

and fishery. It is going to affect five lakh people of that area. So, the Government should try to find out another area, maybe in Tamil Nadu, Sriharikota, may be in Gujarat, an area which is not densely populated, but an area which is sparsely populated. So, I say, this project should be stopped.

**REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED  
DECISION OF THE GEOLOGICAL  
SURVEY OF INDIA TO ACQUIRE  
A MULTI-SENSOR AIRCRAFT  
FROM CANADA FOR GEOPHYSICAL  
SURVEYS**

DR. R. K. PODDAR (West Bengal):  
Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir thank you for giving me permission to bring this matter to the notice of the Government, which I consider a serious blow to the indigenous research and development efforts in the field of remote-sensing technology.

Sir, the National Geophysical Research Institute, NGRI, of Hyderabad, is well-known for its indigenous R&D activities. Our scientists and technologists there after an intensive effort of a decade and a half have been successful in developing an airborne electromagnetic survey system for geophysical prospecting of mineral deposits of electrically conducting ores like copper, graphite and lead by means of remote-sensing. The NGRI electromagnetic survey system fitted on to a DC-3 aircraft, was successfully flown for the first time in 1974. Since then, it has flown for nearly 10,000 line-kilometres of electromagnetic surveys. In any other country, such valiant efforts toward self-reliance would have received unstinted support and encouragement from the State. But, alas, things seem to be different in our country.

Just because some foreign aid was easily available the Geological Survey of India (GSI) the only user agency of this technological know-how, has decided to purchase from Canada for about five million Cana-

dian dollars a de Havilland Twin Otter aircraft fitted with an electromagnetic survey system, which uses a slightly different but not superior technology called Tridem. It is now expected to arrive in our country within a few days.

Sir, day-in and day-out, we are crying hoarse over the fact that our investment in indigenous R&D efforts are not bearing desired results. But when a really useful know-how is generated indigenously, as in this case, we find the Government in the role of a silent spectator which do not care to restrain the bureaucratic decision-making apparatus having unbounded love for all things foreign. Such an atmosphere is a fertile breeding ground for frustration amongst our patriotic scientists and technologists and is invariably encouraging brain-drain. I would strongly urge the Government through you to make a detailed inquiry in this matter and ensure that our indigenous technological efforts at self-reliance in this field are not jeopardised. I would also request the concerned Minister to make a statement in this regard.

**REFERENCE TO THE DEMAND  
FOR INDUSTRIALISATION OF AND  
EXTENSION OF RAILWAYS IN  
TRIPURA STATE**

SHRI M. A. BABY (Kerala):  
Permit me to place before you one of the urgent problems of the people of Tripura. Exactly a week ago more than 220 youth and students of Tripura travelled 2,000 kilometres taking nearly a week to reach Delhi. And they staged a Dharna before the Boat Club. They have collected more than a lakh signatures demanding: (1) a railway line linking its capital, Agartala, with other parts of our country and (2) gas-based industry considering the fact that Tripura is having the highest gas reserve in our country. They also demand setting up of industrial projects. Even the Dinesh Singh Committee which was appointed after the gruesome fatid-

[Shri M. A. Baby]

dal riots, and which visited Tripura. suggested that the feeling of tension developed due to the overall economic and cultural backwardness of the State of Tripura. Even the Dinesh Singh Committee suggested that there should be industrial projects to develop not only Tripura but also other North-eastern areas. But unfortunately, the Government is not taking sufficient steps to implement the proposals of even Dinesh Singh Committee which was appointed by the Government.

As part of the delegation one week ago we approached a number of Central Government Ministers the Railway Minister, Shri Bansi Lal, the Planning Minister, Shri Ajit Panja and the Industries Minister. All of them have been saying that due to lack of financial resources the Government is not in a position to implement these proposals. As a matter of fact Tripura does not have even that much kilometer of railway line as the total length of the railway platforms in other States. They do not have even the railway platforms as they are in other States. This is a fact. It is unfortunate that our Government is not taking proper steps to consider their backwardness. I hope immediate steps will be taken so that development of Tripura and other backward areas is ensured.

#### REFERENCE TO THE NEED TO BAN THE USE OF CURRENCY NOTES FOR MAKING GARLANDS

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Punjab); The efforts of the Reserve Bank of India to maintain a regular supply of the currency notes of small denominations has often been frustrated by certain unscrupulous elements. These people indulge in or take to trade which is the exclusive domain of the Central Government. In fact, it would say that distribution of currency is a sovereign function of the Government of India which the unscrupulous elements delve into. Sir,

the practice of embellishing garlands with currency notes continues unabated. This finds encouragement from the desire of the people to give in vulgar display of wealth at the time of marriages and the result is that currency notes of small denomination are studded on garlands. In fact, for each currency note one pays 15 to 20 per cent above the value of the note itself. This goes counter to the promise which is inscribed on every currency note by the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India that "I promise the bearer a sum of Re. 1, Rs. 2, Rs. 5" and so on.

With these few words, I would bring to the pointed notice of the Government of India the evil practice that is going on and the urgent need to ban by a legislation or by any other means the practice of using the currency notes for the garlands. Thank you.

#### REFERENCE TO THE DEMAND FOR AN ENQUIRY INTO THE AFFAIRS OF TIRATH RAM CHARITABLE HOSPITAL, DELHI

SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM (West Bengal); Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, through this special mention, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the affair of Tirath Ram Charitable Hospital, Delhi which at present are not in the interest of those poor people whose benefit this hospital was established in 1954. The Trust Board managing the hospital should have equal representation between the family members and outsiders. But, of late, things were manipulated in a manner to give more representation to the family members.

This hospital was functioning well under a medical committee consisting of professional medical people and was able to make up the financial loss.

But, I am informed, Sir, that the vested interests in the Board mani-