

[4 May, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

sub-centres in urban areas. Thirdly, ASHA was conceived as the linchpin of NRHM. The deployment of ASHA is disappointed due to complex departmental structures to implement such large-scale mobilisation and absence of support structure. Anganwadi workers or ANMs are allocating work to ASHAs. But, under NRHM, ASHA was required to be accountable to community and not subservient to ANM or AWW.

What is needed to counter the above flaws is a vast network of Government-run health sub-centres and PHCs supported by CHCs and district hospitals, large community health worker force, expansion of nursing staff with upgraded skills and rationale drug policy. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Shantaram Laxman Naik. Absent.

**Demand for rescheduling of train Timings running between
Baripada and Bhubaneswar**

SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI (Orissa): Sir, I am thankful to the Railway Ministry and the Railway Minister, Shri Lalu Prasadji for starting a goods train from Joda to Paradeep for carrying the iron ores and for running a passenger train weekly thrice from Baripada to Bhubaneswar from March, 2007. But, only this initiative will not solve the problem of the general public, as it is running only three days in a week and also the time schedule of the train is 06.45 a.m. at Baripada which is not suitable for the passengers to catch the connecting trains for Kolkata and other places.

Hence, I convey, through this House, to the Minister of Railways, the demand of the people of Mayurbhanj to reschedule the timing of the train as well as this train should run daily for the complete economic development of the district.

Keonjhar and other adjoining districts' people have been demanding for a passenger train since long from Tatanagar to Puri via Chaibasa (East Singhbhum), Banspani (Joda), Keonjhar, Harichandanpur, Tamka, Jakhapura (Jaipur district), Cuttack and Bhubaneswar, so as to reduce the time as well as fare as compared to present route running via Ghatsila-Khadagpur-Balasore-Bhadrak.

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (Orissa): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention.

SHRI SURENDRA LATH (Orissa): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention of the Hon. Member.

Demand to rescue the innocent Indian Youth Detained in a Pakistani Jail

SHRI K.P.K. KUMARAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, cases of innocent Indian citizens finding their way into foreign prisons are not only strange but also painful. When the victim happens to be poor and has been put behind bars due to his ignorance of any language other than his mother tongue, it is most calamitous. One such case is the detention of a rural youth named Ganesa Pandian from Thankaipandarapuram village in the Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu.

He had been working in the far off city of Mumbai as a bonded labour in a small factory and escaped from the tyranny of his employer, he had fled from the factory premises and had boarded a train without ticket on the assumption that the train was bound to his native State of Tamil Nadu, whereas it was not so. This wrong step had led him to Pakistan and he found himself stranded at the platform of Rawalpindi railway station. He is now in the Rawalpindi prison in Pakistan.

A letter written by him to his relatives in his native village in India has spurred up a few endeavours by them to rescue him but nothing concrete has so far resulted.

Under these circumstances, the Government also may bestow some pity on humanitarian grounds and expedite the rescue operation of this innocent India youth and direct the concerned authorities to see him freed from the foreign prison and reach his native place safely.

SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI JABIR HUSAIN (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

Need to pay more attention towards the Welfare of Scs/Sts

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL (Gujarat): Sir, various issues concerning the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Schedules Tribes are not getting adequate attention from the authorities in spite of oral and written