

(vi) Need to restore certain railway facilities at Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar, West Bengal.

[English]

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri): Sir, I like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the people of the District of North Bengal, specially Coochbehar and Jalpaiguri have welcomed the introduction of the new tri-weekly train, Teesta-Topra Express. But the bogies attached to the train are in a dilapidated condition. There are no 1st class and AC II tier bogies on the train running from Haldinbani to Sealdah. It is, therefore, imperative that the bogies are replaced soon and the 1st class and AC II tier bogies are replaced soon and the 1st class and AC DO tier bogies attached with the train and the train runs daily.

Secondly, after the introduction of this train, the Railway authorities have curtailed some facilities enjoyed by the people of the district of North Bengal. Withdrawal of stoppages of some trains from some stations, curtailment of the reservation quota are some of the curtailments. On these points the people of the district of Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar are agitated and have started a movement. I request, the Central Government to take immediate necessary measures so that facilities relating to train-stoppages and reservation quota enjoyed by the people of Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar may be restored.

(vii) Need to take steps for Balanced development of Nawada, Jahabad and Aurangabad Districts in Bihar for checking growing Menace of Terrorism in these areas

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, democracy is in jeopardy due to the growing acts of terrorism in the country. The ancient Gaya

district, famous all over the world for Buddhist religion and peace and where Gautam Buddha was enlightened and got peace, is now in the grip of terrorism. All the three districts, Nawada, Jahanabad and Aurangabad are in the grip of terrorism. This is attributed to unbalanced growth in the area.

If the growing menace of terrorism is to be rooted out completely the development processes would have to be directed towards the villages of backward classes and Harijans. For this, the first and foremost necessity is to provide educational facilities to all villages which have a population of about 1500 and provision of clean drinking water will have to be made in their villages on a war footing. The Land Ceiling Act will have to be enforced strictly because land is the root cause of all clashes. Medical facilities will have to be provided to these villages.

Therefore, I demand from Government to take steps to completely root out terrorism and take action immediately on all these measures so that terrorism does not increase any further.

(viii) Need for Land reforms in the country and to Ensure that Scheduled Caste get Possession of the Land Allotted to them

SHRI RAM BADAN (Lalganj): At the time of independence 45 years ago, distribution of land to landless farmers especially the Harijans has been accorded top priority in the national reconstruction programme but except for a few States, no significant achievement had been made in this regard in other States. Unequitable distribution of land is a hurdle reforms should be strictly implemented in order to put an end to exploitation in land use. Till now, out of total acquired land of 56 lakh thousand acres only 48 lakh thousand acres of land has been distributed. Out of this, fifty percent of land has reportedly been distributed among scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but the fact is something else. These people have not been given possession of more than half the land allotted to them.

Therefore, I request the Central Government that ownership of land should be given to the farmers and people who, though eligible have not been distributed land. They should be given an opportunity to rise up in the agriculture sector. .
(Interruptions)

16.30 hrs.

[English]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER RAM
JANMA -BHUMI-BABRI MASJID ISSUE

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Some important developments have taken place recently in regard to the Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid Issue.

from December, 1991 onwards, several of the security installations in the Ram Janma Bhoomi-Babrai Masjid complex have been dismantled and some of the other security arrangements have repeatedly not been working satisfactorily, the possible adverse effect of these developments on the security of the Ram Janma Bhoomi-Babri Masjid structure have been brought to the notice of the State Government from time to time. The State Government was also requested to consider implementing the recommendations contained in a comprehensive security plan prepared by a team of Central experts. The Chief Minister recently assured me about the adequacy of the security arrangements.

The State authorities have constructed a wall enclosing a large area around the Ram Janma Bhoomi-babri Masjid. The Chief Minister has informed that the wall was being built in accordance with the recommendations of the Central expert team. However, the constructed wall is at much greater distance from the disputed structure than the one recommended by the Central team and, as of now, there is little evidence that the additional security features are also being installed.

In March, 1992, the State Government

undertook demolition of additional structures in the RJB-BM complex leaving reportedly only the Sitakooop, Shila Nyas site, VHP's Kirtan Chabutra and a portion of the Sakshi Gopal temple. Along with the demolition, extensive digging and leveling operations were also commenced. These operations have led to apprehensions in the minds of many people regarding their possible effect on the strength and safety of the disputed structure. We took up the matter with the State Government who have assured that these would have no adverse effect in the structure. Reportedly the digging, leveling and other work is still continuing.

Following the invitation given by the Chief Minister of U.P. in the meeting of the National Integration Council on 2nd November, 1991, a decision was taken to send a delegation comprising members of the Standing Committee of the NIC and Parliament to visit Ayodhya. This delegation visited Ayodhya on 7th April, 1992 and its report has been circulated to the Honorable Members of Parliament.

The Ram Janam Bhoomi-Babri Masjid issue continues to be the subject of a number of Court cases pending before the Lucknow bench of the Allahabad High court. These include the original title suits,, writ motions challenging the land acquisition done by the State Government, certain civil miscellaneous applications, and a recent petition seeking for a direction to the State of Uttar Pradesh to stop digging on the land acquired by it in the light of the possible danger to the disputed structure., Further,, before the Supreme Court, two contempt petitions and a public interest litigation have been filed: these three petitions have been adjourned till July, 1992. One of the contempt petitions alleges that the demolition of structures at Ayodhya and the clearing of the debris are violatre of the Supreme Court's order of 15 November 1991. The other contempt petition alleges that the acquisition of land at Ayodhya, the handing over a possession of land to the Ram, Janma Bhoomi Nyas, the demolition of structures and the construction of the wall are violative of the Supreme Court's order of 15 November