

The Express train from Jodhpur to Ahmedabad *via* Bhildi passes through the important densely populated villages and towns of District Jalore. This is the only express train for the passengers from both the Districts which connects Ahmedabad and various other cities of Gujarat. This train is always overcrowded. It has seven coaches from Jodhpur, which are insufficient. At Bhildi, the coaches of the train from Bhuj are also connected to this train which creates problems for the passengers of Jodhpur, Barmer and Jalore Districts.

I had drawn the attention of the Railway Department during the meeting of the Railway Consultative Committee and North Railway Zone Consultative Committee in this regard but to no avail.

I would, therefore, request the Railway Minister that an exclusive train should be run from Jodhpur to Ahmedabad *via* Bhildi and there should be a provision for 11 coaches, which should have no connection with the Bhuj train so that travellers do no face any inconvenience.

12.11 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

(ii) Need to take measures to protect the shipping industry

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad) : The threatend foreclosure of mortgages on ships by the banks has created a piquant situation which might as well bring the entire Indian shipping industry to closure. The situation has arisen as shipping has become a losing concern as there is not enough freight to fill the ship capacities. If the banks foreclose the mortgages the money will have to be paid by the Shipping Development Fund Committee which stood guarantee for the loans taken by the shipping companies. The ownership of the ships in that case revert to the committee. All that the committee can do is to transfer this ownership to the public sector Shipping Corporation of India which is already sick. The Government must call a high level conference to find a way out of this problem by perhaps rescheduling the

debt of the shipping companies and also insisting that at least 40 per cent of Indian trade should be carried only in Indian ships.

(iii) Diversion of National Highway passing through Nagpur City to the outer side of the city

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT (Nagpur) : I want to bring to the notice of the Central Government that the condition of the National Highway passing through the Nagpur City (Maharashtra State) is very much deplorable and alarming. Nagpur is the centre of the country and all the traffic from Madras, Delhi, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Bombay and Calcutta passes through the Nagpur City and vice versa.

A large number of innocent persons and school going kids are crashed every month under the wheels of the heavy vehicles on this National Highway.

It has been the desire of the residents of Nagpur for long that the existing National Highway which passes through the Nagpur City should be diverted from the outer side of the city. A large number of requests have been made to the Maharashtra Government and Central Government in this regard, but it has failed to achieve any appropriate results. Construction of the National Highways in the country is the sole responsibility of the Central Government. Maharashtra Government is not in a position to do so, due to shortage of funds with them for the said purpose.

I would request the Central Government to look into the matter immediately and, keeping in view the valuable lives of the innocent persons and school going kids, the existing National Highway, which passes through the Nagpur City, should be diverted from the outer side of the Nagpur city.

(iv) Need to set up more B.S.F. posts all along the Bangladesh Border

DR. GOLAM YAZDANI (Raiganj) : Sir, the whole of Chopra P.S. and Islampur P.S. and Goalpukur Block-I and Raiganj and Kaligenj P.S. of West Dinajpur district in West Bengal situated along the Bangladesh border is very vulnerable to all sorts of anti-social activities by Bangladesh who