

of Kota relay centre should be increased to 10 Kilowatt so that the people residing in Kota, Bundi, Jhalawar and Sawai-Madhopur and Morena and Mandasaur districts of Madhya Pradesh may also get the facility of Doordarshan programmes."

[English]

- (v) Need to set up a nickel extraction plant in Sukinda area of Orissa.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack) : The Government of India had approved a proposal for establishment of a nickel extraction plant in Sukinda area in the district of Cuttack in Orissa in 1974. But the project has not been taken up so far on the pretext of certain technical difficulties. Sukinda area contains the only commercially workable deposits of nickel ore in the country. As India is a net importer of nickel metal involving sizable foreign exchange, production of nickel from ores available in the country is necessary from all considerations.

It is understood that the Ministry of Steel and Mines had approached Government of Canada for assistance in providing an appropriate technology for setting up a Nickel Extraction plant in Orissa. This project should be implemented expeditiously as otherwise the cost which has already escalated appreciably, will increase still further. It is already nine years since the Government of India accorded approval to this project. Further delay of this project will create discontentment among the local people. Therefore, I demand that the nickel extraction plant should be set up in Sukinda area in Orissa forthwith.

- (vi) Need to provide a ring electric Railway system in Trivandrum city.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : Trivandrum, the capital of Kerala, is a fast developing city. Unfortunately the roads of this city are very narrow and there is no scope for developing these roads. Road traffic in this city is very congested and it may take hours together to pass through the city during peak hours. The State Transport system is also far too

inadequate to meet the growing demands. The only way to tide over the difficulty is to provide electric trains connecting the city, with the suburban areas. Electricity is also available in abundance, comparatively at a cheaper rate and the State Government has agreed to give electricity at half the rate in case electric train is provided. There are a number of Central Government offices here including the famous Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, the Southern Air Command and the Southern Military Command. It would also attract tourists since the internationally famous Kovalam beach resort is only about 12 km. from the city. It would be a real blessing to the several lakhs of passengers if a ring electric railway system is provided to this neglected city as early as possible.

I, therefore, request that the hon. Minister of Railways may look into this very genuine need of this capital city and take immediate steps for conducting the necessary survey of this railway during 1986 itself and the railway project completed in the Seventh Plan, connecting the following places :—

Trivandrum—Medical College—Kazhakkuttam—Mannanthala—Nedumargad—Kattakada — Neyyattinkava — Kanjramkulam—Kovilam—Trivandrum.

- (vii) Need to streamline the drug policy and regulate the production and marketing of drugs.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynasar) : It is a matter of grave concern that a study made by the Voluntary Health Association of India (VHAI) has revealed that more than 10,000 of the 15,000 basic drugs produced in India are 'worthless' and nearly 40 per cent of them are 'either harmful or potentially harmful' to human beings.

Although the Hathi Committee had recommended in 1975 that just 117 drugs would meet the needs of the entire country, more than 8,000 firms continued to produce and market at least 45,000 combination drug formulations in India, most of which were either tonics, vitamins, cough syrups, analgesics or balms.