

[Shri V. S. Vijayaraghavan]

Trivandrum division has created a new hope that the people of Kerala who have been neglected already in the matter of railway development, will also be able to achieve progress. Moreover, this line provides much better service to the passengers than when it was under the Madurai division.

It is highly regrettable that a section of railway employees should have started an agitation for transfer of Tirunelveli-Kanyakumari line to Madurai Division.

It is quite natural for the people of Kerala to entertain the apprehension that if this line is taken out of Trivandrum Division, the Division itself would be wound up.

Therefore, while requesting the Government that it should not yield to the agitators I would appeal to the government to assure the people of Kerala that the two railway divisions Palghat and Trivandrum of Kerala will remain intact and thus dispel the apprehension from the minds of the people.

(iii) OUTBREAK OF ENCEPHALITIS IN BIHAR.

श्री कमला मिश्र मधुकर (मोतीहारी):

बिहार के कई जिलों में और खास कर पूर्वी चम्पारन जिले में एन्सिफ्लाइटिस के रोग से सैकड़ों व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हो गई है तथा रोग का प्रसार जारी है। सरकार की ओर से कोई समुचित प्रभावकारी कदम नहीं उठाये गये हैं कि रोग का निवारण तथा प्रसार पर रोकथाम हो।

अस्तु, मैं इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार का ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूँ कि अविलम्ब ऐसी कार्रवाई की जाए कि जनता की जान बचाई जा सके। स्वास्थ्य मंत्री इस बात पर अविलम्ब कार्रवाई करें।

(IV) VIVEKANANDA ROCK MEMORIAL AT KANYAKUMARI.

SHRI R. K. MHALGI (Thane): The Vivekanand Rock Memorial at Kanyakumari attracting between 3000 and 10,000 visitors including foreigners every day is likely to be closed for visitors in the first week of December, 1980, for want of ferry services. Kanyakumari harbour area which was leased out by the Government to the Memorial has been progressively encroached up on by the local fishermen during the past four years. Despite repeated representations, the Central and State Governments failed to take any action.

The fishermen were obstructing desilting operations in the area. The launch and the boats being used to carry visitors are not allowed even to be repaired.

A memorial to Swami Vivekanand is situated on the rock in the sea at Kanyakumari. The Memorial is situated on the rock in the sea at Kanyakumari before he went to Chicago. The Central and the State Governments had given grants for the Memorial in lakhs.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to take immediate steps to save the Memorial from being closed for visitors.

(V) POWER SHORTAGE IN RAJASTHAN.

श्री वृद्धि चंद्र जैन (बाड़मेर):

देश में अक्टूबर एवं नवम्बर, 1980 माह में बिजली के उत्पादन में वृद्धि के उपरान्त भी राजस्थान राज्य में गांधी सागर, राणा प्रताप सागर एवं जवाहर सागर में वर्षा की कमी से पानी कम आने के कारण एवं कोटा अणु बिजलीघर की प्रथम इकाई में बार-बार यान्त्रिक त्रुटियों के कारण बंद हो जाने के कारण भयंकर संकट है। इस संकट में और वृद्धि होगी जब गांधी

सागर, राणा प्रताप सागर एवं जवाहर सागर में दो माह में और पानी कम हो जायगा । अणु बिजलीघर की दूसरी इकाई ने कार्य करना शुरू कर दिया है परन्तु प्रथम इकाई के परिणामों को देखते हुए दूसरी इकाई के परिणामों के बारे में आशावादी नहीं हो सकते । अतः राजस्थान प्रान्त की कृषि एवं औद्योगिक उत्पादन का भविष्य अंधकार मय है । केन्द्रीय ऊर्जा विभाग दूसरे प्रान्तों में जहाँ कि विद्युत् के उत्पादन में वृद्धि हुई है, से विद्युत् शक्ति प्राप्त कर उपरोक्त वर्णित भयंकर नाजुक स्थिति से बचा सकता है । अतः केन्द्रीय विद्युत् एवं ऊर्जा विभाग का ध्यान इस महत्वपूर्ण समस्या की ओर आकर्षित किया जाता है ।

(VI) POOLING SYSTEM IN MARKETING OF CARDAMOM

SHRI CUMBUM N NATARAJAN (Periyakulam): About 70 per cent of the cardamom growers of Kerala and Tamil Nadu are settled in the Cumbum Valley situated within my Parliamentary constituency, Periyakulam. I learn with much anxiety about the contemplated schemes to introduce the pooling system of marketing in Cardamom, as it would be detrimental to the interest of the growers, on the following amongst other reasons:

The cardamom holding are smaller in extent.

The small cardamom growers are depending solely on the income that is fetched from these small holdings.

In pooling, 34 grades of cardamom, both superior quality and inferior quality are mixed together and thus lose its value for quality. The unit value of exchange earnings will invariably go down. As the grower will get only an average price under the system of pooling, there will be no incentive to produce better quality of cardamom.

The pooling system will necessitate the fixation of a floor price. This will incapacitate the exporters to bargain for higher price. But there will be no such problem in other cardamom producing countries of the world.

The present system of sale of cardamom is through public auctions. The Cardamom Board controls the auctioners and the proper records are maintained at the auction centres. The direct sales can be effected only through dealers licensed by the Cardamom Board. This will show that the present system will not give way for evasion of tax.

Pooling would encourage a class of middle men, who will mop off substantial share of the profit, which is rightly due to the producers. On account of the formalities inevitable in the pooled system, the small holders would be compelled to seek the aid of middle men.

If pooling is introduced, the time lag between delivery of crop and payment of price would be considerable in the case of cardamom and this would cause much financial difficulties to the producer.

The important market for cardamom is the Middle East countries. They prefer Green-Bold capsules of cardamom. The colour and size of cardamom is reduced by storage. The maximum period by which the green colour of cardamom can be maintained is six months, even by scientific methods of storage. The pooling will result in considerable value loss between the time of pooling and eventual sale in foreign markets.

The cumbersome procedures involved in the system of pooling will create a lot of hardships to the growers. The administrative and establishment charges for the working of pooling system will be an additional burden on the grower. I demand dropping further steps in introducing the pooling system.