

[Shri Kodikunnil Suresh]

Pathanamthitta District of Kerala. This place is totally a hilly and a remote area. More than 2,000 families reside there. The surrounding area of Kokkathodu is covered with thick forests. There is no road and other basic facilities. More than 5,000 people of Kokkathodu feel serious problems of electricity. Electrification of the area has been a long pending demand of the people of Kokkathodu.

The Kerala State Electricity Board has prepared an estimate of about Rs. 35 lakh for providing electricity to this place. This proposal has been sent to the Ministry of Power for approval. But the proposal still awaits clearance.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to sanction this proposal of Kerala State Electricity Board so that electricity facilities to the people of Kokkathodu under rural electrification scheme may be provided at an early date.

12.33 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

(ii) Need for early completion of Sambalpur-Talcher Railway line in Orissa

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Since the laying of the foundation stone of the Sambalpur-Talcher railway line in 1984, the construction of this project has been going on at snail's pace for the last one decade. Keeping in view the casual way in which the construction work is being carried on, it is feared that this project cannot be completed in the twentieth century. Inadequate budget allocation and lack of proper

monitoring on the part of the concerned authority are the reasons of such tardy progress of this important national project resulting in serious resentment among the people. I would, therefore, request the Central Government to take necessary measures immediately for the completion of this project within one year by giving it topmost priority with a railway station provided at Chainpal near Talcher and an over-bridge constructed on the Banpal-Talcher road.

(iii) Need to repeal the notification issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests causing problems for mining industry

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am reading out the information under rule 377 with your permission:—

“The mining industry in Rajasthan is facing a lot of problems because of the notification issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Many mines have been closed down and the ancillary industries are on the verge of closure. Workers and truck operators are out of jobs. The State is incurring loss of revenue on this account.

Therefore, it is requested that the Central Government may repeal the said notification in the interest of the State.

(iv) Need to provide jobs to the persons whose lands have been acquired at Cantonment Area of Ranchi, Bihar

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY (Ranchi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, land of villages Garhi, Sugnu, Khatga,