

reference to the following matter of urgent public importance

About two years ago the Railways announced the running of a fast train called "Sabarmati Express" on the Gunna-Maksi line. During the last 2 to 3 years, several fast passenger and goods trains have been diverted on this line and tracks have been found much improved. There is a persistent demand from the general public to run a fast train between Ujjain-Gunna-Bina, connecting Delhi. This will help quicker industrialisation of the backward district of Rajgarh, Gunna, Shajapur etc.

Recently it was announced that one "Shanchi Express" will run between Indore and Delhi. This will not cover the underdeveloped areas. There are already a dozen fast trains going through Bhopal to Delhi. On the contrary it will create further confusion at Bhopal which is already over-congested. Hence, running of a fast train on Gunna-Maksi line is the correct decision and will satisfy the general public. During the last one year "Action Committees" have been formed at Bioora, Shajapur, Maksi and Gunna, agitating for this demand. The delay in announcing the running of Sabarmati Express may lead to Satya-graha and agitations by early 1984 which should be avoided.

Even at Indore, the people are insisting on developing the Gunna-Maksi line. Any further postponement of this will result into frustration in the Madhya Bharat Area and may lead to agitational approach which can be avoided.

I, therefore, request the Railway Minister to direct the Railway Board to come to a quick decision.

(ix) CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PERSONS IN CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla)
Under rule 377 I wish to make a reference to the following matter of urgent public importance :—

Cultural exchange programmes between our country and the rest of the world offer

innumerable advantages of sponsoring cultural programmes to and from India and we have certainly benefited from these programmes in the past and surely enough we must continue to maintain the interest in such activities. Teachers, artists, intellectuals and technocrats must have opportunities of going abroad so that their mental horizon widens and they become more useful citizens of India. There is, however, a problem in that we do not seem to have laid down any scientific criteria for selections. There is a growing sense of deprivation with numerous Indians that even when they qualify for participation in various programmes, they do not find themselves lucky as they do not possess 'access' to higher echelons of authority. There is also imbalance in so far as sharing of such opportunities is concerned. There is a widespread feeling that certain States and Union Territories, possibly U. P. and Delhi, are getting a large share of the available opportunities. The Jammu and Kashmir State must find its place in the scale of preferences. The Union Minister of Education must come out with statistics to show Statewise distribution of opportunities offered to bonafide citizens of India.

13.40 hrs.

MOTION UNDER RULE 388—CONTD.

SUSPENSION OF FIRST PROVISIO
TO RULE 74

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up further consideration of the motion under rule 388 moved by Shri Janardhana Poojary on the 20th December, 1983.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, while speaking, Prof. Madhu Dandavate has cited certain portions from the Recommendations of the Era Sezhiyan Committee, the Estimates Committee and also some portion of the speech of late Shri CD Deshmukh, the then Finance Minister, at the time of passing of the Bill at that time. I would only like to say, in