

[Sh. P.C. Chacko]

ernment of Kerala to start a railway coach building factory at Kerala. Since 1964 the proposal of Kerala Government is pending with the Government of India. Now that Railways are thinking of new units in joint sector with foreign collaboration. This unit may be locate in Kerala. I urge upon the Government to take an early decision in this matter.

(iii) **Need to recognise 'Rayee' caste in Punjab as Scheduled Tribe**

16.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGMEET SINGH BRAR (Faridkot): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the Rayee caste of Punjab. The people of this caste are hunters and rope weavers by profession and they live on the banks of rivers in the dense jungles. As per the census of 1921, they were 4 after every 1000 while the schedule castes were 19 after every 1000. I want to draw the attention of the Government towards this Rayee caste. The name "Rayee" to this caste was given by Punjab Government in its notifications issued on 18th November, 1942 and in December 1969 but the original name of this caste is Mahatam. The Government of Punjab and Haryana had recommend to the Central Government to include this caste in the list of Schedule tribes. The committee head by Kaka Kelkar in 1955 had also considered this caste as a schedule tribe. The Punjab and Haryana High Court had directed the Government in 1982 to consider Rayee caste as schedule tribe but no further action has been taken by the Government so far. My submission to the Government is that for the development of this poor caste, it should be declared as a schedule tribe so that by

availing facilities and opportunities they may progress.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Jagmeet Singh only the approved text will go on record, so, stick to the approved text.

(iv) **Need to declare Bijnore district, Uttar Pradesh as an industrially backward district**

[Translation]

SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI (Bijnore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the population of my constituency, Bijnore is nearly 15 lakhs, it includes 7 assembly constituencies. Sir, in my constituency there is no industry and that is why the educated youth of this area are going astray and are taking to the path of theft and dacoity. A few youths took loan from the banks under self employment scheme and started then own business but it being a backward area they failed and could not even repay the bank loan. There are one or two sugar mills but these are running in loss and are even unable to pay full salary to its employees. The resentment among the people of this area is increasing day by day against the Government.

Therefore, my submission is that Bijnore should be declared industrially backward district immediately so that the youth of this area can get employment.

(v) **Need to Create Central Forest Production Force for Preservation of forests in Orissa and other parts of the country**

[English]

SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA (Keonjhar): The unabated felling of trees has caused a great concern for everybody in