

and there is a great influx of tourists during the Summer season. The local populace, the national and international tourists are confronted with great difficulties due to the scarcity of drinking water there. There is also an acute shortage of water in the University premises. Besides, the people of New Shimla, Tutu, Jatog etc. are also faced with drinking water problem because there has been a population explosion in Shimla after independence. The State Government has spent a lot of money to cope up with the problem but the population has been ever increasing. The State Government is not financially sound enough to solve this problem. Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to make available additional funds so that drinking water is made available in Shimla. Moreover, the water of river Satluj may be lifted and channelised to meet the needs of Shimla so as to solve the drinking water problem of the local people, the national and inter-national tourists.

**(iii) Need to Restore Chandigarh - Leh and Chandigarh - Delhi Flights by I.A.C.**

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Sir, after withdrawing from its circuit the Chandigarh-Delhi-Chandigarh flights, the Indian Airlines have now withdrawn its sole weekly flight between Chandigarh and Leh, despite the fact that last year the city's turnover exceeded the target by more than 50 per cent.

This action has not only deprived the Capital of Punjab and Haryana and the headquarters of Union Territory of Indian Airlines operations but also affected the supply of medicines, vegetables and other essential goods to Leh from Chandigarh and various parts of Punjab. The Leh-Chandigarh flight was availed of by Ladakhi students, Indo-Tibetan Border Policemen, businessmen and patients requiring emergency treatment at the Post Graduate Institute.

Chandigarh is the city of Pandit Nehru's vision but today it has become the only capital city besides Shimla to be without Indian Airlines connection.

I urge upon the Central Government to take immediate steps to restart operations between Chandigarh and Leh and Chandigarh and Delhi.

**(iv) Need to Lift ban Imposed on Export of Sandal wood**

SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA (Chitradurga) : Sir, export of sandalwood in the form of chips, flakes and powder was banned with effect from 1.4.92. As a result of this, there has been lot of smuggling activities these days.

The Governments of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu are auctioning dead trees including roots, cracked, hollow and knotted logs, chips flakes and powder Chips dust and flakes are the wastage which resulted in the carving of handicrafts. These cannot be used for any

other purpose gainfully. Even the oil content is must less compared to the cost of oil extraction. Only 5 per cent of the total dead trees are utilised by the local artisans for the purpose of handicrafts; ten per cent of the wood sold in the auction is purchased by distilleries for distillation. Because of this ban, there is no market locally for the sale of chips, dust and flakes. The Governments of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka are facing problem because of surplus stock as the present stockyards are flooded with waste stock of sandalwood. The Central Government are also losing their foreign exchange.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests have already cleared the proposal for the export of 1,500 MTs of sandalwood chips, flakes, powder, 1,000 MTs of spent dust flakes and 500 MTs of Sapwood powder at MEP rates. Out of this, 25 per cent would go to State Governments.

I therefore urge upon the hon. Minister of Commerce to lift the ban and allow export of sandalwood chips, dust, roots, knots and flakes under OGL to herald a new milestone and to give a fillip for the export of sandalwood waste in overseas market. This will not only help the country but also rescue the traders of Karnataka and other neighbouring States from becoming bankrupt.

**(v) Need to set up L.P.G. outlet at Ladnu Town in Rajasthan**

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN (Churu) : There has been a long standing demand of the people of Ladnu town of Rajasthan in my Parliamentary Constituency, Churu for opening an L.P.G. outlet there. I have also apprised the hon. Minister of the above situation. This town inhabited by more than 50,000 people fulfills all the criteria required for opening an L.P.G. outlet. The internationally recognised institutions including Jain Vishwabharati are situated there. The concerned company has also got a survey conducted of the area but it is quite deplorable that this facility has not been made available to the common people so far.

Therefore, through you, I would urge upon the Central Government to make arrangements for making available the L.P.G. facility to the people of Ladnu town forthwith.

**(vi) Need to Implement the Central Scheme so as to Solve Acute Drinking Water Problem in Kairana, Muzaffarnagar, U.P.**

SHRI N.K. BALIYAN (Muzaffarnagar) . The level of water has steeply receded in the area starting from Budhana located centrally between the rivers Krishna and Hindan in Kairana falling under my Parliamentary Constituency, Muzaffarnagar. There the handpumps work for two three hours only. There is a shortage of drinking

water. It is only the onset of Summer as yet. The more it will be hot, the scarcity of drinking water will reach its dangerous levels.

The Central Government formulated many schemes for the supply of water to this area but no scheme was completely implemented.

I urge upon the Central Government to launch a new scheme for solving the acute drinking water problem of the above area so that water is made available to the farmers for farming purposes and to the common people for drinking purposes.

**(vii) Need to Clear the Proposal for Modernisation of one Canal under Sone Barrage Irrigation Project and to Provide Adequate funds for its Execution**

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Bikramganj) : Sir, there is a Sone-Barrage Irrigation Project in Indrapuri adjoining Dihari in Bihar. It is one of the biggest irrigation projects of the country. This project irrigates around 24 lakh acres of land of Rohtas, Bhabhua, Buxar, Bhojpur, Aurangabad, Patna and Nawada districts. This project was constructed in 1875 and it is now 120 years old. The banks of all the canals emanating from it have been eroded and destroyed. As a result of this, adequate water does not flow through these canals which could meet the requirements of irrigation. Because of the construction of Badsagar dam in Madhya Pradesh and Rehand dam in Uttar Pradesh in the upper reaches of Sone, there is less flow of water when there are less rains. Due to floods and drought in this area, the farmers' crops are destroyed. It causes a heavy national loss. The Government of Bihar had three-four years ago sent a proposal of modernisation of this project to the Government of India. That proposal is still under the consideration of the Government of India. A Kadwan reservoir scheme was sanctioned for fully meeting the water requirements of this project but it is still suspending in the air. It seems that in the absence of the modernisation of Sone canal the above districts of Bihar will turn into a desert. Thus, farmers are likely to face a grave crisis.

Hence, I urge upon the Government of India to release adequate funds for the modernisation of this project and get it completed forthwith and also complete the construction work of its ancillary project Kadawan reservoir.

**(viii) Need to provide Better Telephone Facilities in Jahanabad District, Bihar**

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, many telephone instruments have been rendered ineffective since their installation in M.A.R.R., P.C.O. booths in district Jahanabad due to manufacturing defects. Consequently, many places of the district have also been devoid of telephone facility.

Kurbha is an important block of district Jahanabad but there is no S.T.D. facility available there.

During the tenure of late Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi it was announced that all the Panchayats will be linked with telephone connections. Accordingly a new telephone instrument was installed in district Jahanabad but this facility is not available to the poor and the weaker sections.

Jahanabad district is a militancy infested and sensitive district which warrants the need of S.T.D. facility in all the Panchayats there.

I, therefore, urged upon the Government to make functional all the defunct telephone instruments in all the areas of Jahanabad and Patna district.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.35 p.m.

13.35 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till thirty-five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.40 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Forty of minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

**GENERAL BUDGET 1995-96 — DEMANDS FOR GRANTS — CONTD.**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We are discussing the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Communications. The total time allotted is five hours and thirty minutes. The following is the time allotted to each political party according to their strength.

Congress	- 2 hours 28 minutes
BJP	- 26 minutes
CPI	- 21 minutes
Janata Dal	- 13 minutes and so on.

Some political parties have given two or three names and some have given only one name. So, the time allotted shall have to be distributed among the Members who are inclined to speak or speak or they may name one or two persons so that they can participate. The debate shall have to come to an end by 5 o'clock and then the hon. Minister will take the floor of the House by 5 o'clock. So, I need the cooperation of this House.

Mr. Prem Dhupal you have spoken for 40 minutes. How much time you need?

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur) : I need five minutes, Sir.