

division in Utranchal for the last two months. The supply of L.P.G. cooking gas distribution in the Pauri Garhwal and Chamoli districts has totally been stopped. Neither wood or kerosene oil nor electricity is available there. Moreover, the inhabitants have to depend on only L.P.G. cooking gas as there is a ban on felling of trees. The people are facing a great difficulty due to delayed distribution of L.P.G. cooking gas there.

I urge upon the Minister of Petroleum to ensure timely supply of cooking gas in Pauri Garhwal and Chamoli districts.

[English]

(iv) Need to Connect Suburban Areas around Madras with Direct Dialling System

SHRI S.S.R. RAJENDRA KUMAR (Chengalpattu) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Chengalpattu constituency in Tamil Nadu is bordering the city of Madras. Madras city is a fast expanding metropolitan city and hence its limits are being extended into the district of Chengalpattu. Most of the new settlement areas along with new business centres, factories, educational institutions etc. are now set up in the suburban areas. Much development has taken place between Madras city and Chengalpattu town. Many people who felt inconvenience in residing in already-congested Madras city limits have shifted their residence to the suburban areas which is about 50 kilometres away from the Madras city centre.

The Madras telephone exchange and the Chengalpattu exchange lines are connected in the same place in most of the suburban areas. For example, a village namely Mambakkam, is connected with the Chengalpattu exchange where a call is connected to Madras city only by S.T.D. facility and the same village is also connected with the Madras telephone exchange where the same call is connected to Madras city by local dialling without using S.T.D.

I request the Minister of Communications to take necessary action to convert all the suburban areas around Madras city within 50 kilometres for providing direct dialling facility by connecting them to Madras exchange.

(v) Need to Provide better Air Services to Arunachal Pradesh

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East) : Sir, Arunachal Pradesh, the land of rising sun with one of the richest natural resources, remains the most backward State of the country. The State with international border on three sides with Myanmar, China and Bhutan, is yet to be linked to the mainland by air. Few small landing strips constructed for Vayudoot services are abandoned. The State capital, Itanagar has not even a small air strip. The entire population of the State, including Itanagar, have to travel all along to

Assam to catch a flight. The inevitable enroute in the trouble-torn Assam is a hurdle in the fast-developing tourism industry of the State. Even the roads to all the districts of the State are linked by Assam in different entry points and are not reliable due to its poor maintenance and also due to law and order problems.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to construct airfields at Itanagar and at Roing in Dibang Valley district. Existing small airfields of Ziro, Daporiji, Machuka, Along, Tuting, Pasighat, Anini and Tezu should be upgraded for landing Boeing aircraft at the earliest to avoid travel through Assam and to boost tourism development in the State.

(vi) Need to Strictly Enforce the Provision of Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act

SHRI K.T. VANDAYAR (Thanjavur) : Sir, cows, buffaloes, oxen are transported from villages to slaughter centres from one province to another. In the movement of the cattle being taken by road for five or six days continuously, they are starved of fodder and water. Many of them collapse during the journey.

In order to put an end to this cruelty, the Government of India in the Department of Animal Husbandry should issue direction to all the concerned authorities that animals should not be transported from one province to another without providing basic necessities, for slaughter purpose, especially when it violates the provisions of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. The Government should formulate a scheme by associating Animal Welfare Board thereby putting an end to this cruelty so that the cattle, if required, hygienically slained and the frozen beef be transported from one province to another for a civilised dining. The S.P.C.A. can also be instructed to enforce this instruction along with the voluntary agencies so that besmirching slaughter is put an end to.

(vii) Need for Early Construction of Gas Turbine at Banskandi and Adamtilla, Assam

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA (Silchar) : Sir, foundation stones were laid by the Chief Minister of Assam for two Gas Turbine projects, one at Banskandi in the district of Cachar and the other at Adamtilla in the district of Karimganj in the month of April, 1995. As per information, a total quantity of about 25 MW electricity will be generated out of the two. But the people of the Barak Valley are still in suspense whether the construction work will be started soon or not. The M.O.U. was signed with a company of Delhi. But this company is still hesitant to start the work of construction as they have not got clearance from the O.N.G.C., whether they will continue to supply gas for 20 years as per the company's demand. It is learnt that this has not yet been finalised. This is unfortunate that foundation stones are laid but actual works are not started in many cases.