

1. Daitari-Keonjhar rail link;
2. Rayagade- Koraput rail link;
3. Mancheswar Workshop.

The location of important offices outside the State generates antipathy amongst local people in the sense that though the actual work is done in the State, people connected with construction activities have to travel to Calcutta for pursuing ordinary day to day trivial matter. This arrangement deprives a fair share for the local candidates in the jobs being generated in such projects. The coordination between the project authorities and the State Government departments becomes the first victim in this kind of arrangement.

13 hrs

I demand that the offices of the General Manager, Chief Engineer, Additiodal Accounts Officer in charge of the construction organisation in respect of the new rail lines i.e., Jakhapura-Banaspani and Rayagada-Koraput and Mancheswar Workshop should be located inside the State of Orissa.

(iv) Need for stopping use of the Indraprastha Stadium for performing cultural and musical programmes.

* SHRI RASABEHARI BEHERA (Kalahandi): Under Rule 377, I make the following statement :

Indraprastha Indoor Stadium in Delhi is the only one of its kind in Asia. It is the third largest stadium in the World. It is fully airconditioned and was constructed at a cost of over Rs. 26 crores. The giant structure of this stadium is equipped to international standards and has the capacity to accommodate 25,000 persons.

Despite the fact that this stadium is one of the important stadia in the world, it has not been maintained well. It has thrice been used for film 'star-nites' and more booking is pouring in. But the stadium is mainly structured and designed for indoor games and is not suitable for any kind of cultural and musical programmes. The visitors made forcible entry into the arena of the stadium to see the film star closely and thus the arena and the other parts of the stadium suffered extensive damage during the

'star-nites'. The stereo system imported for the purpose of playing music during the gymnastic floor exercises nearly got burnt out. To satisfy the crazy audiences the organisers have been using the special takwood floor of the performing arena, constructed at a cost of over Rs. 60 lakhs for seating purposes. All the norms observed during Asiad have been violated and the iron chairs have been fixed on the floor.

In view of this, I request the hon. Minister of Sports to personally investigate into the whole affair and ensure that the cultural and musical programmes are not allowed to be held in Indraprastha stadium. This premier sports stadium should be maintained and used to generate nerve and vigour in our youths for the sports. It should not be allowed to become 20th century monument.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There are 15 more Hon. Members to speak on this item. Therefore, I suggest that we will adjourn for Lunch and meet at 2 o'clock.

HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet 2 o'clock.

13.01 hours

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha Reassembled after lunch at Five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[Shri Chintamani Panigrahi *in the Chair*]

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur) : Yesterday was 25th Vaisakha. I was the birthday of internationally famous great poet Ravindra Nath Tagore. It should be declared a holiday. Through you I want to urge upon the Government that from next year 25th Vaisakha should be declared a holiday every year for Parliament and Central Government. In this connection, I have to say that West Bengal Government had declared a holiday every year on Tagore's birthday.

* The original spech was delivered in Oriya.