

In 1953, the Central Government had constituted development authorities for the dacoit-infested areas of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan with the object of elimination of dacoits and for the economic, social and industrial development of these areas. In Madhya Pradesh, the Bundelkhand Development Authority was constituted for the development of 5 districts, but in the absence of any separate budget for it, no development work could be done. I, therefore, request that an allocation of at least Rs. 50 crores be made for this Authority in the Budget so that it may take up the development of the region and also eliminate dacoits.

(iv) Need to provide adequate funds for development of Bundi and Kota towns in Rajasthan as tourist resorts

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Hadoti region in Rajasthan is a very important region from historical points of view. This area has a large number of ancient temples and forts, ponds and very beautiful Chambal caves and also the Dara Game Sanctuary which are highly praised by the tourists. The famous Bundi Palace and Fort in this area are worth visiting. Not only the paintings on the walls of the palaces and the forts built on a hill are unique but the forts and palaces itself are architectural marvels. The hill, on which the fort is located, is also very beautiful. The Bundi city can be converted into a centre of tourist attraction. The foreign tourists are never tired of praising this fort, the palaces and the ponds there. But unfortunately, due to the lack of funds with the State Government, many places of the Hadoti region like the Garhganj temple of Atru in Bundi, the Bhadadevara of Ramgarh, the Badoli temple of Rawat Bhat and the paintings of Alnia could not be declared and developed as tourist spots. The miniature paintings of Bundi and Kota are world famous and invaluable. The ancient wall paintings of many 'Havelis', Forts and Palaces are unique and worth seeing. The publicity and development of such places will earn foreign exchange for the country.

I demand of the Government of India to declare the above mentioned places of

Bundi and Kota as tourist spots and provide enough funds to the State Government for their development. The tourism corporation should also be encouraged to develop these places. Funds should also be made available for the development of the Dara Game sanctuary of Kota.

[English]

(v) Need to conduct survey to examine the feasibility of laying a railway line from Berhampur (Ganjam) to Dasapalla and to connect it with Khurda and Bolangir in Orissa

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Railway communication in Orissa is the least developed in the country. A techno-economic survey has been sanctioned to assess the feasibility for construction of a railway link between Khurda and Bolangir, in Orissa and the work has been entrusted to RITES and the survey is in progress. A Port-on-sea (close to Berhampur) is going to be completed within a few months. During the visit of late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi as well as the present Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi to Ganjam District (Orissa), the people demanded to have a Railway line from Berhampur (Ganjam) to Dasapalla or Boudh to connect the above Railway line between Khurda and Bolangir, so that the five undeveloped districts of Orissa, which are the hinterland of Gopalpur Port, could be benefited and developed, making the Gopalpur Port self-sufficient.

The survey will cost about Rs. 25/- lakhs. However, it is stated that there is constraint of funds. The Orissa Government has communicated to Railway Department that it will bear the expenditure in case Centre is not going to provide the funds. The Ganjam District Planning Board also passed a resolution emphatically demanding the survey of the Railway line and make provision for expenditure from the District Planning funds. So, immediate necessary steps should be taken asking RITES to conduct the survey from Berhampur (Ganjam) to Dasapalla or Boudh to ascertain the feasibility.