

13.15 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the clock.*

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Twenty one minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377**

- (I) **Need to Provide Halt for Koyna Express at Takari, Sangli District, Maharashtra**

[*English*]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad): There has been a long standing demand from the people of Takari, Tal, Walva, District Sangli in my Constituency for a halt of the Koyna Express at Takari Station. a south Central Railway. Takari is an important and centrally located railway station for the people of Walva, Khanapur and Tasgaon Tehasils of South Sangli. So, having a halt there will be very convenient for them. Therefore, I request the Minister for Railways to kindly provide a halt for the Koyna Express at Takari.

- (II) **Need to Bring about Development in Western Region of Orissa by setting up an autonomous regional development council**

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): It is an irony of fate that the Western region of Orissa which is endowed with enormous natural resources and which has a rich culture, remains backward and undeveloped. Resentment among the people on account of such neglect of this area by authorities is mounting up and is threatening the solidarity of the State. What is, therefore, urgently needed is the development of this region through an autonomous regional development council for the area with proper emphasis on formulation of plan at the dis-

trict level and its implementation generally by the Zilla Parishads.

- (III) **Need to Check the Acute Power shortage in Maharashtra especially in Western and Northern parts of the state.**

DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR (Nasik): There is acute shortage of Power in Maharashtra, especially in West and North Maharashtra. The farmers are facing many problem because of this power shortage. Even their water pump sets cannot work continuously for more than two hours. This will lead to low production of foodgrains. besides, many power generation units there, are not functioning for want of coal. I would, therefore, urge upon the Government to ensure uninterrupted power generation in these units and encourage Hydro-Electric generation projects like Ghatghar Project in Tehsil Akola, District Nagar in the State of Maharashtra.

- (iv) **Need to Declare Policy of Government Regarding Khadi and Village Industries and lift ban on filling vacancies therein.**

SHRI RAM NAIK: (Bombay North): Kadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) was established after our country's independence to promote village industries which have a large potential for rural employment. The Government have recently changed the industrial policy which is going to have far-reaching effect on big industries and medium and small scale industries. The trade, commerce and banking policies are also being changed. In this perspective, the future of Khadi and Village industries needs to be considered.

To the original list of 26 village industries, in addition to Khadi, wool and silk, 67 more industries were added in 1987 by amending the Act. However, the employment pattern in KVIC has not been changed to match the addition of industries. More-

[Sh. Ram Naik]

over, there has been a total ban on employment in the KVIC also, resulting in 1307 posts remaining vacant out of the total sanctioned strength of 6,767. Nearly, 1000 present employees will retire in 1992, which will create a big administrative vacuum in the KVIC organisation.

In view of this situation, I urge upon the Prime Minister who is holding the Industry portfolio, to make a statement on the policy of the KVIC as well as on withdrawing the ban on filling the vacancies.

- (v) **Need to set up Industrial unit in public/joint Sector in Saharsa (Bihar)**

[Translation]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): Mr. Speaker Sir, Saharasa district of Bihar is one of the most backward areas. There are a large number of educated unemployed in the area. There is no Government or semi-Government factory in Saharasa. So there is widespread resentment among the people. In view of its backwardness, installation of a Government or a semi-government factory is essential in this district of North Bihar. Unemployment of this area can only be removed through industries and happiness can be brought to the people.

So, I request the Central Government that for all round development of Saharasa, at least one Government and one semi-government factory must be set up here, so that the people of this backward area may be benefited and the problem of unemployment can be solved to some extent.

[English]

- (vi) **Need to Extend broad gauge line from New Alipurduar to Alipurduar junction in West Bengal**

SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaig-

uri): Alipurduar Railway junction which was once treated as life centre of the N.E. Railway is now in shambles. As the broad gauge line did not touch this junction, this station has been deserted. There were important departments like Loco running shed, Division Office, Carriage department. About five thousand workers used to work there. All this helped the area to be converted into an important railway town and a busy business centre. This junction is surrounded by many resourceful areas, such as tea gardens, forests, store of dolomite in Jayanti etc. A large number of people would earn their livelihood from this business centre. Considering the economy, social condition and other avenues, I urge upon the Government to extend the broad gauge line of railway from New Alipurduar to Alipurduar Junction.

- (vii) **Need to expedite Construction of proposed New Airport at Bangalore - Bellary Road.**

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary): In April, 1991, representatives of a Committee of the Ministry of Civil Aviation had come to Bangalore and had inspected land on Bangalore-Bellary road to identify a proper site for establishing a new airport. It is to be upgraded without much delay. It is necessary that steps are taken early in the matter and the new airport at this new location is constructed quickly. It is also necessary that new airport gets the status of International Airport so that Bangalore could be directly connected with the places outside the country.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to expedite construction of proposed new airport at Bangalore-Bellary road giving it status of International Airport.

- (viii) **Need to declare Ajmer district, Rajasthan as an Industrially backward area**

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer):