

[Sh. Vijay Kumar Yadav]

There is a long standing demand to extend Bakhtiyarpur-Rajgir railway line upto Bodh Gaya and restore the suspended trains.

There will be increase in the revenue as a result of extending this line upto Bodh Gaya and we will also be able to earn more revenues and foreign exchange from Indian and foreign tourists by linking by rail all the Buddhist religious places.

As such I request the Government to extend the Bakhtiyarpur-Rajgir railway line upto Bodh Gaya.

- (vii) **Need to improve the Communication facilities in tribal dominated district of Sundargarh, Orissa**

[English]

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO (Sundargarh): Sir, the district of Sundargarh is a tribal dominated district which mostly has been neglected from time immemorial.

But for Rourkela Steel Plant, Sundargarh district, one of the richest in mineral resources, would have been one of the most backward districts of India. Because of Rourkela Steel city, the State Government as well as the Central Government have got the impression that the district is one of the advanced districts in India. But the Bonai Sub-division, the Gurundia Block and Nuagaon Block are the most neglected parts of India. During the rainy season, these areas are cut off from the rest of the world due to lack of communication facilities. Seven bridges are to be constructed over seven hill streams. The tribal-dominated

area is deprived of the supply of the bare necessities during the rainy season. I would, therefore, request the Government to take necessary steps to bring these tribal-dominated areas under the Central Government Scheme and provide sufficient fund to make provision for communication facilities in order to bring them in the mainstream.

- (viii) **Need to construct new railway station in Yashwantpur, a suburb of Bangalore**

PROF. K. VENKATAGIRI GOWDA (Bangalore South): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Yashwantpur, a suburb of Bangalore, has become a beehive of industrial and business activity. It is along the broad gauge railway line leading to Madras. It has a population of three lakhs. The railway station was built over thirty years ago when there were no industries and business activity was almost non-existent. Despite the phenomenal increase in industrial and business activity in recent years and the rapid growth of population in the area, the capacity of the railway station has not remained in original state. It is too old and too small to handle the passenger and goods traffic, resulting in considerable hardship to the industries and businessmen and people of this town. It is necessary to build a railway station with capacity sufficient to handle the goods and passenger traffic and to relieve the congestion there and to facilitate free flow of goods.

I appeal to the Government of India undertake the construction of a new railway station in Yashwantpur on a top priority basis and to help the industrial and business expansion of the area.