

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**Need to expedite the setting up of the South Coast Railway's (SCoR)
Zone in Andhra Pradesh**

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, at the outset, I would like to thank the hon. Railway Minister for having announced formation of South Coast Railway with its Headquarters at Visakhapatnam. The decision would give necessary boost to the State in terms of increasing the connectivity and enable the faster freight transport in the port rich area of Andhra Pradesh. Having taken the decision to set up the Headquarters at Visakhapatnam, there is an inordinate delay in implementing the decision. The announcement was made on 27th February, 2019 in pursuance of Item No.8 of Schedule 13, Infrastructure of Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014. Unfortunately, it has been six years since the passing of the Act and one year since the announcement for the new zone, but still the South Coast Railway is yet to commence the operations. The new zone has got the potential of becoming India's most profitable zone and estimated annual earnings of the zone is estimated at around ₹ 13,000 crores and would serve the major ports of Visakhapatnam, Gangavaram and Vijayawada. This would give a much needed boost to the commerce and industry within the State of Andhra Pradesh as well as help the railways earn profit in return. I, therefore, request the hon. Railway Minister to kindly expedite the process of setting up the South Coast Railway Zone and enable the commencement of its operations at the earliest. Thank you very much.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**Concern over pending cases in the High Court and subordinate
courts in Karnataka**

SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY (Karnataka): Sir, there are lakhs of pending cases in the courts of Karnataka. Access to speedy justice is a guaranteed fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. It is also a basic human right. The Central Government and the Courts need to make a collaborative effort to achieve this basic constitutional goal. Justice delayed is justice denied. In this background, I am to state

that about 18 lakhs cases are stuck in the Courts of Karnataka. Thousands of fresh cases are filed every month. There are vacant posts of judges; 36 per cent in High Court and 20 per cent in lower courts of Karnataka. Individual burden of work is much higher for High Court judges. Karnataka has the highest number of pending cases. Such pendency can be decreased by laying out an incontestable reform in judiciary. Sir, the need of the hour is to ensure the sanctioned strength of Judges and Judicial Officers in Karnataka courts.

Therefore, I urge the Union Government to fill up the vacant posts in Karnataka Courts for delivering speedy justice to the citizens, thereby, fulfilling the Constitutional duty of providing Right to Life which is part of Article 21 of the Constitution of India. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri D. Kupendra Reddy and Shri Vijayasai Reddy, today there is time, that is why I allowed, but when your names are called and if you are not there, then it is gone. That is the general practice. But, as there is some time and you made a request, I have allowed it. But, that should not become a practice. Now, Special Mentions, Shri R. Vaithilingam.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Demand to provide farming incentives to farmers in Tamil Nadu

SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, Tamil Nadu is a water scarce State and agriculture is the worst hit sector due to water scarcity. To mitigate the sufferings of the farmers, Tamil Nadu Government has launched various schemes like Seed Multiplication Scheme of Paddy, Farm Mechanization Schemes and Land Development Schemes. NABARD Survey of 2017 says, the average monthly income for an agricultural household is ₹ 8,931 in India, whereas in Tamil Nadu it stands at ₹ 9,716. This is