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joint tribal families.

I, therefore, request the Government to immediately provided jobs to at least our person from each of the families displaced by the Maudira dam in Rourkela Steel Plant and pay compensation to the families who have lost their valuable land due to sand casting.

(ii) Need to double the railway line between chengalpattu and villupuram and convert the metric gauge from Madras to Villupuram into broad gauge

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHEE TINDIVANAM (Tndivanam): Sir, I draw the attention of the Railway Minister to an urgent matter. The distance between Madras and Villupura, is 155 kilometers and the entire length is metre gauge, now under uni-gauge conversation. while the stretch of 55 Kilometers tres from Madras to Chengalpattu has double line, the remaining 100 Kilometers between chengampattu and Villupura has only single line. In the absence of double line in this vital stretch of 100 kilometers even super fast trains are very often delayed putting the commuters to hardship. All the trains bound for South run on this line.

Further, with industrialisation, fast picking up in the outskirts of Madras beyond Tambaram, there is heavy rush of commuters between Madras and Villupuram, Having felt the need for metter gauge conversion, the Government have already begun laying of broad gauge line and the work on conversion is in progress from Madras Egmore to chengalpattu. But, unless chengalpattu is connected to Villupuram through broad gauge on double line, the conversion is not going to be of any use. If this work is taken up right now when the uni-gauge conversion work is in progress, we can save the expenditure considerably on

the scheme.

In this background, I request the Central Government to consider laying a broad gauge line while doubling the line between Chengalpattu and Villupuram.

(iii) Need to open regional offices of University Grants commission, especially of madras

SHRI P.P. KALIAPERUMAL (Cuddalore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Due to Phenomenal growth of institutions of higher learning the University Grants Commission office, located only at New Delhi cannot do any justice whatsoever to its charter of responsibilities as listed in the U.G.S. Act, 1956. The regional offices will bring about a great degree of accountability to the institution of higher education in terms of academic and financial aspects. It is a long pending and persistent demand.

The demand for opening U.G.O. regional office was voiced by educationists in the past. It was also reiterated in the review committee headed by Shri V.S. Jha in 1977 ad recently in Estimates Committee of Parliament, 1989.

The U.G.C. had appointed a committee in 1990 in this regard and the committee suggested opening of Regional Offices of U.G.C. in eight locations, namely, Coimbatore, Chandigarh, Banaras, Ahmedabad, Guwahati, Bhopal, Burdwan, and Hyderabad. This proposal was also approved by the Ministry of Human Resource Development in principle. But it is suggested that four regional offices one ach in South, East, North and West be opened in the first phase.

The government of Tamil Nadu have suggested that if a regional office of U.G.C. is set up at Madras adequate space for office and staff quarter will be made avail-

[Sh. P.P.Kaliapuram]

able, either at Madras university campus, Anna University or at Taramani campus of Madras University.

It is more than years since the whole exercise had started; but so far not a single regional office of U.G.C. has been opened. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to open regional offices of U.G.C. immediately and have the southern regional office at Madras. Thank you.

(iv) Need to look into the incidents of killing of dalits at Vadanvelu village, Mysore

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Roser): Mr. Speaker, sir, I would like to draw attention of the House to the incident in Vadunvelu village under Nanjangud Taluk situated at a distance of 25 km from Mysore, in which 3 dalits were killed and more than 50 injured, when they tried to enter a temple.

Vadanvelu village is situated on Nanjangud Chamraj Nagar road. There is a two hundred year old Sidheshwar temple, which was renovated with the contribution made by the people of all castes. The members of the Scheduled Castes have also donated Rs. 15000/- towards its renovation, but on 30th January, 1993 during the inauguration ceremony, the upper castes did not let dalits take part in it. On the 2nd February, the dalits entered the temple under police protection. The Ugadi mela ceremony was to be held on the 26th March, 1993. The upper castes became aware that the dalits are making preparations to enter the temple on that day. So, on the 25th march, when Scheduled Caste preparations were returning from Hanayammali villages in the evening after watching a game of cricket, people of upper castes attacked them with

lethal weapons. 3 dalits were killed and more than 50 injured.

Nothing can be more shame full than the fact that dalits are being killed for entering a temple even after independence since the matters of Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes are related with the Central Government, inquiry by a special court into this incident be ordered. The home Minister should make a statement in the House in this regard.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Indrajit Gupta and I received telegrams in this regard and in my opinion, this was a agrant issue. That is why, I wrote to you and took your permission to raise the matter. I did not take it up even in zero hour. This happened on the 25th. This is extremely shameful. Therefore, I would like to request the Government through you that it should give a statement in this regard or at least assure the House.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Sir, can we have an assurance from the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that this matter brought to the urgent notice of the House will be conveyed to the home Minister to come and make a statement as soon as possible?

MR. SPEAKER: I think they will convey it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The mesacre of Harijans is taking place in Mysore District.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): We are equally concerned with these incidences, and I will certainly bring to the notice of the Home Minister.