

are stranded Trivandrum airport. Air India have indiscriminately cancelled a number of flights and many Keralites working in Gulf countries have lost their jobs because they could not reach in time.

The Minister should take immediate action and ensure that the flights are restored.

SHRISHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, I am sorry that some of the passengers are put to inconvenience. Some of the people in the Air India have started working to rule and because of that some difficulties have arisen. We are talking to them. And I hope that we would be able to find some solution. (*Interruptions*) This is the situation. I hope the hon. Members will bear with us. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: You take up with the concerned Embassies and ensure that jobs are restored to these people.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad): I want to place on record the appreciation of the people of Ahmedabad for the quick response given by the Prime Minister and the Civil Aviation Minister to the tragic situation. However, there are ramifications of the situation and a discussion may be held.

12.22 hrs.

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[*Translation*]

- (I) Demand for proper preservation of historical places and antiquities, especially those found in Moradabad district

SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ (Moradabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the culture of India is not only ancient but also interesting. Indian civilization and culture been a part of the world civilization. Civilization is linked with the historical antiquities found in old cities. Besides, a number of buildings of

ancient times are there in the various parts of the country which tell us of their contemporary civilization, culture and technology and as to how the foreigners came to settle down here and became a part of Indian civilization and culture.

2.23 hrs.

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

A number of ancient buildings and archaeological remains are there in Azampur, district Moradabad (U.P.) It is a place where some antiquities of the times of the Emperor Akbar have been found and it has also come to light that great personalities of that time like Abul Fazal and M.S. Jaizie received their education there. These buildings including the tomb of Sheikh Abdul Ghafoor and other tombs, a mosque, etc. were taken over by the Central Archaeological Department 10 years ago. It is a matter of regret that these buildings are getting damaged continuously and are not being maintained properly. In this connection attention of the Archaeological Department has been drawn many times, but the Agra Circle has not taken any step in this regard. Funds allotted for these buildings last year have been spent for other purposes.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to pay special attention towards these historical buildings especially those situated in Moradabad district of U.P. and to make full arrangements for their maintenance.

[*English*]

- (II) Demand for resolving the problems of agitating dock workers at New Mangalore Port

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur): Sir, the continued go-slow and work-to-rule agitation including strikes by listed dock workers at New Mangalore Port has badly affected cargo-handling operations and the matter had taken a serious turn when export cargo of 250 tonnes of cashew shell liquid

[Sh. G.S. Basavaraju] was stopped midway while being loaded into containers. The ship left the port without the cargo. The ship owners, agents and C.F. agents, who are involved in this, have failed in their efforts.

The general cargo export had declined by more than 30 per cent in 1987-88 from New Mangalore Port, mainly due to labour problems and the export of cashew kernels also declined during 1987-88.

I urge the Union Minister of State for Shipping Transport to intervene and settle the labour problems without further delay. Otherwise this will affect the country.

[*Translation*]

- (iii) Demand for directives to nationalised and co-operative Banks to grant loans to farmers etc. affected by heavy rains

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI (Amravati): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, heavy rains in Maharashtra specially in Vidarbha, Marathwada and Bombay this year have caused huge loss of life, wealth and crops. I urge the Central Government to give financial assistance to Maharashtra and also issue directives to the Reserve Bank and other financial institutions to liberalise the rules governing the advance of loans to farmers by the nationalised and co-operative Banks. Then we would be able to help the people belonging to the economically weaker sections and farmers throughout the country.

- (iv) Demand for re-scheduling timings of trains running between Barmer and Agra Fort.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Barmer-Agra Fort 207 up and 208 Down Express Train is an important train of the country which covers a distance of 850 kilometers. This train maintains the prescribed speed of an Express train from Barmer to Jaipur but

from Jaipur to Agra Fort it runs as a passenger train although it is an express train.

From Phulera to Agra Fort it remains under the charge of the Western Railway but their work is very unsatisfactory. At Agra Fort good coaches of the train are changed and the coaches are not looked after properly.

I, therefore, request the Ministry of Railways to convert one of the 'Hawa Mahal' trains running between Barmer and Agra Fort and between Jaipur and Agra Fort into Barmer-Agra Fort Express with at least 15 coaches and its starting time from Barmer should be 4.30 P.M. instead of 4.00 P.M. and its arrival time should be 11 A.M. instead of 11.15 A.M. so that the utility of the Barmer Agra Fort Express is in the interest of the people. A passenger train comprising the remaining coaches be introduced between Jaipur and Agra by the Western Railway.

- (v) Demand for a bench of Madhya Pradesh High Court in Chhatisgarh region.

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA (Janjgir): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is the policy of the Government to provide easy and cheap justice to the poor at their foot steps and that is why Lok Adalats are held.

Under this very policy, Madhya Pradesh Government has taken a decision that a bench of Madhya Pradesh High Court should be set up in its Chhatisgarh region where one-third of the population comprises of Harijans, Adivasis and backward classes. The Central Government has given its approval but for the last two years the matter is still lying pending. The people of Chhatisgarh has been demanding it continuously and as their demand is not being fulfilled, they think that they are being ignored.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Law and Justice to set up a bench of Madhya Pradesh High Court immediately in district Bilaspur which is quite a suitable place for that purpose even according to the previous records. The Central Government should