

too shall not have another option than to participate in that agitation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this area is one of the important and fertile areas of Uttar Pradesh. Hence, more facilities should be provided to the people of the area instead of withdrawing whatever little facilities they have got. So, through you it is my request to the hon. Minister of Railways to review his decision and store the halting facility. Sir, through you I would like to say one more thing in this connection that on that railway line there are two railway crossings near Allam 60-70 persons have been killed in accidents during the last 3-4 years while negotiating these two crossings. But manned level crossing have not been so far provided. I have repeatedly requested for provision of manned level crossings there. Besides, the decision to do away with the halt should immediately be withdrawn as people are facing a lot of inconvenience and they would agitate. The problems would also increase.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to a famous pilgrim centre, Bateshwarnath and Lord Mahavir's temple in my constituency. Lord Bateshwarnath's temple is situated between Yamuna and Chambal rivers in Agra district of Uttar Pradesh. Pilgrims from not only within the country but also from foreign countries visit this temple. This is a major tourist centre and the greatest attraction is the animal fair on the occasion of 'Kartik Poonmima' wherein lakhs of cows and oxen are sold. The State Government and the Central Government get lot of revenue out of this function.

Just 3 kms. from Bateshwarnath is Shohripur where the temple of Lord Mahavir is situated. People of Jain Community come in large number from Maharashtra, West Bengal, Rajasthan and other parts of the country to visit this temple but there are no adequate facilities of roads etc, as a result they have to face lot of difficulties.

Both Bateshwarnath and the temple of Lord Mahavir in Shohripur are major tourist

places. Thousands of pilgrims visit these places. Last time, when I went there on a visit, people of the area drew my attention to both these pilgrimages and requested that financial assistance should be got sanctioned for beautification of these places from the Ministry of Tourism. Therefore, I request you personally to sanction more and more funds for beautification of Bateshwarnath and Lord Mahavir's temple.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: You are not giving us an opportunity to speak. You told us yesterday and day before yesterday also that you would give us time to speak, but why are you not allowing us? Have we committed a sin?

MR. SPEAKER: You have taken maximum time. I am allowing others. You will not be allowed anytime today.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR (Khandwa): Sir, I want to draw your attention to provide railway facility to Khandwa district ... *(Interruptions)*... I request you to provide a stoppage of Goa Express at Khandwa, Karnataka Express at Bushanpur and Lucknow - Bombay at Harsood so that the people of these places which are predominantly inhabited by Adivasis could be benefited. Providing a stoppage of the Karnataka Express at Burhanpur and Goa Express at Khandwa is essential so that people from these areas could have a direct link to the South. Therefore, I demand that these stoppages should be provided on priority basis.

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI (Robertsganj): Sir, I want to draw your attention to an important point regarding Sonbhadra and Mirzapur districts which are adjacent to Bihar. The biggest dam in the country i.e. the Rihand dam was inaugurated by Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru in 1963. 30 Years have already passed and every year Rs. 10 lakhs are spent on repairs etc. but infact no work is undertaken. The Hindustan Construction Company had constructed a bridge near the dam. On 5th of

this month an engineer opened the sluice gates when the water level suddenly rose and consequently the bridge was washed away. Shri Virendra Singh paid a visit to that area on the 7th of this month. I would like to give the names of villages which are affected. Means of transportation have collapsed. The Engineer committed a blunder by opening the sluice gates. The capacity of the reservoir is 880. According to rules, some sluice gates should have been opened in the month of August. Had it been done the bridge would not have collapsed, and damage worth crores of rupees could have been avoided. The Engineer was careless and opened twelve sluice gates and as a result the bridge collapsed and several villages were destroyed. Some of the villages are - Bhairva, Khadia, Shaktinagar, Mishra Rehata, Vispur Purankhas, Jogichaurea, Dibulganj, Veena, Khadeeya, Kakri, Dudichua and Chilka Tad. Many other people along with me paid a visit to these affected villages and saw the ruined houses. They were once uprooted when the dam was to be constructed and now once again they have got uprooted. They have not so far got the compensation from the Project authorities. The Chilka Tad village has been destroyed for the fourth time. I would like to demand, through you, that the Harijan and Adivasi whose houses have been washed away should be provided more ration and fuel. Besides, the project authorities should be asked to provide them houses, education to their children, drinking water facility and electricity. Because of the collapse of the bridge of Rihand dam the entire population of Anpara, Shaktinagar, Vindhya Thermal power etc. and Bedan area of Madhya Pradesh are in dire need of foodgrains and fuel. Sir, I would request the hon. Minister of Railways to start a special train to Mirzapur and Varanasi so that foodgrains and other items could reach the needy urgently. The Central Government should take up the construction work of the destroyed bridge on a war footing. The people of this area have got a meagre compensation whereas those living in the area falling under Madhya Pradesh got a good amount.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Now Shri Bhubaneshwar Prasad Mehta's name will go on record.

**SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA (Hazaribagh):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to the lack of irrigation facilities in Bihar. Not even a single inch of land is irrigated through the dams which have been constructed either by D.V.C., Central Government or the Bihar Government in Chhotanagpur or Santhal Parganas district. So far only 3 percent of the total land in the State has got irrigation facility. Not even single person belonging to those families whose land has been submerged has got employment. Hundreds of villages have been submerged but nobody has got employment in lieu thereof. Siwane Reservoir Scheme, Devkali Reservoir Scheme, Donmashya Scheme and Tillaya Upper Canal Project in Hazaribagh district are pending with the Central Water Commission. There are pending unnecessarily and the commission is not approving them. Sir, I want to submit to the Government that Chhotanagpur, Santhal Pargana and Jharkhand are in Bihar are predominantly Adivasi areas and these have been neglected for quite sometime particularly in respect of irrigation I demand that a Master Plan be formulated to provide irrigation facilities to these areas and they should not be neglected anymore.

**SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK (Bolangir):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention to the bridge connecting Bolangir and Kalahandi districts which is being constructed for the last 22 years but has not been completed so far. I feel there might not be any bridge in India or even throughout the world which might have taken 22 years and yet was incompleting. I do not know who is responsible for it - the engineers or the State Government but we have to face the consequences.

Secondly, there is an Ordnance factory in Bolangir where thousands of workers from Kalahandi district come and work. They earn their bread after lot of hard work