

shipping of coal along with the products of Indian Rare Earths Limited, Chatrapur.

I, therefore, request the Government of India for conversion of Gopalpur Port, which is only a minor Port on a long coast-line of about 400 kms. in Orissa on top priority basis.

- (III) **Need to restore proper functioning of telephone services in Thane, Dombivili, Kalyan and Murbad areas in Maharashtra**

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Sir, after the heavy rains on the 7th June, 1991, the telephones in Thane, Dombivili, Kalyan, Murbad areas, which went out of order have not been restored so far. The new Exchange No. 534 which was introduced has failed to work properly. Original problems of Exchange Nos. 50 and 59 of Thane are also the same, resulting in wrong numbers, busy lines, excessive billing etc. Several complaints were made to the Telephone authorities by the public from the areas. The authorities have not taken any action to rectify the defects. The Telephone Users Association have started agitation to protest against the inaction on the part of Telephone authorities. Government are, therefore, urged to take immediate action to restore these services at the earliest.

- (iv) **Need to lay new rail line to connect Giridih with Koderma, Bihar**

[*Translation*]

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the rail line proposed to be constructed between Giridih and Kodarma in Bihar. On one hand the Government is introducing new trains and laying new rail lines in many parts of the country while on the other hand it has

neglected Giridih Kodarma where coal and mica mines are located.

As such, I will like to emphasise on the Government the need to immediately lay a rail line from Giridih to Kodarma.

- (v) **Need to convert existing telephone exchanges in West Dinajpur and Malda district of West Bengal into C-DOT Exchanges**

SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE (Raiganj): Sir, Northern part of the State of West Bengal is completely neglected zone since a long time. I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government that Dalkhola, Islampur, Kaliaganj and Gangarampur within the district of West Dinajpur and Chanchole, Harishchandrapur, Samsi, Kaliachak and Manikchak and Malda district in West Bengal are very good commercial centres in North Bengal. In all the above mentioned places the existing CBNM Boards of 200 lines are practically full. These exchanges control so many PCOs and small exchanges also. But there is no STD facility in any of the exchanges.

I urge upon the Government that the existing exchanges mentioned above be converted into C.Dot exchanges immediately on top priority.

- (vi) **Need to extend Bakhtiyarpur-Rajgir railway line up to Bodh Gaya, Bihar**

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda): Government of Japan is providing assistance to connect and develop the various Buddhist religious places with each other. In the Buddhist circuit Nalanda, Rajgir and Bodh Gaya are very important.

[Sh. Vijay Kumar Yadav]

There is a long standing demand to extend Bakhtiyarpur-Rajgir railway line upto Bodh Gaya and restore the suspended trains.

There will be increase in the revenue as a result of extending this line upto Bodh Gaya and we will also be able to earn more revenues and foreign exchange from Indian and foreign tourists by linking by rail all the Buddhist religious places.

As such I request the Government to extend the Bakhtiyarpur-Rajgir railway line upto Bodh Gaya.

- (vii) **Need to improve the Communication facilities in tribal dominated district of Sundargarh, Orissa**

[English]

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO (Sundargarh): Sir, the district of Sundargarh is a tribal dominated district which mostly has been neglected from time immemorial.

But for Rourkela Steel Plant, Sundargarh district, one of the richest in mineral resources, would have been one of the most backward districts of India. Because of Rourkela Steel city, the State Government as well as the Central Government have got the impression that the district is one of the advanced districts in India. But the Bonai Sub-division, the Gurundia Block and Nuagaon Block are the most neglected parts of India. During the rainy season, these areas are cut off from the rest of the world due to lack of communication facilities. Seven bridges are to be constructed over seven hill streams. The tribal-dominated

area is deprived of the supply of the bare necessities during the rainy season. I would, therefore, request the Government to take necessary steps to bring these tribal-dominated areas under the Central Government Scheme and provide sufficient fund to make provision for communication facilities in order to bring them in the mainstream.

- (viii) **Need to construct new railway station in Yashwantpur, a suburb of Bangalore**

PROF. K. VENGATAGIRI GOWDA (Bangalore South): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Yashwantpur, a suburb of Bangalore, has become a beehive of industrial and business activity. It is along the broad gauge railway line leading to Madras. It has a population of three lakhs. The railway station was built over thirty years ago when there were no industries and business activity was almost non-existent. Despite the phenomenal increase in industrial and business activity in recent years and the rapid growth of population in the area, the capacity of the railway station has not remained in original state. It is too old and too small to handle the passenger and goods traffic, resulting in considerable hardship to the industries and businessmen and people of this town. It is necessary to build a railway station with capacity sufficient to handle the goods and passenger traffic and to relieve the congestion there and to facilitate free flow of goods.

I appeal to the Government of India undertake the construction of a new railway station in Yashwantpur on a top priority basis and to help the industrial and business expansion of the area.