

irregularities in securities and banking transactions."

The motion was adopted.

13.06 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to provide a Road Link between Seoni-Balaghat and Arjuni and declare it National Highway

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT (Balaghat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the Allahabad-Nagpur National Highway a road link should be provided between Seoni Balaghat and Arjuni. These are tribal dominated areas and are not linked with any important road. No development is taking place in the tribal areas of Balaghat. Railway facility is also not available in this area. There are copper mines in Balaghat Manchaj block. Due to the lack of roads, several problems are cropping up in the way of mining of copper. The development of roads in these areas will also encourage the agro-based industries

So, I would like to request the Government that a road link should be provided between Seoni Balaghat - Arjuni and it should be declared a National Highway.

(ii) Need to Introduce Train Services between Kanyakumari and Madras Via Tirunelveli- Madurai- Dindigul- Karur- Salem- Jolarpet

[English]

SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN (Tiruchendur): Sir, conversion of metre-gauge railway line into broad-gauge between Tirunelveli, Tuticorin and Madras has already been completed. But due to inordinate delay in the

conversion work between Yruchi and Villupuram and between Villupuram and Chengalpet, people from all walks in the southern districts of Tamil Nadu are facing lot of difficulties in reaching not only Madras but other parts of the country as well. However, with the available broad-gauge route between Kanyakumari and Maniachi train services could be maintained between Kanyakumari and Madras Via Tirunelveli-Madurai- Dindigul-Karur- Salem- Jolarpet. I would therefore request the hon. Minister for Railways to immediately introduce train services between Kanyakumari and Madras in broad-gauge route Via Tirunelveli-Madurai-Dindigul-Karur- Salem-Jolarpet which is now available so that the sufferings of people in southern districts is eased as also tourists visiting Kanyakumari and other temple cities in the south are not affected.

The Express trains with 21 bogies with modern facilities should be named as 'KUMARINELLAI EXPRESS' and the trains should be able to cover the distance between Kanyakumari and Madras in 12 hours. I would also request the Government to complete the broad-gauge conversion work on trunk route between Madras and Kanyakumari on war footing.

(iii) Need to establish a Central University at Rourkela in Orissa

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO (Sundargarh): Sundargarh, a tribal dominated district in Orissa, is one of the most backward districts in respect of providing higher education. Barring the Steel city of Rourkela which alone has the maximum number of colleges in the district, rest parts of the district, have been deprived of the facility for higher education. On public initiative it is very difficult to open a degree or post graduate college as most of the people are poor and can hardly afford to contribute to run a college. Since there has been no scope for higher education, there is 95 per cent dropouts at Post Graduation level among the tribal students. In higher positions under the Central or State Government or in other public and private undertakings hardly any