

since ages. It has been statutorily banned. He has revived again a dead issue with an ulterior motive to establish a Hindu fundamentalist order. His attempt to disrupt the unity and integrity of the Hindu society is deplorable. More so, he has issued several statements glorifying Sati custom and untouchability while occupying an important office of head of Gobardhan Math of Puri, which is significant and may create confusion in Hindu society.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take appropriate action against him for indulging in activities which are not secular and democratic.

[Translation]

- (vi) Need to accelerate the work of setting up the water treatment plant at Jajmau (Kanpur)

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur) : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, in 1985, when this Government came to power under the leadership of our Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi he had announced to undertake the important and the sacred programme of cleansing the Ganga. Under that programme, it was decided to set up a water treatment plant in Kanpur also like other places. So the Government decided to set up that plant at Jajmau and work has also started on the plant, but progress of the work is very slow and pollution of Ganga in Kanpur, is very acute.

So, I will request the Government to accelerate the work in progress at the water treatment plant in Jajmau. In addition to this, penal action should be taken against the factories which are polluting the Ganga.

[English]

- (vii) Need to reconstitute the Central Haj Committee

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : The Central Haj Committee has failed to offer facilities to the Haj pilgrims to make their pilgrimage pleasant. It is a failure of the Haj Committee that about 500 pilgrims could not board the flights to

Jeddah on time and missed the Haj-e-Akbar.

The Ministry of External Affairs must conduct an enquiry into the mismanagement of the Central Haj Committee and assume total responsibility of the matters connected with Haj pilgrimage.

As of now, the Haj Cell in the Ministry of External Affairs does not accept any responsibility for any mishaps as it feels that it merely coordinates the affairs concerning Haj and that too on a limited scale.

I urge upon the Central Government to disband this Committee and take up the entire process of Haj pilgrimages for the future.

In any case, if the Central Government feels that there is a need of a Committee like this, then the present Committee should be reconstituted and made broadbased. The Committee should have its headquarters at Delhi instead of Bombay as Haj flights are now operated directly from Delhi, Hyderabad, etc.

The Jammu and Kashmir State should have proper representation on the proposed reconstituted Committee as a Muslim-majority State.

- (viii) Need to start work on Darbhanga-Samastipur broad gauge conversion project

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : A raw deal has been given to Bihar as regards railways. A few years ago, work had started for the conversion of Darbhanga-Samastipur metre-gauge into broad-gauge. But due to unknown reasons, the railway tracks were dismantled and the whole project was shifted to a neighbouring State :

It is requested that the above project be restarted at an early date and completed expeditiously.

At the same time, efforts be made to lay railway tracks in Santhal Pargana and Chotanagpur on a massive scale so that there may be economic growth of these regions.

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