

श्री बृजलाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

Need to develop Crafts Villages on Bengaluru-Mysuru 10 lane Expressway to protect Channapatna toy industry

SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA (Karnataka): Sir, I thank the Government for speedy work on the ten-lane expressway between Bengaluru and Mysuru for making it ready in two months. Once the expressway is ready, with its several bypasses, the users will skip several towns along the route, such as Channapatna, which is world-famous for its handicrafted wooden toys, handicrafts; and, other towns, such as, Bidadi, Maddur, Ramanagaram, famous for its cuisines, like Bidadi Thatte Idli, Maddur Cade, etc., employing thousands of skilled artisans. Channapatna, known as the 'Land of Toys', largely depends on tourists, and commuters in cars, buses, and tourist vehicles, to sell their toys and handicraft. However, when the highway is ready, thousands of vehicles will take the bypass, skipping Channapatna, with very few seeking them as avenues to reach them will be blocked.

Sir, this sudden customer drop will lead to economic disaster for nearly 3,000 artisan families and thousands of employees dependent on tourists for their livelihoods.

Therefore, I request the Government to develop a 'Crafts Village' on the lines of 'Delhi Haat' on the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway. This Craft Village(s) or Crafts Centre(s) can come up along the highway and provide space for Channapatna artists to showcase and sell their toys and handicrafts and also for restaurants to offer their local food specialities. Such a Crafts Village will provide a market for the local artisans and food-makers to protect their livelihoods, while becoming a platform for the millions of tourists to experience the rich heritage and culture of the Mysuru region.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you. Very good point. Next, Shri Sant Balbir Singh.

Impact of air pollution on human health and need to reduce air pollution in the country

SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH (Punjab):^{*}"Sir, I would like to draw your attention to 25 per cent of cancer patients in India whose main cause is air pollution. On an average, 3 out of 4 cancer patients die because they cannot afford treatment. According to a report of 2017, twelve lakh deaths were caused by air pollution, which was 12.5 per cent of the total deaths in India. Twenty-eight per cent of people are suffering from lung cancer due to air pollution. The most harmful impact of air pollution is seen on our upcoming generation. New-born children are being born with disabilities and they have lack of mental development. According to the report of the Lancet Study 2019, 16 lakh deaths, out of 23 lakh unnatural deaths in India during 2019, were caused by air pollution and five lakh people died due to water pollution. This is the highest number of deaths due to air pollution in the country. The Central Pollution Control Board has released a list of 131 cities in India as non-attainment cities, that is, those where the air has not been breathable during last five years.

According to the Indian Constitution, clean air, water, and food are the fundamental rights of every citizen and rules are made, but despite it many deaths are caused by pollution every year.

I urge upon the Government to take necessary steps to reduce air pollution."

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

^{*}English translation of the original speech delivered in Punjabi.