

[Shri R. P. Suman]

Ayodhya, a famous religious place in Uttar Pradesh. So a very large number of tourists are always seen staying in this city. Ayodhya is specially important from the religious point of view. Foreign tourists also often visit this place. But Ayodhya is being totally neglected by the Department of Railways. There is no direct railway link between Ayodhya and other major cities while other religious places have such facilities. It is very necessary to provide railway facilities to Ayodhya to connect it with other important cities of the country. There is also great need of constructing a railway bridge across river Saryu at Ayodhya. It should be constructed as early as possible keeping in view the need and wishes of the local people. Besides, in order to reduce the traffic of heavy vehicles in this city and to provide direct link between Allahabad and Basti, Gorakhpur, a bridge across river Saryu at Tanda-kajwari Ghat in east of Ayodhya, which has already been sanctioned, must be constructed as soon as possible, so that the people can get relief.

[English]

- (ii) Need to Connect Bhubaneswar with Vishakhapatnam, Raipur and Port Blair by Vayudoot Services.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri): Now, Vayudoot service has been introduced, but some centres of Orissa need to be linked with Vayudoot service. Bhubaneswar — Jeypore — Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Bhubaneswar-Jharsuguda-Raipur (Madhya Pradesh) and Bhubaneswar, Konarak, Puri and Chilka are very essential to be connected with Vayudoot Services to promote tourism and commercial growth of the State. These services will be commercially viable.

Another air service between Bhubaneswar and Port Blair is very much needed. The passenger traffic will be adequate and cargo movement between Bhubaneswar and Port Blair thereby will be easier. I am, therefore, urging upon the Minister of Civil Aviation to introduce the aforesaid Vayudoot and air service for promoting tourism and commercial activities in the State. The State of Orissa being a backward State, needs special attention.

- (iii) Need to Look into the Problems of the Displaced Persons in Rengali and Indravati areas in Orissa.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Sir, because of faulty implementation of the rehabilitation policy in the Rengali and the Indravati river valley projects in Orissa, a large number of families of the submerged areas are put to a great deal of hardship. The Rengali Project is nearing completion and the displaced people have already left their hearths and homes. They are yet to be paid their compensation in full. Further, some of the resettled colonies built to house the displaced lack in basic facilities like drinking water, schools, roads, etc. The land leased out and said to be reclaimed in many places is not at all cultivation-worthy. Instead of adopting a uniform approach, enumeration of families and fixation of compensation in many cases have been done arbitrarily. The rehabilitation colonies are not yet declassified revenue villages and as such, regular development work of the Government and anti-poverty schemes are not being taken up in these villages.

As a result of all this, serious resentment and discontentment are prevailing among the displaced population. What is worse is the indifferent attitude of the authorities to such situation in as much as the decisions taken at the high level Rengali Rehabilitation Advisory Committee, which met on 26-6-86 after a gap of about three years, are not yet given effect to.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Water Resources to personally visit the Rengali and Indravati areas soon to see things for himself and take suitable remedial measures.

- (iv) Need to Exploit Various Places of Attraction in Kerala for Promotion of Tourism.

PROF. K. V. THOMAS (Ernakulam): Sir, tourism is an industry that can be developed in Kerala. Kerala has got a beautiful beach on the western side. On the eastern side, there are the Western Ghats having virgin forest. The plain land in between the Arabian Sea and the Western Ghats is the greenery of coconut trees and paddy fields. Periyar, Bharatha Puzha and