

Not only this, other effective steps should also be taken to check brain drain.

- (iv) **Need to increase the frequency of Kerala Express from three to six days a week.**

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Direct train service between Delhi and the Capital of Kerala is at present only for three days in a week. So, there is heavy rush in these trains. It is almost impossible to travel particularly during the summer vacation and the festival seasons. Since the tickets are reserved three months in advance, those who plan their journeys at short notice cannot make it. Every day hundreds of people travel from Delhi to Kerala and *vice versa*. And the number of passengers is increasing fast day after day. There is no other way to solve this problem except by increasing the frequency of the existing trains.

I, therefore, request the Government to take immediate steps to run the bi-weekly Kerala Express for six days in a week.

- (v) **Need for financial assistance to Government of Bihar for establishing industries in Purnea district to prevent people from migrating to other States**

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH (Purnea): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Purnea is the oldest district in Bihar state. It is surrounded by Bangladesh on one side and by Nepal on the other side. In spite of its being an important district on this account, neither there is any public sector industry of any kind in this district nor the district has been declared an industrially backward district. Every year thousands of labourers go to different States for their livelihood. In the circumstances, the Central Government should provide financial assistance to the State Government of Bihar and direct them to set up industries in the district in view of

the public interest so that migration of thousands of labourers every year could be checked.

[*English*]

- (vi) **Need for immediate financial assistance to Tamil Nadu Government for completion of 'Palar Riverbed' scheme to meet the water scarcity in Madras**

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): Sir, the spectre of one of the worst droughts in living memory looms large over Tamil Nadu with no rains in almost all the districts of the State.

An inordinate delay in the onset of South West Monsoon caused damage to the standing crops to the tune of a thousands crores of rupees and drinking water scarcity in villages and urban areas. The State Government is taking all steps to supply drinking water to all the villages by lorries. Even the urban areas where water supply is assured are facing acute water scarcity. Madras which has a population of five million is facing acute water scarcity. The Metro Water Board has dug giant wells in order to meet the water scarcity. Even then they are able to give water on alternate days only. A scheme has been drawn up by the Government of Tamil Nadu recently to take water from Palar river bed which would cost more than three crores of rupees. The State Government is requesting the Centre for an assistance of Rs. 1.50 crores for this scheme. The Central Government has to come forward immediately in order to meet the drinking water problem in Tamil Nadu. I request the Government of India to come to the rescue of the Tamil Nadu Government.

[*Translation*]

- (vii) **Need to give early clearance to Punpun Dargah Scheme and Muhane Dam Scheme to save Jahanabad and Patna districts from floods and drought.**

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, some of the

*The speech was originally delivered in Malayalam