

[Shri Mallikarjun]

discussions with the officers of Railway Board and other Railway Establishments. During discussions, the team did emphasise the need for establishing a modern computer-based management information system for better management of railway operations. But the team did not make any World Bank aid conditional on establishment of the computerised management system. In fact, this issue was quite independent of other issues, like Electrification, import of Electric Locomotives, building of Diesel Component Works etc.

2. In the context of accelerating the pace of electrification, the Bank Mission volunteered assistance to Indian Railways for improving the technology of overhead equipment (circuit bearers, transformers etc.) as well as to uprate electric locomotive technology. The Mission has proposed import of about 15 locomotives, with 3 or 4 types of systems to gain experience under Indian conditions. The idea is to select the most suitable type thereafter for indigenous manufacture, with collaboration or assistance as necessary from the manufacturers and thus to adopt the latest technology in the minimum possible time.

3. There is no proposal to import high power diesel locomotives at present, and therefore, the question of reversing the past attitude does not arise.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER :
The house stands adjourned till 2-05 p.m.

13.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till five Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at ten Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) **MEASURES TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE TRAIN SERVICES BETWEEN PILIBHIT AND SHAHJAHANPUR**

SHRI JITENDRA PRASAI (Shahjahanpur) : There is widespread resentment among the people in the matter of deteriorating train service between Pilibhit and Shahjahanpur putting thousands of passengers to a lot of inconvenience and harassment. Two out of three passenger trains running between these two stations have been suspended for the last few months. No time schedule is maintained subjecting the public to untold hardship and inconvenience. Lack of telephone facilities and lighting at these stations, bad condition of coaches, unsatisfactory sanitary conditions, no provision of lights in the trains and the rising crime raids in these trains are also adding to the already deteriorating train services between these stations. I request the Railway Minister to look into this burning problem of this area and see that the trains are run punctually and properly, that telephone and other basic amenities are provided at these stations and also that the track is converted into broad-gauge and diesel engines are introduced in place of steam engines.

(ii) **NEED TO RE-CLAIM ALKALINE LAND.**

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Chittor) : When I went to Moradabad in U.P. I saw an extensive stretch of vacant land where there is no vegetation. On enquiry I found that its extent is about 75,000 hectares and no crop is raised there since it is alkaline land.