

frustration that this place would be continuously kept out for long in isolation and abandonment without direct express train service. So, Government may be pleased to take speedy steps for providing direct express train service to Kanyakumari with Madras, New Delhi and other important place in south and north without any more delay.

(ii) Need for assistance to Cattle Owners of Ghazipur Dairy Farm, Delhi.

SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN (Chandni Chowk) : Encouragement to the Animal Husbandry Programme in the country has all along been the policy of the Government. Under SFDA and MFAL programme etc. the Union Government extends all sorts of assistance to the weaker sections of the society for development of milch cattle etc. Various governmental and semi-government bodies advance assistance in this regard. Encouraged by these programmes of the Government, various dairy farms have come up in the country. One such farm is the Ghazipur Dairy Farm in Delhi.

Recently, the cattle of the farm have been affected by an epidemic disease, known as Shital Mata. The spread of the disease is so ruinous that several thousand cattle have died and 40 to 50 cattle are dying daily. It has caused heavy losses to the poor cattle owners of the farm.

In spite of the fact that as per the technical advice of the Heads of R.P., Government of India, the cattle owners have got all their cattle vaccinated with Goat Culture Vaccination and Tissue Culture Vaccination, cattle are still dying with a loss of lakhs of rupees to cattle owners. An inquiry into the matter may have to be started immediately for finding out the cause which led to failure of these vaccinations and the officers concerned, who had given the technical advice.

Another problem which has ruined these cattle owners is the stoppage of cattle insurance by the General Insurance Company. Necessary orders will have to be issued to renew this insurance of the cattle immediately. Assistance in the form of grants etc. may have to be given immediately to the affected cattle owners. All these steps have to be taken up on war footing to save the dying cattle.

I request the hon. Ministers of Agriculture and Finance to look into this matter of utmost urgent importance to save the dying cattle and the cattle owners from a total ruin.

(iii) Need for going early clearance for setting up Rost Power plant near Shahjahanpur, U.P.

SHRI JITENDRA PRASAD (Shahjahanpur) : I draw the attention of the Government and the Minister for Energy to the burning problem of acute shortage of Electricity in the State of Uttar Pradesh. Due to the shortage of power, the development activity in every sphere of the entire State is retarded. There are only two solutions to this problem—firstly, to increase generation of the existing units and reduce line losses; secondly, to set up new thermal and hydro power stations. In the first case, the State Government is doing its best to improve the situation. But, as far as the second suggestion is concerned, there are a number of projects, proposed by the UP State Government to the Centre, which are pending clearance with the Central Electricity Authority. One of the proposed projects pending before the Central Electricity Authority is for setting up a thermal power plant at Rosa, Shahjahanpur, U.P. The State Government has accorded top priority to this project and all the requirements needed from the State Government to set up this plant have been fulfilled long ago, but the project is pending clearance with the Central Government. I request the Minister of Energy to accord top priority to this project and give its approval so that the requirement of power of the State of UP may be met with as early as possible.

(iv) Need for making permanent the employees of All India Handicrafts Board

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN (Jangipur) : Sir, the All India Handicrafts Board under the Commerce Ministry has been running a massive training programme in the art of carpet weaving for more than a decade in different parts of the country. The employees engaged in the implementation of this training programme run over 3,000 including a majority of highly educated youths as regular employees, and a good number as daily wage earners, technically qualified. But the fate of these employees is uncertain. Handicrafts and Handloom is one unit run by the same Board. But the employees in the Handlooms sector are all permanent, while the employees working in the Handicrafts Sector still continue to be temporary.

Under these circumstances, I urge upon the Government to redress the grievances of the employees of the Handicrafts sector and stop the step-motherly treatment to the employees of the All India Handicrafts Board, by declaring them all perma-