

- (iv) Need for issuing directions to all State Governments for nationalising passenger road transport.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Sir, it has been seen that despite the fact that 40 years have passed after our Independence, passenger road transport, which is and ought to be the basic responsibility of the Government, has been left in the hands of private individuals and companies in several States. In fact, in the frame-work of socialistic pattern of society that we have adopted, we have broadly laid down the spheres of activities for the State and for private sector. Where basically service is the motto, profit aspect coming only next to it, it will be absurd to expect service from individuals and companies having business stakes in transport, to serve the people in a manner the Government would do. As a result, in the States where passenger road transport is in private hands, routes in the rural areas are neglected on grounds of their being uneconomic. In a State like Goa where along with private bus operators there also ply Government Corporation buses, private operators do not apply for uneconomic routes. Therefore, the State Government who cannot shirk the responsibility of service to the people, has to ask their corporation to apply for plying passenger buses on the said routes.

I, therefore, request that Central Government should give directions to all the State Governments to nationalise passenger road transport and, also give necessary financial assistance in needy cases like that of Goa for the purpose.

- (v) Demand for sufficient funds for early completion of the Jankhapura-Bansabani Railway line in Orissa.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : Sir, Jankhapura Bansabani rail line is under implementation. The first phase is completed. But there has been no allocation of funds for the second phase. Jankhapura-Bansabani rail line will promote the industrial and commercial growth of the State. It passes through the industrial and mining belt of Orissa, and this rail line will also promote the growth of Paradeep Port. The State Government of Orissa have undertaken to acquire the land at their own cost and it has been done.

The Railway Ministry is running short of resources but the on-going projects in a backward State like Orissa need to be given priority. I am therefore urging upon the Government to provide adequate required funds for implementation of the aforesaid project and completion according to the schedule time.

[Translation]

- (vi) Demand for steps to solve the problems faced by handloom weavers adversely affected by the New Textile Policy.

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House towards the following matter of public importance under rule 377.

12.13 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the chair*]

Uttar Pradesh especially the area comprising Gorakhpur and its nearby places, is an important centre of weavers. Lakhs of weavers there are facing unemployment and starvation due to faulty implementation of the new textile policy, unprecedented increase in the prices of yarn, fall in the demand and prices of handloom cloth and the competition between handloom and powerloom units. If effective steps are not taken by the Central Government and the State Government immediately to solve this problem, lakhs of families of weavers will have to face an unprecedented crisis.

I would, therefore, like to suggest that this problem may please be given serious consideration in the House immediately and the weavers be given relief by Government by taking immediate effective steps in this regard.

- (vii) Demand for directing the Electronics Corporation of India to take up production of Colour TVs, VCRs and VCPs at its Tirupati Andhra Pradesh unit.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati) : Sir, Tirupati is the most backward area which comes under Rayalaseema of Andhra Pradesh where people are below poverty-line without any source of employment.