

(iv) *Need to set up electronic telephone exchanges in tehsil headquarters of Amroha Parliamentary Constituency.*

[English]

SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN (Amroha) : There are five Tehsil headquarters in Amroha parliamentary constituency. But surprisingly the electronic telephone is commissioned and functioning in one Tehsil i.e. Amroha only. In the other four Tehsils of Hasanpur, Dhanaura, Chanpur and Dhampur the old exchanges are operating with the result that STD facility is not available there. These areas are more or less separated from other parts of the country. Most of the time these exchanges do not function. As a result the telephones are out of order for a long period. A proposal to purchase land for setting up an electronic exchange and microwave Tower at Dhampur in district Bijnor is pending with the authorities for clearance. This may be sanctioned early. In Gajraula C-DOT exchange is set up but Microwave Tower with UHF link is not erected. At three centres, 2 to 4 S.T.D. lines are provided through Moradabad which are insufficient compared to the heavy demand. The Government had earlier assured that all Tehsil Headquarters would be connected by STC facility.

I, therefore, request the Minister of Communications to look into the matter and see that electronic telephone exchanges with STD facility are installed at Masanpur, Dhanaura, Gajraula in district Moradabad and Chandpur and Dhampur of district Bijnor.

(v) *Need for reconstruction of Torsa bridge at the entry of Cooch-Bihar and Assam.*

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri) : Floods of abnormal magnitude in Jalpaiguri and Cooch-Bihar caused complete dislocation of rail and road communications. A number of railway bridges and road bridges were damaged completely. One railway-cum-road bridge at the entry of Cooch-Bihar town and Assam is in a dilapidated condition. At any moment this bridge may collapse causing total dis-

location of communication. It is surprising that after so many days of devastation by flood in Jalpaiguri and Cooch-Bihar no step has so far been taken by the railways for the restoration of the communication which is very important way to send relief materials to the affected places.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to take immediate steps for restoration of the rail communication in the area and reconstruction of dilapidated Torsa railway-cum-road bridge.

(vi) *Need to lay pipeline in Southern region particularly in Andhra Pradesh from western off-shore for supply of gas.*

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO (Bapatla) : Sir, the southern region and in particular Andhra Pradesh is suffering from power shortage. There is also shortage of coal and other sources of power.

Natural gas is a good substitute for generation of power. It is also necessary as feed stock for the manufacture of fertiliser for the production of pig iron and downstream industries. Gas found in Krishna-Godavari Basin have not been upto the expectation. While the production on date is about 2 million CMD it is not expected to rise beyond 3.5 million CMD even by 1994-95. The demand is not less than 8 million CMD.

The Government of India have agreed in principle to the concept of laying a pipeline to the southern region from western off-shore for the supply of gas. A feasibility study and project report has already been prepared and forwarded to the Union Government, but no action has so far been taken.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister for Power to take immediate steps in this regard.

(vii) *Need to construct a bridge at Chaharlari Ghat between Sitapur and Baharaich in Uttar Pradesh for permanent solution to the problem of erosion caused by Ghaghra river in Baharaich.*

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMI NARAIN MANI TRIPATHI (Kaiserganj) : Thousands of