

As per the latest census of 1991 the statistics reveal that the population of Kota is 5,36,645. In the light of this why has Kota not been given the status of "B" category? The employees of both the Central and the State Government as well as the residents of Kota are agitated over this.

As such I request the Central Government to declare Kota city under "B" category at the earliest.

- (vi) **Need to solve the problems of receding water table in several districts of Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKER RAWAT (Agra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the underground water table goes down even more than 2 metre than the normal water table in the summer season before arrival of the monsoon in the various parts of about twentytwo districts of Uttar Pradesh including Agra, Aligarh, Mathura, Moradabad, Rampur, Badaun, Banda, Bulandshahar, Fatehpur, Fateharh, Lucknow Lalitpur and Nainital. Due to this the handpumps, wells and tubewells which are installed to provide drinking water become dry. The urban and rural areas of these districts face serious problems of drinking water as it is not available to the human beings as well as to the animals. People have to crave for a drop of water. Tourists also face great difficulty due to scarcity of water in Agra and at many other tourist centers including Fatepur Sikri. As the Agra Division is just contiguous to Rajasthan the problem of receding underground water table has taken a very dangerous shape.

Residents of Agra city and Agra district have to crave even for a drop of water. This situation becomes very terrible in the month of June or if monsoon is delayed.

So I demand from the Central Government that the problem of receding water table in all the twenty two districts of the State which are important from the point of view of tourism including Agra, should be

solved on priority basis so that the people of these districts can get rid of the problem of scarcity of water in the summer season.

- (vii) **Need for early conversion of Samastipur-Darbhanga-Sitamarhi-Narkatlyaganj metre gauge railway line into broad gauge.**

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sitamarhi district of Bihar, which is on the border of Nepal, is very backward from the development point of view. It is a very important place from every point of view but its people are very poor and density of population here is very high. For the development of the area it has very little transport facilities from the business point of view. The approval has already been given to convert the Samastipur Darbhanga metre gauge line into broad gauge. But this conversion work has not been done till today whereas the other rail line, which was given approval and was surveyed after it, has been completed. The broadgauge railway line is necessary in Sitmarahi, which is a very important place. So Samastipur-Darbhanga-Sitamarhi-Narkatlyaganj metre gauge line should be converted into broad gauge immediately and survey for this should be immediately conducted by the Railway Development Board, so that people's demand is fulfilled. The conversion of this line is very necessary from the development point of view.

- (viii) **Need to construct a new National Highway Passing through Nabadwip, West Bengal**

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip): National Highway 34 passes through Nabadwip, West Bengal. It is very narrow road and is very much congested and heavy vehicles pass through this road. It remains busy the whole day and night. Every hour about 100 vehicles