

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

favourably the question of location of a nuclear plant in Orissa in order to save Orissa from power famine and also help in reducing the imbalances in infrastructural development.

(iv) Need to provide telephone facilities in Mahabarod in Dhenkanal district in Orissa

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mahabarod in Kankadabad Panchayat Samiti of Dhenkanal district in Orissa is a Gram Panchayat headquarters. This is the second important place in this tribal as well as backward block. Within a radius of about 25 kms. of this place, there is neither any telephone exchange nor any PCO. A PCO has, however, been sanctioned long since considering the importance of this place and its necessity. But it is regretted that the sanctioned PCO is yet to come up. Existence of high tension electric line along the proposed telephone route is causing such delay in providing telephone facility to Mahabarod as given out by the concerned authority. But this plea of the Department is far from convincing since this well deserving place could have been provided with telephone facility much before either by taking telephone line along another route or taking recourse to microwave system. Anyway, on the principle of 'better late than never, the Department should now take immediate steps so as to bring Mahabarod on the telephone map of the country by means of a suitable alternative method and thus mitigate the ever increasing discontentment and resentment of the people.

[Translation]

(v) Need for Improvement in communication and transport system in Mau (U.P.)

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377, I would like to inform that certain area from Ajamgarh and Balia district of Uttar Pradesh have been taken to form a separate district

Mau. This district has large population which include weavers and farmers. Industrial and other activities have accelerated there as soon as it was declared a district. But the inadequate facilities of transport, communication, industry and power would add to the problems of people in the near future. From the administrative point of view also, this place has become a nucleus points. So, I would urge the Government to link this area with the other parts of the country through microwave and to improve the train service on this metre gauge section to all sides, North South, east and west. Besides, effective measures should also be taken to convert the metre gauge into broad gauge and to provide adequate funds to complete the gauge conversion project at Varanasi-Bhutan line by the year 1990.

[English]

(vi) Need for the Department of Steel to buy the blast furnace from H.E.C instead of importing second hand blast furnace

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Government's declared policy is for indigenisation of industry. But in practice it supports import on plant and equipments for setting up industries.

The Department of Steel has decided to import a second hand blast furnace despite the fact that the Heavy Engineering Corporation, a public sector unit, has the capability to meet the requirement indigenously. The Ministry of Industry also supported the steel department's decision after examining the indigenous availability position from HEC but in fact the Ministry of Industry never consulted HEC. The proposed blast furnace will cost the nation over Rs. 150 crores with foreign exchange component of over Rs 26 crores.

It is reported that HEC is capable to produce 2000 cubic metre capacity blast furnace, having already done so for the Vizag and Bhilai Steel plants. The order