

In view of the above, I request that instructions may be issued so that this train halts at all stations where the Venad Express halts. If this is not possible, it may halt at Changanacherry, Tiruvella, Chengannur, Mavelikkara, Kayankulam and Varkala. This will not only meet the needs of the people but also raise the revenue of the Railways.

I request that immediate steps in this regard may be taken

- (vi) Transfer of Agricultural land to refugee families rehabilitated in Bihar in 1951-52

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK (Darjeeling) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, more than 300 refugees families rehabilitated by the Government of India in the year 1951-52 in the State of Bihar are very much aggrieved and feeling insecure as their genuine grievances for removing the illegal encroachers from their land and restoring the same to them has not been redressed in spite of repeated representations. They were allotted 863.44 acres of agricultural and homestead land for their rehabilitation. In the course of transfer of some territory from Bihar to West Bengal in 1956, the entire agricultural land allotted to these refugees remained in Bihar and their homesteads went to West Bengal in Islampur sub-division in the district of West Dinajpur causing much inconvenience to the refugees in looking after and cultivating their land in Bihar from their homesteads in West Bengal. Taking advantage of this situation, some Adhibashi Santhals of Bihar entered into their agricultural land and forcibly occupied the same under threat since August, 1978. The matter was brought to the notice of Government of Bihar repeatedly but no action has been taken to remove the encroachers and restore the land to the allottee-refugees. Failing this, a series of representations have been made to the Government of India for the transfer of this particular land to West Bengal so that the refugees concerned could obtain Pattas of the land from the Government of West Bengal and cultivate them peacefully from their homes in West Bengal.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to look into the grievances of the poor

refugees and do the needful to transfer the agricultural land allotted to them from Bihar to West Bengal so that this long standing grievances could be redressed and settled peacefully.

- (vii) Development of Mithila region of North Bihar

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : A large number of volunteers and leaders of Akhil Bharatiya Mithila Sangh are sitting on dharna at the Boat Club since the 22nd of August to draw the attention of this august House towards utter neglect of and discrimination against North Bihar. There was a huge demonstration on the 24th August, 1984.

The railway facilities in Maithili speaking region have been reduced as compared to the past. Three pairs of Express trains did originate and terminate at Samastipur for Howrah and one pair for New Delhi. Now there is none, causing unbearable overcrowding. The disrupted rail lines between Nirmali-Bhabrishi and Bagaha-Chitani still are awaiting restoration. The decade-ago approved and sanctioned conversion of Samastipur-Darbhanga M.G. to B.G. line formally inaugurated in 1981 and its extension to Udaipur via Jai Nagar is almost forgotten. The decade-ago formally inaugurated Sakri-Hasanpur new line is also facing the same fate.

Problems of chronic floods, drought and power failure are not being resolved through construction of multi-Purpose dams over rivers Kosi, Kamla and Bagmati. Even immediate steps for relief during the recent unprecedented floods are negligible.

Maithili, an important language of the country with rich literary traditions and spoken by tens of millions of people is not yet included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution nor facilities under article 345 granted to it.

Urgent demands for resuming production at the Ashoka Paper Mills, opening of petrochemical complex at Barauni etc. are falling on deaf ears.