban towns, arising from misuse of powers under the Urban Land Ceiling Act. With growing urbanisation, the towns are bursting out of seams and the rural areas around are declared urban areas and the lands belonging to the farmers in the villages around are acquired at throwaway prices, depriving the farmers of their means of livelihood. The real urban areas are scarcely taken over under the Urban Land Ceiling Act and it is the poor farmers who are affected by this Act.

The demand for appropriate amendments in the Act has been repeatedly made from all sections; and yet nothing has been done so far to mitigate the hardship of poor farmers who are often deprived of their means of livelihood.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take effective steps to mitigate the hardship of poor farmers by amending the above Act.

14.09 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: NOTICES FOR RAISING MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : As decided by House today, the sitting of the House fixed for Friday, 12 May, 1995 has been cancelled. Therefore, notices for raising matters under rule 377 for the week commencing 15 May, 1995 would be entertained from 1700 hours today. Notices received between 1700 hours and 1800 hours today would be deemed to have been received at the same point of time and these would be balloted to determine the *inter-se* priority of Members. Notices received subsequently would be arranged in accordance with the date and time of their receipt.

Regarding Zero Hour, the Members shall have to give notice between 9.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. to raise a subject in Zero Hour and only such of those names which are listed between 9.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. come before the Presiding Officer, the hon. Speaker. Then, their names will be called. Today, all the names which were in the list were called.

Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 3.10 p.m.

14.10 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till ten minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

15.17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Seventeen Minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

GENERAL BUDGET, 1995-96 DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

Ministry of Defence - Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now we shall take up discussion on Defence.

MAJOR D.D. KHANORIA (Kangra) : I stand to oppose the Defence Budget of Rs. 25,500/- crores for 1995-96.

For the second successive year, the Budgetary allocation for Defence shows no increase in real terms, contrary to Finance Minister Shri Manmohan Singh's assertion that the Rs. 25,500 crore proposed outlay for 1995-96 had been worked out "keeping in mind national security imperatives." The Defence allocation in the current Budget (Revised Estimate) stands at Rs. 23,544 crore.

The proposed Rs. 1,956 crore step up comes to 9 per cent as against the present inflation rate of 11 per cent.

The Army accounts for Rs. 12,432.81 crore and Navy for Rs. 1,534.91 crore. A sum of Rs. 43.07 crore has been proposed for Ordnance factories while capital outlay for the Defence Services together is estimated at Rs. 7,354.49 crore.

The Navy emerges as the principal gainer in the sectoral break-up of capital outlay, with relatively substantial augmentation of its resources for reinforcing its fleet as well as the aviation arm. The outlay for the naval fleet has been increased from Rs. 1,132.97 crore to Rs. 1286.71 crore. Correspondingly, the Air Force is a loser under this Budgetary Head with its allocation for 'aircraft and aero engines' reduced from Rs. 2,232.10 crore to Rs. 1,963.24.

The break-up of the 1995-96 Budget allocation is Rs. 12,432 crore for the Army against Rs. 11,340 crore Revised Estimates for 1994-95; Rs. 1534 crore for the Navy as against Rs. 1439 crore in the Revised Estimates and Rs. 4135 crore for the Air Force as against Rs. 3,771 crore in the Revised Estimates.

Allocation for ordnance factories has been reduced to Rs. 43 crore from the Revised Estimates of Rs. 59.43 crore for the current year.

The Army which is the largest of the three services, gets the major share of the budgetary nine per cent of Rs. 12,432.81 crore against last year's Revised Estimates of Rs. 11,340.17 crore, as increase of Rs. 1,092 crore.

The Defence Budget marks an increase in allocation for modernisation and induction of spares by earmarking a sum of Rs. 4,422 crore for stores, as increase of Rs. 397 crore over last year's Revised Estimates of Rs. 4,025 crore.

The Air Force allocation has been increased by Rs. 363.15 crore to Rs. 4,134.91 crore as compared to last year's Revised Estimates of Rs. 3,771.76 crore. The major share in Air Force Budget has again been given to stores. The Air Force for over two years has been pressing the Government for induction of the Advanced Jet Trainers.

In Kashmir, a sustained drive by the security forces has resulted in the elimination of a large number of hard core militants and foreign mercenaries. This has lowered the morale of the terrorists and their foreign masters. A perceptible change is coming about in the attitude of the people of Kashmir. The growing inter-gang rivalries among militants and their apparently sagging morale has also led Pakistan to increasingly take resort to infiltration of mercenaries. There is no let up in vigilance on the borders and effective operations against the militants in the hinterland.

Pakistan's unrelenting material and other forms of support to Kashmiri terrorists and separatist militants have highlighted the security needs in India's Western flank. Pakistan's low-cost proxy war through a sustained propaganda offensive, as well as its attempts to internationalise the Kashmir issue by focussing on alleged human rights violations, is a function of its domestic political instability and ulterior political/territorial objectives vis-a-vis India.

Pakistan continues to maintain close ties with China. The latter is a major source of weapons, particularly of combat aircraft, missiles and tanks. The sale to Pakistan of M-11 missiles and allied technology by China is a cause of concern. Lately, Pakistan's effort to improve