

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

- (i) **Supply of good quality coal by rail to medium-scale industries in Aligarh**

SHRIMATI USHA RANI TOMAR (Aligarh) : There are a number of medium scale industries in Aligarh but due to non-availability of electricity and coal, production worth crores of rupees has been stalled. Coal transported through trucks costs more. Moreover, it is difficult first to get railway wagons and even those who get wagons somehow are supplied sub-standard coal. Sir, I would request the Central Government to make arrangements for the supply of good quality coal through railways.

- (ii) **Demand for a new railway line along Indira Canal**

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a matter of urgent public importance in the House. A new railway line should be laid along the Indira Canal. The length of this line will be about 500 Kms and it will be the most important line in the country in terms of security and revenue because the Indira Canal is one of the most important Canals of the world. The capacity of this Canal will be 18,500 cusecs of water. Therefore, the area irrigated by Canal will become the granary of foodgrains and fodder. Moreover, valuable wood will also be available from this area. A large stretch of hilly area in Rajasthan will also be covered by this Canal and stones of many varieties are found in abundance there. So, this railway line will prove vital for the transportation of foodgrains, fodder, valuable wood and stones to all parts of the country. This railway line will connect six districts of Rajasthan, namely, Sri Ganganagar, Churu, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur and scores of other big cities. I would, therefore, like to draw the attention of the Government and the hon. Railway Minister towards this vital railway line and request him to make an announcement in this regard in the House.

- (iii) **Effective steps needed to save Monghyr and Begusarai in Bihar from the fury of floods every year.**

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI (Begusarai) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to the sudden and devastating floods in the Ganga, Keol and Harohar rivers in Bihar, soil erosion on a large scale is taking place and there has been heavy loss of life and property. This is tragic happening in the history of the last many years. Thousands of acres of land has been reduced to sand and useles mud has been submerged. Due to soil erosion, thousands of houses have been washed away. Besides, about 50 to 60 thousand people belonging to Khutaha Ramchandrapur, Mohanpur, Walipur, Rahatpur, Akbarpur, Bijliya, Khabhi areas of Monghyr and Begusarai District are facing starvation and housing problems. A grave crisis of transport, drinking water and medical aid has been created in the villages coming under Panchayats of Reartal.

I have been drawing the attention of the State Government of Bihar to these tragic incidents in Bihar Legislative Assembly from 1972 to 1977 and I have also been bringing this to the notice of the Government of India from 1980 to 1984. In the absence of a long-term and time-bound programme, this has become a national problem. Although the Centre and the State Government have spent crores of rupees under the short-term and emergency schemes to save the life and property there but the common man did not get any assistance. Instead, they have benefited only the engineers and the contractors. So, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government and request that a long-term effective scheme be formulated to give relief to the people affected by soil erosion caused by the rivers in the districts of Monghyr and Begusarai.

[*English*]

- (iv) **Promotion of tourism in Jammu and Kashmir**

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : The tourist industry in

Jammu and Kashmir State is in a shambles. Most of the house boats and hotels are vacant. It has become extremely difficult for the house boat owners and the hoteliers to pay off the loans to the banks which they had raised over a period of past seven years to run their trade.

Numerous industries which flourish only when the tourist industry is viable such as wood carving, paper machine embroidery, crewel, carpet making and shawl making are facing the worst slump. There has been fall in the number of domestic tourists visiting the State for obvious reasons. But there is no reason why there should be fall in the number of foreign visitors to the State. One does not understand as to why only 5 per cent of the international tourists that visit India come to Kashmir. On the basis of the facts that are known to me, Kashmir is not being told as a tourist destination to international community through our tourist offices in the world Capitals.

I would propose the following :—

1. That Government of India take vigorous measures directed towards recovery of tourist industry in Kashmir.
2. A group of experts may be deputed to Middle East countries for attracting tourists to Kashmir and Ladakh.
3. Srinagar Airport may be declared as an international airport.
4. All tourist offices working abroad must be asked to check up brochures/pamphlets etc. on tourism in India and indicate Vaishno Devi, Kashmir and Ladakh as tourist destinations.
5. That Government of India may depute a senior experienced officer to Srinagar to assess the present position of slump in the tourist industry and suggest

measures to promote tourism in Kashmir.

- (v) Need to take effective steps to ban manufacturing and testing of all nuclear weapons to achieve complete disarmament in the world

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY (Krishnagiri) : Today, the 6th August, 1985 is reminding the entire world and the humanity the 40th anniversary of the worst-ever Atomic bombing by the United States of America of Hiroshima and Nagasaki during Second World War. The whole mankind including the people of U. S. A. and other nuclear-weapon producing countries are opposing the use of nuclear weapons. If there is any nuclear warfare in future, it is certain that there will be nobody to celebrate the victory of the nuclear war.

I congratulate the Head of State of the Soviet Union for having announced unilaterally that his country will not resort to any further nuclear tests from 6th August, 1985. I believe that this is the first and vital step towards banning of nuclear weapons. I appeal to the President of USA for similar announcement banning all nuclear tests by the United States of America.

The NAM under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister of India could alone make the entire world to desist from nuclear warfare and also star war programme envisaged by the President of USA which will not only affect and destroy the earth but also the outer space.

The recently concluded six-Nation Summit's appeal to the Super Powers and the prompt initiatives of our Prime Minister by having fruitful dialogues during his recent visits to the Soviet Union and the United States of America, have paved the way for their ensuing Summit meeting at Geneva on 19th November, 1985 over the question of Nuclear disarmament.

I appeal to the Chairman of NAM to take further effective steps in banning of