

- (iii) **Need to draw up a comprehensive scheme of reconstruction of the old dilapidated houses in Bombay.**

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): The problem of house collapses in Bombay has assumed alarming proportion. There are in all 19,642 old buildings in the city of Bombay, out of which 16,500 were constructed before September 1940. Under the Bombay Housing and Area Development Act, the Government of Maharashtra has taken up responsibility of carrying out structural repairs with the ceiling limit of Rs. 300/- per square metre and of reconstruction in case structural repairs are not economical. Repair cess is levied on the tenants and landlords of these old buildings. The amount of annual cess collected works out to Rs. 6/- crores. The statutory contribution of the State Government and Bombay Municipal Corporation is Rs. 3.60 crores each per annum. In addition, the State Government gives ad-hoc grant of Rs. 2/- crores every year. However, the work is beyond the financial resources of the State Government. I, therefore, urge upon the Housing Department of Urban Development Ministry of the Central Government to come forward to help the State Government in drawing up a comprehensive scheme of reconstruction of these old dilapidated houses in Bombay.

- (iv) **Need for immediate revision of pay scales and provision of promotional avenues of the University and College teachers in the country**

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur): There is a great resentment and frustration among University and college teachers in the country in general and Delhi, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana in particular and many Teachers' Unions are planning to go on strike. Many of the teachers are sore over the fact that they are stagnating in the pay scales which have not been revised over a decade now in spite of the fact that the University Grants Commission had promised a revision after every ten years since these

scales were introduced in 1972-73. The Mehrotra Committee set up for the revision of pay-scales has still not submitted its report. Many teachers are bitter over the denial of promotional avenues to them. I request the Minister of Human Resources Development to ensure an immediate revision of the pay-scales and the provisions of promotional avenues so as to end the frustration and resentment among them and offset the sharp increase in the cost of living on account of steep rise in prices and enhance their status in society.

- (v) **Need to expedite the work of auto signalling and introduce EMU trains between Panskura and Kharagpur stations of S.E. Railway**

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): No new EMU train has been introduced for commuters at any of the stations between Panskura and Kharagpur in the Kharagpur division of SE Railway (a suburban section), i.e. Khirai Halt, Haur, Radhamohanpur, Balichak, Shyamchak, Madpur and Jakpur. during the last two years.

Though a large number of commuters have to go and come back both in the direction of Howrah and Kharagpur, the number of trains available at these stations are far less than those available at most of the other stations in this suburban section.

Though I have been taking up this question with the S.E. Railway authorities constantly, they are pleading inability. The reason advanced is that the automatic signalling system has first to be completed. After a lot of persuasion, the work on the signalling system has just started. But, I understand that the Cables are in short supply.

There is an understandable dissatisfaction among the commuters on the issue which has sometime been expressed even in spontaneous rail-road blockade.

Among these stations, Balichak is an important place as it has wide road

[Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee]

connections. It requires at least two fast trains to and from Howrah for the commuters.

I request the hon. Minister for Railways :—

- (1) to expedite the work of auto-signalling and guarantee the supply of cables ;
- (2) pending completion of the work, to introduce at least one each UP and Down EMU train for these stations ; and
- (3) introduce one UP and one DOWN fast train for commuters from Balichak,

12.07 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

- (vi) Need to telecast news bulletins during the day time also

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) :
The News Bulletins, both Hindi and English, telecast by the Doordarshan at 8-40 P.M. and 9-30 P.M. respectively, are improving day by day, especially on account of the increased number of Visuals shown through them. However, the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has taken special initiative and has made certain valuable suggestions in respect of the Doordarshan programmes. Therefore, now the time has come for Doordarshan authorities to give more and in more number of times.

Today, we have no News Bulletin telecast by Doordarshan during the day time ; and hence, a big void is felt in that respect. No doubt, the AIR broadcasts a number of Bulletins during the day time ; but, as the people have now become used to see and listen to T.V. Bulletins, especially on account of the Visuals, the Doordarshan should telecast News Bulletins during the day-time also.

I therefore suggest that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting should direct the Doordarshan to start telecasting two News Bulletins between 1 PM and 2 PM and two between 5 PM and 6 PM, each of ten minutes duration, both in Hindi and in English.

- (vii) Need to bring Pattanamthitta and Idukki districts of Kerala on the TV map by installing one low power transmitter in each district

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki) :
Kerala was brought under the Television network as part of a process initiated by the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, to bring all parts of the country together and thus promote further national and emotional integration.

Almost 70 per cent of the population of Kerala can enjoy T.V. programme today because of the imaginative approach adopted by the Government under the leadership of the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi with regard to the expansion of the T.V. network. We are deeply grateful to the Government for this.

However, there are two districts in Kerala, which are yet to be brought on the T.V. Map. These are PATTANAMTHITTA and IDUKKI which occupy an important place in the economic development of not only the State, but also, of the whole country. 90 per cent of the foreign-exchange earning cash crops are produced in the Idukki district.

PATTANAMTHITTA district has perhaps sent the largest number of people to the Gulf countries, whose remittances provide the much-needed cushion to the foreign-exchange-starved economy of the country.

When T.V. Transmitters were being installed in different places in Kerala, the people of these two districts too bought the T.V. sets hoping that these areas would also be covered. To their utter disappointment, till today that has not