

[20 December, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

अतः मेरी मांग है कि सरकार यूरोपीय तथा अन्य देशों में जहां मारवाडी घोड़ों की मांग है , निर्यात हेतु आवश्यक कार्यवाही कर, इनके निर्यात का मार्ग प्रशस्त करे, जिसके फलस्वरूप लघु एवं सीमांत कृषक , अपने खेत में या दो घोड़े पालकर अतिरिक्त आय प्राप्त कर सकें । इससे अश्व पालकों की आर्थिक स्थिति में ही सुधार नहीं होगा, अपितु राष्ट्र को विदेशी मुद्रा भी अर्जित होगी ।

SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI (Gujarat): Sir, I associate myself with this Special Mention.

SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Manoj Bhattacharya. Not present. Shri Datta Meghe. Not present. Shri Lekhraj Bachani.

#### **Development of Methane Gas to reduce oil imports**

SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI (Gujarat): Sir, Methane farming and biodiesel are the new renewable sources to meet our entire energy needs. Why should we import oil from the Gulf or bring gas in a pipeline through Pakistan, when we can manage from our resources?

The West has already started generating bio diesel in a big way. Even in India, trees like pungan, neem, karanji, ratanjyot or jatropha can be grown to produce oil. Athousand such trees can be planted on one hectare, which will yield 10 tonnes of oilseeds, from which 2.5 tonnes of oil can be extracted. This oil can be converted into bio diesel after esterification and used as fuel in diesel engines.

We have the world's largest iivestock population of 250 million, which produces close to 125 million tonnes of cow dung. Using this, we can produce enough methane gas to entirely replace LPG and kerosene in cooking, and substitute petrol in transportation. Methane gas can also generate enough electricity to meet all requirements at least in rural areas. A developing country like India should take up methane farming in view of our rapidly growing energy requirements.

The U.S. President recently made a fervent appeal to the developed world to take to methane farming. He rightly said that methane farming would counter the skyrocketing prices of crude oil and merge as an alternative to fossil fuels whose stocks may be depleted in the next 30-40 years. Hence I request the Government to take rapid and effective measures in this respect.

SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Sir, I associate myself with this Special Mention.

श्री रुद्रनारायण पणि : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इससे सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**Demand for new railway line between Jolarpettai Hosur and Jolarpettai-Pondicherry**

SHRI C. PERUMAL (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I have been demanding, through Special Mentions and speeches during debates on Railway Budgets, the laying of a new railway line between Jolarpettai and Hosur,

In 2003, at a meeting of Members of Parliament of the constituencies falling under the Southern Railway, held at Madurai, it was assured that the work relating to the 104 kms. long Jolarpettai-Hosur line would be taken up in that year itself; the estimated cost was to be Rs. 226 crores. Sir, when the work is taken up, the line will pass through Jolarpettai-Tirupattur-Kandili-Bargur-Soolagiri-Krishnagiri-Royakotta-Hosur. However, the work was not taken up and no money was allotted for the project.

I would like to mention that the expenditure of the project can be reduced considerably, by say, Rs. 75 crores, since there is already a rail link between Royakotta-Hosur, which is a distance of 30 kms. And since it is on the Dharmapuri-Hosur railway line, there is no need to lay any line between Royakotta-Hosur in the Jolarpettai-Hosur stretch.

There is another important line *i.e.* Jolarpettai-Pondicherry via Tindivanam-Tiruvannamalai-Tirupattur-Kandili-Bargur-Krishnagiri-Soolagiri-Royakotta-Hosur. This railway line connects three States, namely, Tamil Nadu, Kamataka and Pondicherry. There is heavy traffic on this route and the Railways can generate considerable revenue if a new line is laid on this route.

**Demand for Central Assistance to Combat Acute Shortage of electricity in U.P.**

SHRI LALIT SURI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, the problem of electricity shortage is common to the entire country. But, in my State, Uttar Pradesh, this shortage has assumed gigantic proportions because of which homes, commercial establishments, industrial holdings and agriculture is being severely affected. While towns and cities are facing power cuts of, at least, ten hours every day, there are villages that have been staying