

[Sh. Janak Raj Gupta]

return to their native places in the Kashmir Valley and provide them security to protect their lives and property. Till the arrangements for their return are made, they should be provided with free ration and accommodation.

(II) Need for diversion of the existing National Highway by passing

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT (Nagpur): I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the condition of National Highway passing through the Nagpur City.

Nagpur is the heart of Maharashtra and it has been recently declared as second capital of the State. The condition of National Highway passing between the Nagpur city is very critical. A large number of deaths take place daily in the Nagpur City at National Highway due to accidents. This National Highway connecting Calcutta, Bombay, Madras etc. is very important. Several representations have been made to the Central Government earlier to divert the existing National Highway from the outer side of the city, but so far the National Highway has not been diverted. The officials of the Ministry of Surface Transport had also visited and submitted their report to the Government. The Government has decided in principle to divert the National Highway, but nothing has been done.

I urge upon the Government to immediately take up this task and divert the existing National Highway from the outer side of the Nagpur city.

[*Translation*]

(III) Need for connecting Bastar district with Jagdalpur via Dalli Rajhara in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI MANKURAM SODHI (Bastar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, efforts are being made since long for connecting Bastar district with

Jagdalpur via Dalli-Rajhara railway line but the question of connecting this Adivasi district by rail has not been taken up seriously to benefit the industry as well as other passenger traffic.

Therefore, the Central Government is requested to take necessary steps for laying the proposed line and thereby accelerate the development of this backward tribal district.

[*English*]

(IV) Need for regular supply of power farming sector

CH. JAGDEEP DHANKHAR (Jhunjhunu): The lot of the farmers has not been locked into in right earnest during four decades of Independence. The economic condition of the farmer leaves much to be desired. The farmer is heavily dependent upon the Government agencies or the industrial sector for vital agricultural inputs like power, fertilisers, pesticides etc. In Rajasthan a farmer has to wait for about a decade before he can obtain electricity for his well for agricultural purposes. The fiscal consequences of such a situation and startling delay are ruinous for the farmer. The cost of raising the agricultural well is considerably increased on account of this delay. Often the farmer takes loans or the well and is heavily burdened with interest liability by the time he is in a position to make earning out of that investment by getting the agricultural well electrified.

Deprivation of power to the farmer at a crucial juncture may result in total loss of his crops. For failure of the farmer, though engineered by failure of power controlled by the Government agencies, there is no mechanism in law to compensate him. There is an urgent need to make available electricity power to farming sector in a time-bound schedule and to enact legislation providing for compensation to the farmer in the event of loss suffered by him owing to power failure. I request the Government to look into the matter.