

[Prof, P.J. Kurien]

different parts of the country to supplement the existing domestic air services. This has proved a success and there is a great demand for the extension of this service to more and more areas. According to the latest decision of the Government Vayudoot services are being extended to 44 new stations in 1986-87. This is a welcome decision.

However, the State of Kerala has not yet been put on the Vayudoot map. The existing air-services are quite inadequate to meet the growing volume of inter-regional traffic within the State. The Government of Kerala has already submitted a proposal to start Vayudoot service in the State. The service could link Trivandrum and Cochin with Kumali in the Western Ghats region which has immense attraction for the tourists. If Kumali is linked with Vayudoot service, the tourist traffic will increase manifold and the financial gain will be substantial.

Therefore, I would request the Government to take immediate steps to introduce Vayudoot service linking Trivandrum and Cochin with Kumali.

14.00 hrs.

(iv) Need to declare Kalahandi District of Orissa as a 'No Industry District'

SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK (Kalahandi) : Sir, Kalahandi is one of the backward districts in Western Orissa. No step has been taken to set up industry in that district so far. Except the M/s. Vegetable Labour Complex, no other medium or major industry has been set up in that district. The policy of the Government of India is to remove regional imbalances by setting up of industries in the backward areas. Kalahandi should, therefore, be declared as a 'No Industry District' as it is still backward. The industrial entrepreneurs should be encouraged to set up industries in that district and all kinds of facilities be provided to them. The Central Government should assist the State Government to set up industries in Kalahandi district. In the case of major industry, World Bank assistance should be sought, if necessary.

The Kalahandi district abounds in forest and mineral resources. There is a tremendous scope to set up forest and mineral-based industries in that district. The cost of

labour is also cheaper in Kalahandi than the other districts of the State. The establishment of industry will go a long way in providing employment to the local people.

In view of this, I request the Government of India to declare Kalahandi as a 'No Industry District' and offer incentives for setting up of industry in that district without any further delay.

(v) Need to retain the Advance Flood Forecasting Division in Burla, Orissa

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack) : Of the various natural calamities that the State of Orissa has to face, flood is one such recurring feature which occurs once in every two years, resulting in heavy loss of crops, domestic animals and human lives. Sometimes the people in the flood prone areas do not find time to evacuate themselves to the safer places at the time of flood in the absence of advance flood forecasting information. Therefore it is necessary to set up some advance flood forecasting offices in Orissa. After a lot of persuasion, the Government of India have opened an advance flood forecasting Division at Burla. This Division office is forecasting the flood information at the appropriate time and thereby helping the people to a large extent. But it is regrettable that a group with vested interest is trying to impress upon the high officials for shifting this office to Madhya Pradesh. The people of Orissa will be very much agitated if this proposal is implemented. Because they will be deprived of getting advance information regarding possible flood and will not be able to evacuate themselves to the safer places.

In view of this, I demand that the Advance Flood forecasting Division functioning at Burla should not be shifted to any other place on any circumstances. At the same time, I demand that one flood forecasting Division should be set up at Bhubneshwar. The branches of the flood forecasting office should also be set up at Banki, Tikarpara and other places in Orissa.

[Translation]

(vi) Need to take necessary measures to preserve 'Salar' trees in Chittorgarh, Rajasthan

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh) : Sir, I would

like to draw the attention of the Government towards indiscriminate clearing of forests in Chittorgarh districts of Rajasthan. Against the 25 per cent forest area in Rajasthan it is now 10 per cent as per the Government record but in reality, only 3 per cent jungles mostly in Kota and Chittorgarh Sirohi are left. At one time, Pratapgarh, Chhoti Sadari, Rawatbhatta and Basi Sad areas of Chittorgarh district were covered with thick forests but they are now being unauthorisedly cleared and no effective steps are being taken to check it. Not only this the Byapar Mandal of Rajasthan (which is a State Government department) is itself cutting green trees for making charcoal.

Recently in this district a contract for extracting gum from costly salar trees has been given by the State Government. According to some forest experts, the cuts made on the Salar trees to extract resin will cause damage to the trees and destroy them.

Therefore, I request the Government to intervene immediately to save salar trees and to stop the cutting of green wood for making charcoal. The Rajasthan is a drought prone state and brutal devastation of remaining forest will convert the Chittorgarh district into desert. The hilly and rocky desert is more terrible than sandy desert. The Central Government should immediately pay attention towards it and intervene in this matter.

[English]

(vii) Need to grant early clearance to the Super Thermal Power Project Proposed to be set up at Talcher in Orissa

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : (Bhubaneswar) : Sir, because of some objections raised by the Environment Appraisal Committee of the Central Government to the proposed site for the 3000 MW Super Thermal Power Plant at Talcher in Orissa, undertaking construction of this essential power project for Orissa in the 7th Plan is being inordinately delayed.

Orissa State Pollution Control Board had given no objection certificate to this

project as early as 1984. The World Bank had also committed to fund the project.

Eminent scientists working in the Orissa State Pollution Control Board, meeting the objections raised by the Environment Appraisal Committee have said that the emission of sulphur dioxide could be controlled by high stack and if necessary by flame gas and by setting up a desulphurization plant. Appropriate furnace design could be thought of for taking care of nitrogen monoxide and nitrogen-dioxide.

In the face of the above noted existing scientific devices for pollution control, as the project is not being cleared, an apprehension is spreading among the people of Orissa that subtle efforts are being made to shift this project to some other State.

I urge upon the Government to remove this growing misapprehension from the minds of the people of Orissa that this project which is very vital for the rapid economic growth of a very neglected and backward State which is not at its final stage is not shifted from Orissa.

(viii) Need to build necessary infrastructure for the rapid economic development of Tripura

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Sir, Tripura is a part of the North-Eastern Region. It is facing unprecedented problems political and economic and problems of national integration. This region is the most backward after 39 years of independence. To meet this challenge what is most important is to build up an infrastructure for rapid economic progress. Extension of railways not only to Tripura but to other States of this region is most important and vital from this aspect. Tripura has rich raw materials, plenty of gas and forest products; if utilised properly, can offer employment and living to 22 lakhs of its population. Even the formation of the North-Eastern Council was of no special benefit to the region. The Dinesh Singh Committee recommendations have not been implemented so far. The State of Tripura has at the moment only 34 kms of MG railways.