

(ii) Need to re-start Janata and Navajeevan Express trains between Madras and Bombay.

SHRI A. PRATAP SAH (Rajampet): Rayalaseema, a backward region of Andhra Pradesh has least railway network. The Madras-Bombay "B. G." line runs through some parts of Rayalaseema. The said train was introduced about 35 years back and was highly economical for the local farmers to transport their agricultural produce like mango, lemon, orange, banana and mainly betel leaves, directly to the two Metros.

This train is very convenient to the general public. Such a popular train was abruptly cancelled without consulting the representatives of the people nor any proper reasons given for cancellation of the train. Similarly, the Navjeevan Express between Madras and Ahmedabad, traversing on the same "BG" line was also cancelled causing great economic hardship to the local people. Thus the development activities in this region have greatly come down with the cancellation of all important lifeline of the common man and the industrialist as well as the agriculturist.

Keeping in view the economic condition of this backward area I request the Government to help the region by introducing the Janata and Navajeevan Express trains to pass through this region.

12.41 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER IN THE CHAIR]

(iii) Need to open Coal Division at Gopalpur in Sundargarh district of Orissa

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO (Sundargarh): Sundargarh at Gopalpur contains the largest deposit of coal in Asia. The coal mines have yet to start functioning. On the instruction of the Government of India fifteen villages have been earmarked for eviction. I, however, request that before the displacement of these villagers, due compensation should be paid and proper stops be taken for their re-settlement. Immediate steps have to be taken for providing job opportunities to the family members of these displaced persons on priority basis. It is the demand of the people of Sundargarh to have a coal division at Gopalpur.

Opening of a Coal Division at Gopalpur will create job avenues to the displaced and the sons of the soil. It will also cater to the needs of the local people and effective and timely action will be possible only when the Division Office is located close to the site of mines.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to open the Coal Division at Gopalpur.

(iv) Need to prevent delay caused at Kanpur railway station in distribution of bananas sent from Jalgaon to Lucknow.

DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE (Jalgaon): The bananas produced in Jalgaon district are transported through Railway wagons to Northern India and are distributed there. The wagons are loaded from Jalgaon district for Lucknow. Its distribution is however, unnecessarily delayed at Kanpur by railway authorities at the behest of traders. As bananas are perishable fruits, delay in their distribution causes losses.