

led the fire that was the reason why there was not much damage suffered. Why we have said this because, we have still to file a claim from the insurance people. Roughly, we have said that the fire damage must be between Rs. 15 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs. We do not know. I do not think it is that much. But it is for the insurance people and the airport authorities to decide. It cannot be done now, because we have come to Parliament within two days of the fire. We cannot tell you exactly. But the damage was done to the escalators, ceilings, some tiles and flooring. All this has to be repaired, but we do not know how much is the damage.

I have just got a report: the total insurance at the airport is for Rs. 42.82 crores, i.e. for Terminals I and II. Terminal-II is insured for Rs. 20.58 crores. That is the insurance that we have.

Coming to the first point, Mr. Dighe had asked how we can conclude in any manner, because when the Chairman of the International Airport Authority had gone there and saw things, nobody had reported anything. I do not want to comment on it, because I have a full enquiry; and if the enquiry does not bring out a satisfactory answer to some of the questions you have raised, and if it does not satisfy me about the cause of the fire or the precautions, surely we would like to give it to another authority which is competent; but that decision can be taken only after I am not satisfied, or if the report which comes is such that it gives vague answers. But if it does not bring out results, I will make sure that we have a proper enquiry on it.

We have taken precautions. I have also mentioned them. One Hon. Member had spoken about God. Naturally, we are all God-fearing people. We would all like to pray to God to see that no damage is done to either the national property or to any individual persons. It is a general phrase which anybody can use. But I would like to inform the House that every precaution has been taken, and that is why we were able to control the fire. Whether it is a small fire or a big one, it is the concern of my Ministry, or my Department; and we

have to see that passengers are safe, and that the building is safe. After the insurance work is started, we will try to bring the building into operation as quickly as possible.

12.42 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation].

- (i) Need to start a new train from Kota or Ratlam to Delhi and to restart Dehradun Express

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, Kota is a largest industrial city of Rajasthan where the Rajasthan Atomic Power Project and various other big factories are situated and the people from all parts of the country are working there. All the trains running from Kota to Delhi are so overcrowded that thousands of passengers have to go back from the station due to non-availability of reservation. In Frontier Mail the ticket is to be purchased up to Meerut instead of Delhi and in Bombay-Jammu Tawi the ticket is to be purchased upto Ambala. The reservation available in Delux and Sarvodaya trains is almost negligible. Under such circumstances, the poor and middle class people can only travel by Dehradun and Janata Express. Therefore, I request the Central Government to start a new train from Kota or Ratlam to Delhi.

19 Down and 20 up Dehradun Express running between Bombay and Dehradun, have been cancelled, though it was the most useful train on this route. Therefore, this train should be restarted immediately. If it is necessary to cancel a train due to certain reasons, any other train running on this route may be cancelled. But Dehradun Express should be restarted. In addition to it, a new train from Ratlam-Kota to Delhi should be introduced.

[English]

- (ii) Need to declare the people of Ladakh region as Scheduled Tribe

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : The mini-census in connection with the grant of

a scheduled tribe status for Ladakhis has already been completed on 30th September 1986, and a similar census in the other parts of Jammu and Kashmir State is likely to be conducted some time early next year, i.e. 1987. Since the case relating to Ladakh region is specific and separate from the rest of the State, as the original demand for grant of a scheduled tribe status for them had come from Ladakh long back, the issue needed to be isolated, from the issues relating to the other two regions of the State. I, therefore, urge upon Government of India to compile a separate report in respect of the mini-census conducted for the Ladakh region, and early steps initiated for the declaration of the people of Ladakh region as a scheduled tribe, to fulfil their long standing demands.

(iii) **Preventive steps needed to save Lakshadweep from the menace of sea erosion**

SHRI P. M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep) : I wish to draw the attention of government to the devastating effect that sea erosion is steadily having on Lakshadweep.

There is a dire need to draw up both short term and long term comprehensive plans to put a stop to this menace. I suggest that priority be assigned to attend immediately on the dimension of this problem. To begin with the inhabited islands which are ten in number be taken up. The smallest island namely Bitra having a population of 200 inhabitants spread over an area of 27 acres be pulled out of the grave situation.

There should not be a long gap between now and the action plans and their implementation to reclaim what has already been lost.

I appeal to the government to mobilise all the available resources to save Lakshadweep from ruinous damage.

[*Translation*]

(iv) **Demand for TV Relay Centres at Damoh and Panna districts of Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN (Damoh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under rule 377 I would like to submit as under :

In Bundel Khand region of Madhya Pradesh Damoh and Panna are backward districts. In Damoh a Doordarshan Prasaran Bhavan has been constructed with public cooperation and a disc has also been brought there. The average population of Harijans and Adiwasis is 40 per cent in that area. I would, therefore, like to draw the attention especially of the Hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting that this Doordarshan Relay Centre should be started in 1986 itself. Similarly Panna is also a backward district and the population of the Harijans and Adiwasis is 40 per cent of its total population. Therefore a Doordarshan Relay Centre should also be opened there in 1986 itself.

[*English*]

(v) **Need to take immediate steps for the development of Paradeep Port**

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : Paradip Port is a major port in the country. Economic progress of Orissa is interlinked with the development of the port. But to achieve the high export possibility of the port, the following problems need immediate attention of the Government of India :

(i) Need to take speedy decision on the revised proposal of M/s Hyundai Corporation of South Korea envisaging deepening of Paradeep Port to accommodate vessels of 1,70,000 WT, and to provide railway aiding and mining facilities to enable augmentation of the exports of iron ore from the Port to the extent of 6 million tonnes annually.

(ii) Removal of wrecks of two sunken dredgers, namely, Dredger Konark and MOT No. III at Port with the