

[Shri Mullappally Ramachandran]

Besides its sportsmen and sports fans Cannanore also has a most befitting topography with easy access to all modes of transport which include the Mangalore airport about 2½ hours drive from here.

Further, Cannanore does not suffer from want of sufficient space suited for any sports and games activities.

Keeping in view the above facts, Cannanore is an ideal place for the location of a sports complex in Kerala. Permitting the Sports Complex to be founded at Cannanore will be a befitting and highly deserving recognition given to the rich talent of this place.

I request the hon. Prime Minister to take necessary steps to set up a Sports Complex at Cannanore in Kerala.

[*Translation*]

- (vi) Need to provide financial assistance and drip irrigation facilities and bore-wells to farmers of Karnataka to save coconut and arecanut crops

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SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur): Tumkur and other places like Tipur, Chikkanayakanhalli, Turuvekere, Gubbi, Sira, Hasnan Channarayapatna, Arasikere, Kadur, Chikkamagalur, Bengalore, Chennapatna, Hiriyur, Hosadurga, etc. in Karnataka grow coconut and arecanut abundantly. Arecanut and coconut are the main cash crops in the above said areas and many farmers are fully depending upon these crops. From these areas arecanuts and coconut are sent to all parts of the country. But unfortunately as there was not sufficient rain in these areas the farmers are distraught. The production of arecanut and coconut has declined by 75%. This year also there is no rain in these areas and the crops have withered away. Therefore, the Central Government should come

forward to provide facilities for drip irrigation and bore wells to the farmers. If such new schemes of irrigation are not taken up for implementation immediately I am sure that the cultivation of arecanut and coconut would cease. All kinds of subsidy and loans should be granted to these farmers. Each farmer should get at least five thousand rupees per acre.

Therefore I request the hon. Minister to sanction at least one hundred crores of rupees for this purpose, and save the farmers from becoming extinct.

[*English*]

- (vii) Demand for reduction in recently enhanced air fare between Agartala and Calcutta and to develop infra-structural facilities for development of the State

SHRI AJOY BISWAS (Tripura West): People, irrespective of party affiliations, and the Government of Tripura, have been pleading for years for better Railway communications, Telecommunications facilities and more industries for providing employment to people in Tripura. The State is a flood prone area and every year a large number of people fall victim to catastrophic floods which submerge all major roads, dislocating the entire transport system in the State. The only other means of travel—by air—has become 14.5% more expensive recently and thus has become a prohibitive means for commoners. Moreover, computerised booking system resulted in trouble in obtaining confirmed air tickets. The flights are limited for a large number of passengers daily. There is a single Boeing flight to Calcutta and that is not able to cope with the heavy rush of the passengers' demands. The nearest railway station, Dharmanagar, is 200 kms. away from the capital city of Agartala. Similarly, the telecommunications system has remained unchanged. The State Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution, during the Budget session demanding subsidy @ 25% for the increased air fare or

*The speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

abolition of the same for ungradation of the existing telecommunication system, and similar other issues. In view of the special geophysical position of the State and its tiny size but strategic importance, the demand for special favoured treatment in the shape of Central financial assistance is the minimum the State of Tripura expect, to enable it to march alongside other States of the Union.

I, therefore, urge upon the Minister concerned to announce Government's decision in the matter of abolition of extra 14.5% air fare for the passengers of Tripura or grant of subsidy of the said enhanced rate, efforts to upgrade the existing telecommunication system, linking of Agartala with rest of the country by railway system, development of roads in the State and regarding schemes for generating employment in the State by setting up industries.

[*Translation*]

- (viii) Need for a Central scheme to save the flood affected people of District Madhubani, Bihar on a permanent basis

SHRI ABDUL HANNAN ANSARI (Madhubani) : Lakhs of families have been affected by the floods due to breaches at several places in the Kamla Balan Dam in Madhubani district of Bihar. I would like to draw the Government's attention to this tragedy and request them to make arrangements for shifting them to some safe place and ensure payment of compensation for the loss suffered by them. This devastation by floods is a regular annual feature and the people incur loss of life and property. So, I shall request the Union Government to prepare some scheme to solve this problem on permanent basis so as to relieve these people of this recurring loss.

[*English*]

- (ix) Problems faced by workers employed in Bata Shoe Factory at Faridabad

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : Some sixteen hundred

workers of the Bata shoe factory at Faridabad are without any work, without any salary for nearly three months. The workers are not on strike, the management is not giving the workers any job to do. The management tried to force the packers to do the job of controllers. The controllers salary is more than that of packers. It is an attempt of the management to have indirect retrenchment and bring down manpower. The Management refused to give job to the workers and informed the Government that workers were on strike. But actually workers are daily giving attendance and asking for jobs which the management are not giving. The D.C. Faridabad made an on the spot enquiry and found the workers to be at the place of duty. But even then the management refused to give job to the workers nor do they declare a lock out. Not only that. At the instance of the management the supply of rations to the workers has been stopped. The Central Labour Department should move to solve the problem and force the management to start production forthwith.

- (x) Demand for a Vayudoot Service from Hyderabad to Bellary and Raichur

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary) : This is to bring to the notice of the Government the need for extending the Vayudoot service to Bellary and Raichur districts in Karnataka State. I would like to invite the attention of the Government to the importance of Hospet, Bellary and Hampi (Vijay Nagar Empire ruins), Tungabhadra Dam and Donimalai Iron Ore Project of National Mineral Development Corporation. Hampi being a historical place every year more than 10-150 tourists are coming from foreign countries to see the Great Vijaya Vithal Temple known for its sculpture etc. A recent survey shows that the runway seems to be suitable. The Karnataka Government has already requested the Central Government to start the Vayudoot service during October and November of this year. I have been told that Dornier 228 Air