

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Zero Hour mention raised by the hon. Member, Shri Iranna Kadadi: Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas (West Bengal), Dr. Santanu Sen (West Bengal), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha) and Dr. Amar Patnaik (Odisha).

The next speaker is Shri Jose K. Mani; concern regarding rising coastal erosion along shores of Kerala.

Concern over rising coastal erosion along shores of Kerala

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, it is a matter of grave concern that requires immediate attention to the alarming increase in coastal area of India particularly along the shore of Kerala. This issue not only poses a threat to the environment but also to the livelihood of the coastal communities. In India, about 7,560 kilometers of coastline and, in Kerala, about 590 kilometers stretch of coastline, starting from Poovar to Thiruvananthapuram to Thalapadi in Kasargod, are the most densely populated land areas in the country. According to the study by the National Centre for Coastal Research, 33.6 per cent of the Indian coastline is vulnerable to erosion and nearly 46 per cent of coastline of Kerala is already affected. The statistic should not be viewed as a mere number but a warning of the impending crisis that looms over the State and the nation. This coastal erosion is due to various factors such as climate change, unregulated human activities, inadequate coastal zone management, mining and tourism. In Kerala alone, with over 11 lakh fishermen belonging to the economically weaker sections, coastal erosion is rendering these families refugees in their own land. It is imperative that we recognize the urgency of the situation. Firstly, I implore upon the Government to initiate a comprehensive coastal protection plan that leverages the latest scientific and technological advancements. Adequate financial allocation is crucial. The Government must reflect its commitment in budgets, setting aside sufficient funds for coastal protection projects, community development initiatives and research programmes. There is a pressing need for a comprehensive scientific study into the issue of coastal erosion along India's coasts. Such a study will offer a detailed understanding of regional variations enabling the identification of high risk zones and implementation of targeted measures for coastal protection. Sir, additionally, it will facilitate the integration of indigenous knowledge with advanced scientific insights fostering a holistic approach. This comprehensive study stands as a crucial step towards serving our coastal heritage, sustaining the livelihood and fortifying the resilience of our coastal communities in the face of escalating environmental challenges. I hope the Government will take immediate action to address this crisis. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Zero Hour raised by the hon. Member Shri Jose K. Mani: Dr. Santanu Sen (West Bengal), Shri Sandosh Kumar P. (Kerala), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri A.A. Rahim (Kerala), Shri Jawhar Sircar (West Bengal), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Shrimati Vandana Chavan (Maharashtra), Shri Elamaram Kareem (Kerala), Dr. Amar Patnaik (Odisha), Shrimati Priyanka Chaturvedi (Maharashtra), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala) and Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu).

Regularisation of local passenger Train Nos. 07380 and 07379

SHRI SADANAND SHET TANAWDE (Goa): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to call the attention of the Minister of Railways to an important issue affecting the residents of Kulem, Kalay and surrounding villages in South Goa. The prolonged cancellation of local passenger trains, specifically Train No.7380 Vasco to Kulem and Train No.7379 Kulem to Vasco due to the ongoing railway doubling project from Kulem to Vasco has created severe challenges for the local population. The suspension of these trains has disproportionately impacted the daily lives of villagers, particularly students, who rely on these services for commuting for education and employment opportunities. Despite persistent representations made by the local villagers to the South Western Railway, a resolution has not been reached. The absence of alternative transportation from Kulem to Vasco has led to significant hardships for students, workers, employees and domestic passengers while goods trains operates seamlessly on the same route. Sir, I urgently request your intervention to address this matter. I appeal for the regularisation of Train No.7380 Vasco to Kulem and Train No.7379 Kulem to Vasco without further delay. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Zero Hour mention raised by the hon. Member Shri Sadanand Shet Tanawde: Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Dr. Amar Patnaik (Odisha) and Dr. Santanu Sen (West Bengal).

Demand to establish Industrial Units in Auraiya and Etawah Districts of Uttar Pradesh

श्रीमती गीता उर्फ चंद्रप्रभा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति जी, उत्तर प्रदेश के जनपद औरैया एवं इटावा भौगोलिक दृष्टि से उत्तर प्रदेश में एक अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण स्थान पर स्थित हैं। लगभग उत्तर