

(ii) Need to introduce more Trains of Fazilka Kotakpura Section of Railways

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot): The railways have upgraded the Fazilka-Kotakpura from metre gauge to broad gauge line. Only one train has been introduced from Bhatinda to Fazilka whereas three trains had been running up and down up to 1992. The Department of Railways had to bear Rs. 95 crores of expenditure for upgrading the line, but, it would be of no use, without introducing new trains. It is necessary from defence point of view also, because, Fazilka is a border town and important business centre for cotton and grains.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister for Railways to introduce more trains on this track.

(iii) Need to take steps for Resolving Border Dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): In spite of unanimous resolutions passed by both the Houses of Maharashtra Legislature urging upon Government to solve Maharashtra-Karnataka border dispute, the issue has been pending since long time. Even though the matter has been discussed by the Chief Minister of both the States on several occasions, it now appears that they are unable to arrive at any decision. The people of disputed area are showing their willingness for referendum on the subject. The Union Government's intervention is, therefore, imperative to solve the dispute without further loss of time. I, therefore, urge Upon the union Government to take steps to resolve the matter immediately.

[English]

(iv) Need to run Delhi Jodhpur Mail Train between Degana Junction and Delhi Early.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMSINGH KASHWAN (Churu): Mr. Deputy Speaker, sir, 4893-4894 Delhi-Jodhpur mail has been suspended due to gauge conversion and diverted via marwad junction to Delhi. Due to the suspension of this train link of Degana, Deedwana, Ladnu, Sujangarh and Chhappar towns with the metropolitan cities like Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay has been severed. At present gauge conversion in Degana, Deedwana, Ladnun, Sujangarh, Chhappar, Ratangarh and Sudulpur towns is not under consideration. In the present situation it is improper to deprive the people of these areas of the said facility for such a long time.

Therefore I would urge the Central Government that keeping in view the public demand and the need for the that train, the train facility between Degana junction and Delhi should be restored without any delay.

(v) Need to develop area near Yamuna River at Allahabad as Tourist Resort

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under rule 377, I would like to submit that my Parliamentary Constituency, Allahabad has great potential for tourism development. The famous religious pilgrim centre Sangam, the confluence of Ganga and Yamuna rivers is located here. Every year many pilgrims and tourists from all over the country and also from foreign countries visit this place for a holy dip and sight seeing at the Sangam. Although

[Smt. Saroj Dubey]

the place is of a great tourist significance, it has not been properly developed so far. If steps are taken by the Government to develop the place near the Sangam on the bank of Yamuna from the point of view of tourism then we will not only earn foreign exchange but it will also provide more employment opportunities to the poor people of the area

I, therefore urge upon the Central Government to set up rest houses, cafeteria etc. on the Yamuna bank for the tourist and also take steps immediately to provide other tourist facilities commensurate with the requirements and liking of the tourists.

[English]

(vi) Need to declare certain districts of Chhota Nagpur region as drought affected and provide adequate funds for relief operations there.

[Translation]

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA (Hazaribagh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under rule 377, I submit that Hazaribagh, Chapra, Giridih, Bokaro, Daltenganj, Garhwa etc. districts of Chhota Nagpur in Bihar are reeling under severe drought. Lakhs of local Residents are migrating to other places in search of jobs. This process had started in November, 1993. Earlier also the area experienced famine conditions continuously for two years. The hon Prime Minister visited Daltenganj and Chapra districts in 1993 and had granted an additional amount of Rs. 100 crores from Famine Relief Fund but it was not released. This year again the people are facing starvation and unemployment.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to declare these districts as famine stricken areas and provide funds for initiating relief measures on large scale.

[English]

(vii) Need to protect the units of Fertiliser Corporation of India Limited and Project and Development India Limited at Sindri in Bihar from closure.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the problems being faced by the units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited, Sindri Project and Development India Limited situated in my Parliamentary Constituency. The Government is by and by selling productive units of FCI, Sindri. The schools and hospitals are being closed. On the other hand PDIL is being closed on account of insufficient work load. When you do not give them work even after they show good results what they can do.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to make all possible efforts to save the Project and Development India Limited and Fertilizer Corporation of India, Sindri sufficient orders should be placed with them and orders regarding the work which can be done by these units should not be placed with foreign companies.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we shall take up Motion of Thanks on President's Address. Now Shri H.D. Devegowda,