

not pay any heed to the complaints made by the people to remedy the situation. They are not even ready to provide them appropriate facilities. Inflated telephone bills are sent to the subscribers, and sometimes one cannot even believe in those figures. Often the bills are wrongly prepared.

12.16 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Instead of redressing their grievances the officers harass the people and deliberately misbehave with them and sometimes they even get their telephones disconnected. Sending of wrong and inflated bills to subscribers has led to increase in the cases of litigation. Telephones in Agra remain mostly out of order and it is very difficult to get local or trunk call materialised. This is causing much inconvenience not only to the local subscribers but also to other Indians and foreign tourists who visit the city. Even the telephones of essential services and important departments in the city remain out of order for days together. Therefore, it is essential that the concerned department should take immediate steps to improve the deteriorating telephone services in the city.

[*English*]

- (ii) Need for early delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies of Jammu and Kashmir

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Sir, the Ladakh Parliamentary constituency and the two Assembly segments of Leh and Kargil districts of Ladakh are the largest in respect of area i.e. about one lakh sq. kms. of Parliamentary constituency, over 85,000 sq. kms. of Leh Assembly segment and over 14,000 sq. kms. of Kargil Assembly segment. The entire population of over 1,35,000 according to 1981 census are living scattered over the entire area. In view of large and inhospitable area and scattered population, the local elected representatives and the local Government administrators are finding it very difficult to visit each and every corner of the population to see their plight. The local population of Ladakh had been requesting the State and Central

authorities to delimit the present one Parliamentary constituency into two and the Leh and Kargil Assembly constituencies into six Assembly segments. Similarly delimitation of Assembly constituencies in the Kashmir valley and Jammu region has also been demanded by the people of the State from time to time.

I, therefore, request the Government of India to order for delimitation of the present Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies of all the three regions of the State at the earliest.

- (iii) Need to take steps to curb agitational activities in the border areas of Karnataka and to ensure immediate implementation of Mahajan Commission's report.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI (Bellary) : Sir, the hue and cry by some of the leaders and the agitation launched by them in the border areas of Karnataka has claimed seven lives and more than hundred persons have received injuries. The provocation is the Karnataka Government's language policy. This language policy provides facilities to non-Kannada children to learn Kannada and to brighten their future. In fact, there is no other State in India which has a more catholic outlook towards the linguistic minorities than Karnataka. The annual reports of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities are an eloquent testimony to it. The language issue is only an offshoot of the main demand for jettisoning the Mahajan Commission's report and for reopening the boundary issue.

In fact, the report was an award because there was a commitment by Centre and the Government and the leaders of Maharashtra and Karnataka that it would be binding.

In the border areas of Karnataka people live in amity. The thread of cultural, social and linguistic affinity runs through their relations. But the border dispute is erecting a barrier between them.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government of India to take stringent measures to curb

such agitations and to see that the Mahajan Commission's report is accepted in toto and implemented immediately.

[Translation]

- (iv) **Need to revise the provisions of the National Rural Employment Programme**

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the National Rural Employment Programme has proved a great success in the country. It has brought about a sea change in the condition of rural India.

Under the said scheme, permanent assets have been created in the rural areas. Pucca school buildings and panchayat buildings have been constructed in every village. At many places, permanent dispensaries and sub-centres have been constructed.

The rural populace has been provided employment under this scheme. The buildings are constructed by the village panchayats under this scheme. Provision of 60 per cent labour and 40 per cent material charges has been made under it. Any institution cannot at all construct permanent buildings with this provision.

Besides, there is no provision for repairs or further modifications in the buildings under the said programme. Therefore, I would request the Rural Development Minister of the Central Government to provide 40 per cent assistance for labour instead of 60 per cent and 60 per cent assistance for material instead of 40 per cent, so that the construction work is accomplished earnestly. Besides, the Government should make permanent provision for the repair and modifications in the buildings for which equal contribution should be made by the Centre and the State.

[English]

- (v) **Need to lay double railway lines from Shoranur to Mangalore and to introduce automatic signalling system for overall development of the Malabar region**

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore) : Mr. Deputy-

Speaker, Sir, The Madras-Mangalore Railway line is one of the oldest in India and that part of it lying between Shoranur and Mangalore is one of the most neglected lines in South India. It may be noted that this line covers the entire Malabar region stretching into Karnataka. This line caters to the needs of the six major districts of Malabar, that is Palghat, Malappuram, Calicut, Wynad, Cannanore and Kasaragod which constitute half the population of Kerala. This is a line with heavy passenger traffic and statistic will show that ticketless travel is extremely rare in this area.

Thousands of commuters are relying on this mode of transport. Lack of double lines and limited number of crossing stations result in inordinate delay and immense loss of man hours.

Development in other matters also is extremely poor in this area even as compared to other parts of the Southern Railways, for instance automatic signal systems have not yet been introduced here. This also causes much delay since the running time of even some prestigious trains is thereby adversely affected.

Hence, I urge upon the Minister of Transport to give urgent attention to this most neglected part of Southern Railways and to make arrangements to lay double lines from Shoranur to Mangalore and also introduce automatic signalling system. Any delay in this respect on the part of the Railways, which is the largest public utility service, will retard the development and progress of this part of Kerala.

[Translation]

- (vi) **Need to issue 'Cheque Passes' to all the freedom-fighters in the Country**

SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH (Maharajganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, any step taken for the welfare of free-