

महोदय, मैं इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से सरकार से यह माँग करता हूँ कि 'भारतमाला परियोजना' के अधीन अधिक-से-अधिक सड़क परियोजनाएं बिहार के लिए स्वीकृत की जाएं, ताकि आर्थिक प्रगति को रफ्तार मिले। अभी हाल ही में जिन प्रस्तावित परियोजनाओं की घोषणा हुई है, उन पर काम तुरंत शुरू किया जाए तथा जो परियोजनाएं चल रही हैं, उनका काम तुरंत पूरा हो।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Now, Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah; not present. Dr. Amee Yajnik; not present. Shri Abdul Wahab, ...(*Interruptions*)... Hon. Member it is not going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... Abdul Wahabji, please lay.

Need for financial assistance to rehabilitate gulf returnees in Kerala

SHRI ABDUL WAHAB (Kerala): Sir, Covid-19 Pandemic has disrupted lives of lakhs of migrants working overseas. Kerala with larger diaspora of migrants have been severely affected by way of loss of employment, dislocation and improvement. As per an estimate made by NORKA roots - an entity under Government of Kerala, close to 12.68 lakhs of migrants have lost job and returned to Kerala. In order to uplift, rehabilitate and reintegrate, the Gulf returnees to the society, the Kerala Government has formulated five core area for assistance; reskilling for new destinations and new sectors, financial assistance for extending low interest loans and offering equity participation, assistance for education of their children, assistance for housing and finally assistance for medically sick. Therefore, I request the Central Government particularly Minister of Finance, Ministers of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Minister of External Affairs to consider the proposal submitted by industries and NORKA department of Kerala on 12th November 2021 and give assistance of INR 2000 crore for the rehabilitation of 12 lakh Gulf returnees in Kerala.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Please read the heading and lay. Now, Shri S. Selvaganabathy; please lay.

Need for expansion of Puducherry airport

SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY (Puducherry): Sir, Puducherry is one of the spiritual and heritage tourist hubs in South India. Lot of foreign tourists throng this city to admire the French culture mixed with Indian culture. Owing to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the flight operations were suspended and yet to resume. Puducherry is also one of the educational hubs in South India where large number of students are

passing out every year. In order to create job facilities in Puducherry, the entrepreneurs from various places, though they have good frame of mind to start industrial and service activity, are reluctant to invest in Puducherry due to non-availability of proper flight operations and other infrastructure. In this scenario, the Ministry of Civil Aviation should explore the possibility of commencing flights under the Regional Connectivity Scheme with Viability Gap Funding provision for the Airlines. The commencing of Flights in the following preferred locations may be considered: Hyderabad-Puducherry-Hyderabad; Bangalore- Puducherry-Bangalore; Tirupathi-Puducherry-Tirupathi; Calicut-Puducherry-Calicut; Coimbatore-Puducherry-Coimbatore; Rajahmundry- Puducherry-Rajahmundry. Presently, expansion of Airport is the need of the hour. About 368 acres of land from Government of Tamil Nadu and 57.5 acres from Govt. of Puducherry needs to be acquired. The Government of India is requested to help financially to meet land acquisition cost as the Government of Puducherry is reeling under severe financial crisis. Operations of the flight including Air Bus may also be considered.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Now, Shri Md. Nadimul Haque; not present. Shri Sanjay Singh; not present. Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy; not present. Now, Dr. Amar Patnaik; please lay.

Need to include Ho, Santhali, Sambalpuri and Mundari languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, India is the land of many tongues and language is a vital tool for self-expression and knowledge-sharing. At the time of writing of the Indian Constitution, only 14 languages were mentioned in the 8th Schedule. Given the wide linguistic diversity of the country, the 8th Schedule to the Indian Constitution now consists of 22 languages.

However, many more languages with rich cultural heritage are yet to be included in the 8th Schedule. These languages are an important identity of the communities that need urgent promotion and preservation. The addition of more languages under the 8th Schedule will provide them with equal opportunity and ensure their inclusion. Often individuals from linguistic communities that are not recognised in the 8th Schedule suffer as education is not available to them in their native languages and nor the chance to appear for public service competitive exams, therefore, excluding them from the mainstream.