

GOOD WISHES TO THE RETIR- ING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :
As hon. Members are aware, two of our Members—Shri Sultan Singh and Shri Sushil Chand Mohunta—are retiring today after completion of their term. Their association with Rajya Sabha has been fruitful and their contribution substantial. On their parting with us in this House, the House will like to extend its best wishes to them. We hope that even after retirement from the House, they will continue to contribute to the enrichment of public life outside the House. Wish you good luck.

REFERENCE TO THE IN- ADEQUATE RAIL AND AIR FACILITIES IN HARYANA

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND
MOHUNTA (Haryana) :
Actually, I got up to thank you very much for the good wishes and for your appreciation of what we have been doing for the last six years as Members. As my name has been called for special mention, I will now deal with this matter.

For the last 38-39 years, after Independence, I am very sorry to say that my State is probably the only State in the whole of India where no appreciable railway track has been laid. There has been no improvement in the approach to certain areas within the State by the Railways.

All State capitals and important towns in India have been connected by air services and my State is the only State which has not had the benefit of having any linkage of any air service. My humble request is and I appeal to the Government that even at this late stage, they would do well not only in the interest of my State

alone but also in the national interest if they improve these services by providing air links. I say it is also in national interest because the names that I am going to give where the railway line is very urgently required, are also important from the defence point of view. So, I would request and appeal that a major railway line should be laid connecting stations from Ganganagar to Hanumangarh, then Rania-Sirsa-Fatehabad Tohana—Jind and Delhi. Tohana to Delhi is already connected by railway line. So, for other places, hardly about 100 kilometer of railway line is required, and in the interior of my State where people have no access to railways, they will have this access to railway and the mandis which are now sluggish will come up in a big way for the development of the area

In regard to the air link, the Delhi-Hissar Vayudoot service was started at one time but then it was abandoned. Even at that time, I made a request; I said that the Delhi-Hissar Vayudoot service is not likely to succeed; there may not be much traffic. If Delhi-Hissar Vayudoot service is extended between Delhi-Hissar-Sirsa-Ganganagar or Bikaner in Rajasthan, people would avail of the service. There would be good potential of air traffic. This air linkage is very important so that the people of my State will also have the privilege of travelling by air when they leave their places and come to Delhi. I would request again that these two things should be looked into and some sort of relief should be given to the people of my State.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :
You want to return to Delhi very fast ?

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND
MOHUNTA : That, in any case, I will do.