

Demands of the People of North Kanara District of Karnataka relating to the Development of their Region

SHRI R. S.- NAIK (Karnataka): Madam Deputy Chairman, I rise to draw the attention of the House through you regarding the visit of the hon. President of India to Karwar to inaugurate all-weather natural port of Karwar and our memorandum to him. This is my district and the people of my district extended a very hearty and cordial welcome to the President of India on the 24th November, 1988. On that auspicious day after a long wait, the all-weather natural port was inaugurated by Shri R. Venkataraman,

It is needless to say that it was a very rare opportunity for the people of remote, backward hilly area district to have on august visit of the President of India. Many institutions, social organisations and political parties had an opportunity to submit a memorandum for the development of the district. Their demands were immense in regard to:

(1) Development of Karwar port; (2) sanctioning Hubli-Karwar railway line which is long pending issue before the Government; (3) completion of Kali and Sharawat Hydro Project; (4) improvement of National Highway No. 17 and No. 4; (5) T.V. station (6) employment to the displaced people in the naval base project; and (7) opposition to the Kaiga Atomic Plant and so on and so forth.

Regarding Karwar port, the Karnataka Government has developed this natural port to some extent by spending Rs. 7 crores. Now, the State Government has requested the Central Government to allot some amount for further development. I am told, it is being sanctioned. If it is not, I request the Government to extend financial help liberally for the development of the port.

Then about Hubli-Karwar railway line. You will be surprised to hear that 90 per cent people of the district have not seen the railway even after 41 years of independence. This is the fate of our district. I am not demanding a railway line to see the railway in the district. Since the naval base, the most important national project, is coming up, it is most essential to have the railway line. I urge upon the Government to seriously consider the Hubli-Karwar railway line.

Improvement of National Highway in Karnataka is also an important factor when National projects like Sea Bird is coming up.

Then, I come to the naval base. Poor people like fishermen, peasants, petty merchants and other labourers are sacrificing their piece of land and their property for naval base, shifting from one place to another. My request through you, Madam, is to engage as many local workers as possible in the work of naval base, particularly for those people who have been displaced.

A lot of agitation is going on against Kaiga Nuclear Plant. Waste from the plant may continue to be radio active for centuries, that is the reason for their agitation. Suitability of having such a project in close proximity of naval base requires examination by experts. This is their demand.

So, I request the Government to have a debate in this respect, involving representatives from both the sides, i.e. the Government and the people's representatives so as to take the people into confidence. With these few words, I conclude. Madam.

**Attempt on the life of D.M.K leader
Shri Karunanidhi**

SHRI ALADI ARUN ABULIAS V. ARUNACHALAM (Tamil Nadu): Madam