

locality and the neighbouring towns and villages have to face enormous troubles for want of railway transport. The existing Bankura Damodar River Railway ceased to function on the pretext of monetary loss and similar other pretexts.

Under the circumstances stated above, I earnestly request you to look into the matter personally and take necessary action so that the only important railway may run as a better railway under broad gauge connecting Tarakeswar broad gauge line.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, may I make a humble request? I know the Ministers cannot respond. They are not here either. Even those who are here, they are not paying any attention. Therefore, I am only requesting that let the Members be informed subsequently as to what action is taken on these matters which you think seem important enough to be allowed to be raised in the House. *(Interruptions)* Even now, they are not listening.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAWANI LAL VERMA (Janjgir): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Korba under Vilaspur district in Madhya Pradesh has developed into a big industrial centre. There are 10 coal mines, around the city. Besides, an aluminium factory a National Thermal Power station, Madhya Pradesh power generation station and office of the Hasdo Major Irrigation

project are also located there.. *(Interruptions)*...

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: May I ask the Ministers to sit dispersed so that they are not involved in talking with each other?

[*Translation*]

A number of industries of the Central and State levels have been established and there is likelihood of many more being set up there in future.

At present, the population of the above city has gone more than one lakh. Businessmen, Industrialists, officials, workers and people from all parts of the country live there.

5 superfast trains, which cover a long distance start from Vilaspur, the district headquarters. The people of Korba city are continuously demanding to originate one of the above trains from Korba and an agitation may take place there on this issue. Their demand is very just and the Ministry of Railways should take some decision by seriously considering the issue.

The following trains originate from vilaspur:-

1. 8238 - 8237 Amritsar-Chhatisgarh Express
2. 2826 - 2825 Bhopal - Vilaspur Superfast (Mahanadi) Express
3. 7058 - 7059 Vilaspur - Kochin train
4. 8235 - 8236 Vilaspur Bhopal Passenger Express
5. 8233 - 8234 Vilaspur - Indore Narmada Passenger/Express.

I would request the Ministry of Railways to consider it seriously and accept the demand of introducing one of the above trains from Korba.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Mr. Speaker, Sir, after independence, the power generation capacity of our country registered a rise to 64,500 megawatts from

1360 megawatts, during these 40 years. In this way, the annual increase has been 9.5 per cent. The per capita consumption of electricity has increased to near about 220 KWH from 15 KWH. But power generation capacity in Bihar has been comparatively low. In 1947, it was 150 megawatts, which has increased to only 1450 megawatts in the last 40 years. In this way, the annual increase was only 5.4 percent whereas, in the same period, percentage of national increase on an average was 9.5 percent. In terms of per capita consumption also, Bihar is lagging behind as compared to other States of the country. The per capita consumption of electricity in Bihar is 104 KWH where as the average national consumption is 220 KWH.

North Bihar is more backward in terms of availability of electricity and per capita consumption. The per capita consumption is only 18 KWH in this area. It is clear from the above figures that the availability of basic inputs needed for industrial development has been very scarce in the State.

The hydroelectric power generation capacity of the State has been estimated at 538 megawatts. But only 17 percent capacity has been achieved. Similarly, though coal is available abundantly in the State, the expected development in regard to setting up of super thermal power stations has not taken place.

For the overall industrial development of the State, it is necessary that the power generating capacity should be increased to 2000 megawatts from 1450 megawatts. Besides, this, the allocation of electricity to the State from the central grid should be increased to at least 850 megawatts.

There is another problem with the Thermal Power Station set up at Dadri. The hon. Minister of Power is sitting here. Shri Khurana may also be interested in it. This station will generate near about 2000 megawatts of electricity. One is coal based and the other is gas based. A 12 kilometer

railway line has yet to be laid to transport coal. But as the railway line has not been laid, the coal is transported through other means of transportation and an expenditure of Rs. 12 crores is incurred every year on it. It is wastage of national property. Therefore, through you, I would like to demand that the Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Power should make coordination between them for early laying of this 12 kilometer railway line so that Rs. 12 crore could be saved.

**KUMARI UMA BHARTI (Khajuraho):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the other political parties level allegations against the BJP and particularly on me that we are against the Muslims. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to request the Members of Union Council of Ministers present here that the Government of India should issue a stamp in the name of martyr, Abdul Hamid, who had sacrificed his life defending this country. We have very high regard for martyrs like Abdul Hamid. This is not a matter of pride for the Muslims only, but the Hindus of this country are also equally proud of him. It is a matter of regret that some people in our country do not recognise the sacrifice of martyr Abdul Hamid and term him as a traitor and infidel, because he fought against Pakistan. They have shown disrespect to him. From among the people, who issued 'fatwa' in this regard..... In the editorial of a newspaper, it has been said that..... has called Aabdul Hamid a traitor and infidel

[English]

**MR. SPEAKER:** The name will not go on record. The name is not going on record.

[Translation]

**KUMARI UMA BHARTI:** Through this House, I refute his statement and request the Government to issue a commemorable stamp in honour of Martyr Abdul Hamid.

[English]

**SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch**