

[Sh. Harihar Soren]
 established during the Seventh Plan so that the export of iron ore through Paradeep Port could become most remunerative and attractive to the foreign buyers. Since due to constraints of sources, this project has not been made any progress, I urge upon the Government of India to consider favourably the proposal of M/s Hyuandai Corporation of South Korea.

(v) Need to increase the quantum of assistance to the victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we shall be observing fourth anniversary of Bhopal Gas tragedy on 3rd Dec., 1988. While on one hand, people of Bhopal have to face for reaching and complicated effects of gas, on the other hand, steps taken for rehabilitation are quite inadequate in the background of vast requirements.

Only Rs. 80 crores have been spent during the last four years, out of which Rs. 76.62 crores have been provided by the Central Government in the form of financial assistance. This assistance has been given on loan basis at the interest of 9.25 percent per annum, recovery of which has also been started.

The State Government has submitted a seven year working plan of Rs. 371 crores to the Central Government. Several requirements have not been induced therein. Similarly, keeping in view the price rise, the work plan might have to be extended beyond seven years. Ninth Finance Commission has recommended long-term interest free loans. The Central Government should arrange for a provision of at least Rs. 45 crores and release the same immediately.

[English]

(vi) Need to make available essential data of 1981 census and rectify the mistake of bracketing Pahari and Gojri in Hindi Group of languages in Jammu and Kashmir

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): It is unfortunate that most of the important details of the 1981 census are not available, even when the next census is falling due within a matter of two years. Most of the table that threw light on the socio-economic scenario previously, have been withheld by the Census Commission of India. Even the literacy figures depicting the status of various communities in India have not been released so far.

In my opinion, it amounts to suppression of information from the general public.

The Commission has also bracketed recognised languages into a lump and then characterised them as languages belonging to Hindi group of languages. This grouping is irrational and arbitrary. A case in point is the treatment meted out to Pahari and Gojri languages which are written and spoken languages in the J&K State. Pahari is spoken by about 14 lakh people in the J & K state and it has been recognised as a language in the constitution of J&K State. This language has a very rich stock of literature and it is a distinct language and does not fall within the Hindi group of languages. Similarly, Gojri is a language by itself. Bracketing Pahari and Gojri in J&K State with Hindi group of languages seems to be a mistake which will have to be rectified.

It is high time that the Government realise that Parliament alone is the supreme body to enunciate policy in such matters.