

[Shri Somnath Rath]

not been implemented as yet. A port has been established at Gopalpur-on-Sea near Berhampur, Ganjam District, Phoolbani District, Bolangir District and Kalahandi District are the hinterlands of this port. There is no railway line at all in Phoolbani District. To develop these areas providing transport facilities and to connect with Gopalpur Port, it is necessary that the railway line from Berhampur through the interior of Ganjam District is extended upto Dasapala or Boudh to connect the proposed railway line from Khurda to Bolangir. Under these changed circumstances, the RITES may be entrusted with the survey of railway line from Berhampur through the interior of Ganjam District without any further delay.

(vi) Need to take steps to overcome power crisis in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool): On account of acute power shortage, most of the industries in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are facing closure and production losses. There is also no possibility of these States getting over power shortage in the near future. The loss on account of this power shortage on the industrial and agricultural fronts in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu is assessed to be of the order of Rs. 1,000 crores for this year. The installed industrial capacity in all these highly industrialised States, is grossly under utilised. There is, therefore, imperative need to immediately sustain the industries which are facing sickness on account of power shortage. Either National Electric grid or regional planning for the southern States to face the crisis of power shortage, must immediately be devised. Credit on soft terms must be provided for installing generators by these industries. The immediate steps to get over the power crisis on long term and short term basis must be initiated by the Union Government.

(vii) Need to take over all the textile mills in the country

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): National Textile Corporation is running 121 textile mills and making huge losses. 63 textile mills have been closed in the last two years after the new textile policy came into force. In Bombay, Modern Mills, New Great Mills, Swan Mills, L.D. Velvet Mill have been closed down. About one lakh fifty thousand workers have lost their jobs. Managements are not interested in running these mills. They are diverting funds and are investing in electronics, chemical industries, etc. which are more profitable. Closure of mills is causing serious problems in cities like Bombay, Ahmedabad and Kanpur.

In this Budget for 1988-89 maximum concessions like reduction in excise and import duties on polyester filaments, cotton filaments, nylon, viscose, etc. have been given to mill owners. But this will not stop the closure of mills. Government has sanctioned loan of Rs. 750 crores in the Seventh Plan at concessional rates of interest out of which Rs. 122 crores have been taken by mill owners. Still many mills have been closed either because of dispute between owners or mismanagement and lack of interest on the part of owners.

NTC is looking after 25 per cent of mills and Government is giving lot of concessions. Remaining 50% textile mills can earn good profits, if budgetary concessions of about Rs. 500 crores can be used for these mills. Cotton yarn, cotton cloth and garments are having very good export market. It is time for Government to take over all the textile mills in the country and run them with competent, honest high rank officers and workers' elected representatives.

[Translation]

(viii) Need to take steps for the development of Mathura and Vrindavan

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura):