

duction. The condition of Cocoa, Coffee, Cardamom, Ginger, etc. are also dismal. Scarcity of water during summer is another formidable challenge. Tourism is totally neglected in this district which has the highest potential in this regard.

The Central and State Governments should chalk out a joint integrated programme for total development of this backward district and implement it under a time-bound programme on a war footing.

15.00 hrs.

- (iv) **Need to open Post Offices in Rural Areas of Lalitpur and Jhansi of Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as per the present policy of the Postal Department of Government of India, post offices in rural areas of Lalitpur and Jhansi districts of Uttar Pradesh cannot be opened. The new post offices should have started functioning last year have not been able to function by now.

I would like to demand from the Government of India that post offices in rural areas of Lalitpur and Jhansi districts of Uttar Pradesh should be opened as per the norms prescribed and policy adopted to open new post offices in the country. It should also be examined whether new post offices that were to be opened last year have been opened or not. If not, they should be opened immediately.

I demand from the Central Government that new post offices in villages of Lalitpur and Jhansi districts should be opened within one year as per the prescribed norms and a list thereof also published immediately.

- (v) **Need to look in to the Demands of Teachers of Kendriya Vidhyalayas**

[English]

DR. LALBAHADUR RAWAL (Hathras): Sir, as is evident from the recent newspaper reports, 35,000 teachers of 771 Kendriya Vidyalayas spread all over the country as also abroad have announced their decision to launch phased agitation from the 14th July, 1992 under the auspices of All India Kendriya Vidyalayas Teachers' Association to press their 11 point Charter of Demands as also to ask for a high level probe into the affairs of KVS relating to 1991-92.

I urge upon the Minister to please hold the assured talks with the All-India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers' Association immediately and to settle the issues.

- (vi) **Need to open Silk Depots at Headquarters of Azamgarh and Mau Districts of Uttar Pradesh.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAM BADAN (LALGANJ): Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir, in the eastern region particularly in Azamgarh and Mau districts skilled workers weave Banarasi silk sarees on handloom on large scale. There is no silk depot at headquarters of Azamgarh and Mau districts. The weavers have to go to distant places from their home districts to purchase silk. Weavers have to face great hardship in bringing silk from Varanasi, Calcutta and several remote places. They are exploited by agents and middlemen and harassed by administrative officials in bringing silk from distant places. They suffer economically and physically. Silk sarees of Azamgarh and Mau districts are famous within and outside the country. I would like to

[Sh. Ram Badan]

demand from the central Government that silk depots at headquarters of Azamgarh-Mau districts should be opened to encourage the weavers of eastern region so that there may be development of the eastern region.

(vii) **Need to Permit Government of West Bengal to develop Railway Centenary Sanctuary Santragachi Railway Station, West Bengal**

[English]

PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY (Howrah): Sir, I want to raise the following matter under rule 377.

Very close to Santragachi Railway Station in the Municipal Ward No. 45, Uttar Buxarah, Howrah, there is a wetland commonly known as S.E. Railway Jheel measuring approximately 13,75,000 square feet situated South of the Railway office. The area is visited by a large number of migratory birds comprising primarily of Whistling teal, Common teal, Cotton teal, Ganginy, Shoveller etc., in winter months beginning from November to the end of February.

There is a signboard displayed by the Railways, designating the jheel as "Railway Centenary Sanctuary (Pakhiralay)". But the improvement works - like planting of trees in the jheel bank, creation of some penching place, etc., have not been taken by the Railways which are absolutely necessary to maintain it as an abode of various birds. The Directorate of Forests, Government of West Bengal, have come forward with a programme to develop the area and have expressed that the works can be undertaken provided permission for undertaking the works in the railway land is given. This will

not necessitate transfer of Railway land but will only require clearance from the Railways. Besides, the periodical lease of the jheel for fishing by the Railways goes against the very objective of the Centenary Sanctuary. I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to see that the required clearance is given to the Wetland Development Authority, West Bengal to undertake the necessary works and to stop giving fresh lease of the jheel for fishing in the greater public interest.

(viii) **Need to rehabilitate the people displaced by Bhakra and Pong Dams, Himachal Pradesh**

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Pong dam was constructed in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh during the sixth decade. At that time 30 thousand families were affected by it. As per the rules prevalent at that time, some land in Rajasthan was to be allotted to 16,100 families. But due to some reasons, the land could not be allotted to all of them. Now about 5,683 families have got entitlement to land even after elapse of 20 years from 1972 to 1992, they have not been given ownership right. Rules have been modified and their rights have been suspended for a further period of five years.

The people of Himachal Pradesh have always made sacrifices taking the national interest as supreme for the construction of many projects like Bhakhara dam and Pong dam of national importance. They have allowed the destruction of their fertile land and sanding crops for the sake of prosperity of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan so that their deserts may turn into greenery.

The Central Government and the con-