

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

among the people in the concerned areas including Talcher and Brajaraj Nagar in Orissa. I would, therefore, urge upon the authorities to sympathetically consider the matter and accordingly revise their policy allowing proper medical facilities to the people on liberal terms.

(iv) **Need to continue the 12 bogies train running between Dadar and Virar of Western Railway**

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH (Bombay North): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister for Railways to the decision taken by the General Manager, Western Railway regarding discontinuance of 12-bogie suburban local train running between Dadar and Virar. There are all possibilities to extend it up to Churchgate by extending the platforms at Grant Road and one platform at Churchgate.

This 12-bogie train has given lot of relief to commuters of Bhayander, Vasai and Virar. It was started on an experimental basis. Although, it has given relief to the commuters, yet Western Railway authorities are not accepting this fact.

12.28 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

In fact, Railway authorities never tried to make it more useful for more people. There are platforms available for 12-bogie train at Dadar, Bhandra, Andheri, Borivalee, Bhayander, Vasai and Virar. There are possibilities to extend platforms at Churchgate, Grant Road, Goregaon and Dahisar too.

In fact, 12-bogie train is the only real solution for the commuters of Western Railway suburban section. It will minimise the problem of over-crowding as 12-bogie train can carry 33 per cent more commuters.

(v) **Demand for installing a Powerful T.V. transmission booster at Chittoor**

SHRIMATI N.P. JHANSI LAKSHMI (Chittoor): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in Chittoor, which is in my constituency, the reception of programmes on T.V. is very poor. People in Chittoor are not getting regional and national programmes. Chittoor is surrounded by hills which is also one of the reasons for poor reception. The former Minister of Information and Broadcasting had given an assurance that the Tirupati relay station would be strengthened but no action has so far been taken in the matter. Rich people are able to see the programmes by installing dish antenna but poor people are not in a position to pay huge amounts for dish antenna.

I would, therefore, request the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to kindly issue instructions for installing a powerful TV transmission booster at Chittoor.

(vi) **Need to consider sympathetically the demands of the striking officers of Public Sector Undertakings**

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa): For the first time in Independent India the officers of the Public Sector Undertakings have been on hunger strike all over the country on certain genuine demands relating to the Public Sector.

Their demands are:-

1. They should be taken into confidence by the Government in the running of the enterprises;
2. Implement the recommendations of High Power Pay Committee for the CDA Companies and allow the IDA managements and the IDA Company associations to negotiate Salary and DA settlements keeping HPPC recommendations as the guidelines;

3. Initiate discussion with National Confederation of officers' Associations of Central PSUs on sick units and other enterprises so as to improve the efficiency and productivity;
4. Put an end to all moves to privatize the PSUs;
5. Stop excessive off-loading and imports (of both technology and equipment);
6. Grant the officers trade union rights based on the ILO Compendium for Professional Worker (to which the Government of India is a Party).

These demands are very relevant and important for the effective functioning and desired development of the PSUs. Government is hereby urged to take positive view of the demands of the officers of the Public Sector Undertakings and start dialogue with them without delay for the interest of the economy of the country.

- (vii) Need to provide adequate assistance to Bihar for giving relief to the people affected by recent earthquake.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): The havoc caused by the earthquake in Bihar in August, 1988 is unparalleled in the last 50 years. People of Madhubani, Darbhanga and Munger are worst sufferers. Their miseries cannot be described in words.

Hundreds of people have died and thousands disabled. Besides, several thousand people have become homeless. Their dwelling units have crumbled. Nearly two lakh houses have developed cracks and are uninhabitable. They can give in at any time.

Thousands of quake affected people are living under the open sky braving the sun and the rains. With the onset of winter, it is feared that their plight will be pitiable.

Unfortunately, proper relief is not reaching the people mainly because of long-drawn strike by Government employees in Bihar.

It is, therefore, requested that the Central Government should intervene in the matter immediately so that relief is given to the affected people before it is too late.

Besides, the Centre should give adequate aid to Bihar so that poor and middle class people get sufficient loan on a nominal interest rate to enable them to reconstruct their dwelling units.

[*Translation*]

- (viii) Need to increase the quota of essential commodities for Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal): Madhya Pradesh is a poor State having maximum population of Harijans and Tribals. It is very essential to provide foodgrains, edible oil and kerosene to these poor people at subsidies rates.

The allocation of rice, edible oil and kerosene to the State of Madhya Pradesh during the previous years has been for less than its requirement. If the quota is increased for one month after great efforts, in some to other month it is again reduced for below than even the previous quota. Allocation of rice to Madhya Pradesh was 35,000 metric tonnes per month from October 1987 to January 1988. It was suddenly reduced to 15,000 metric tonnes thereafter. In June 1988 it was 20,000 metric tonnes which is quite inadequate. This quota should be raised to 40,000 metric tonnes immediately.

Similarly the quota of edible oil should be raised from 5,000 metric tonnes to 10,000 metric tonnes. It is also necessary to increase the quantum of kerosene and cheap cloth.