

(Shri Manmohan Tadu)

for the conversion of Rupsa-Bongini-poshi narrow guage line into broad guage.

(vii) Tourism in Jammu & Kashmir

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar) : The tourist trade is rightly considered the backbone of Kashmir Valley's economy. With the onset of May tourists remain elusive as only a very small number of them are pouring in and houseboats, tourists bungalows and hotels remain empty, Shopkeepers, artisans, shikarwalas, taxiwalas, taxi and houseboat owners are sitting idle facing unprecedented economic crisis.

Unfortunately this is second year in succession that tourist trade in Kashmir is subjected to enormous difficulties. Last year, Assembly elections followed by violence contributed in spoiling the season. This year, Punjab's violent agitation is taking a great toll of the tourist trade. Trains and buses to Jammu & Kashmir playing through Punjab are not considered safe for fear of sabotage. Another cause which plays havoc with the State's tourist industry is the result of baseless allegations levelled against the State Government coupled with unwarranted statements issued by some leaders about so-called secessionist activities and efforts to equate the situation in Punjab with Kashmir which is most peaceful in the country.

In such circumstances, for salvaging the interest of Kashmir's tourist trade, it is necessary that :

1. Jammu and Kashmir is adequately compensated for its huge losses incurred due to failure in tourist trade so that affected people are properly compensated.

2. Efforts must be speeded up for amicable solution of Punjab tangle.

3. Concession and subsidies should be given on air tickets to encourage tourists to travel by air.

(viii) Need to enhance the rate of compensation to families of Sri Perumbudur, Chingleput (Tamil Nadu) who are being displaced under Land Acquisition Act.

SHRI T. NAGARATNAM (Sriperumbudur) : In my constituency Sriperumbudur in Chingleput district, Tamil Nadu, fourteen villages are situated on the sea shore area of Bay of Bengal. The total population of 10,000 fishermen, scheduled castes, muslims and others have been permanently living with their pucca tiled houses, huts, etc. and having casurina thope lands and depending upon fishing in the sea and also sea backwaters. Now Tamil Nadu Government has been concentrating to vacate all the above villagers under Land Acquisition Act of State and Centre on the request of Central Government to extend the area of Sri Hari Kotta, Rocket Base. The Tamil Nadu Government has issued notice and forced the above villagers to accept Rs 11 per cent as compensation of the land value. The Tamil Nadu Government has not allotted any alternative convenient place to accommodate them. The revenue authorities assured them to provide only 3 cents for domestic purpose to each family. The people requested them that 3 cents is not sufficient and also the compensation of Rs. 11 for one cent is very low in these days. This should be enhanced.

Therefore, I urge the Central Government to give suitable instructions to the State Government to revise and enhance the rate of compensation at the prevailing market value. The Central Government must come forward to give separate compensation from the Central fund to all the affected poor families and also job facilities.

(ix) Re-introducing the Passenger train between Khagaris and Samastipur.

प्रो. अजीत कुमार मेहता (समस्तीपुर) :
रामापति महोदय, पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे में बरौनी और कटिहार के बीच बड़ी लाइन के