

Demand for providing road connectivity to Thanoul Village of Kalgikhal Block in Pauri District of Uttarakhand under PMGSY

SHRI ROBERT KHARSHIING (Meghalaya): Sir, my Special Mention relates to the demand for providing road connectivity to Thanoul village of Kalgikhal block in Pauri District of Uttarakhand under the PMGSY.

Sir, the State of Uttarakhand came into being about five years back. Before that, the roads connecting the rural areas in this hilly State were very pitiable and the people had to climb uphill on foot to reach their destinations. But after the implementation of 'Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sarak Yojana' (PMGSY) the road conditions in the rural areas of Uttarakhand have gradually shown improvement over the last few years. However, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the rural road conditions in the District of Pauri Garhwal. The Thanoul village of Kalgikhal block in the district, for example, does not have motorable road connectivity. The concerned Ministry, in reply to a Starred Question No. 301 on 11.12.2002, had, *inter alia*, stated that the population criteria does not entitle the said village to have a road linkage under PMGSY. Sir, as we all know, the population density in hilly regions is very low. The Thanoul village is surrounded by about 29 villages which comprise an estimated population of about 5000 people. May I remind the Government that these poor mountain people have served the Armed Forces and given their lives for the nation disproportionate to their population? This cluster of villages does not have road connectivity. The education of children is being affected badly on account of this, along with other miseries to the people. Sir, this matter is pending for long and the demand for construction of roads around Thanoul village is being ignored in the name of guidelines, regulations etc., under the PMGSY. I, therefore, request that the Government must now take steps urgently to provide road connectivity to Thanoul and the cluster of villages around it under the PMGSY.

Demand for concession in the fares of Air India for Haj Pilgrimage

श्री अबू आसिम आज़मी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं इस सदन में एयर इंडिया के इस फैसले पर स्पेशल मेंशन द्वारा सरकार का ध्यान उस मुद्दे पर दिलाना चाहता हूँ जो हिन्दुस्तान के करोड़ों मुसलमानों के धार्मिक जज्बात से जुड़ा हुआ है।