

particularly due to the increase in the iron ore and coal mining activities in the district and also due to the rise in the standard of living and flexibility and speedy transportation are some of the primary causes for increase of vehicular traffic. On the other hand, the National Highway is narrow and causing increasing traffic congestion. For the safety of the people and also to bring tribal belt under economic activities and for ultimate social and economic upliftment of the tribals, it is very necessary to develop and widen this Road. The State Government is financially not sound to bear the cost of the widening work. As there is constraint of resources with the Centre too, I demand that the Government of India should seek World Bank or Asian Development Bank assistance for widening and the Development of the National Highway between Sambalpur and Rourkela without any further delay.

[*Translation*]

- (ii) **Need to run the Gorakhpur Fertilizer Factory on gas based plant and extend Jagdishpur Gas Pipe line upto Gorakhpur for industrialisation of this backward region**

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gorakhpur):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the last four decades, industrial progress has set in the pace of economic revolution in our country and to some extent, some percentage of people who were earlier dependent on agriculture, have now changed over to industrial sector. But it is also a fact that industrialisation has been restricted only to certain specific areas of our country and the areas which were lagging behind in this race, have been left further behind resulting in the heavy regional imbalances. Although, the present Government have made commendable efforts to remove these regional imbalances through various development schemes and a climate of industrialisation is being created in

these areas with the creation of growth centres and Development Authorities in the backward areas of the country. But in spite of the availability of these infrastructure facilities in this area, public sector shall have to take a lead in creating the industrial climate. For example, since 1960, not a single public sector undertaking has been set up even at a place like Gorakhpur in Eastern Uttar Pradesh and the only fertiliser factory, which was set up there at that time with a total outlay of only Rs. 20 crores, has now become technically and economically a non-viable unit. However, it is a matter of happiness that revamping of this factory is under consideration of the Government and an amount of Rs. 66 crores is being sanctioned for the purpose which will enable this factory to operate for another two to four years but it is not a permanent solution.

Therefore, I would like to request the Government that a new gas based plant may be provided at the Gorakhpur Fertilizer Factory and Jagdishpur Gas pipe line may also be extended upto Gorakhpur. Infrastructure facilities and land is already available in Gorakhpur district for this purpose. Besides, public and private sector companies should also be attracted to this place to set up their units there.

- (iii) **Need for steps to remove backwardness of Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN (Damoh):

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh is a very backward area. There is not even a single industry in the Panna district of this region, due to which there is wide spread unemployment in this area. All the diamond mines in this region, which were previously operated by the N.D.M.C., are now lying closed. Hence to solve the problem of unemployment in Panna district, mining operations in these mines