

जनजातीय बहुल क्षेत्रों के समन्वित विकास के व्यापक दृष्टिकोण से उठाये गए इस कदम हेतु रेल मंत्रालय को हृदय से धन्यवाद करता हूँ।

इस प्रयास से इस जनजातीय बहुल क्षेत्र की जनता काफी उत्साहित है। परमवीर लांस नायक अल्बर्ट एक्का स्वयं इसी गुमला ज़िले की पावन धरती से थे, तथा आज भी भारतीय सेना में इसी क्षेत्र से हमारे कई सैनिक भाई-बंधु सेवा दे रहे हैं। इन सभी जनजातीय समाज को राष्ट्र की मुख्यधारा से जोड़ने व उनके आर्थिक-सामाजिक विकास हेतु कोरबा से लोहरदगा (वाया जशपुर गुमला) तक रेल लाइन का यथाशीघ्र निर्माण किया जाना अत्यावश्यक है।

अतः मेरी सरकार से माँग है कि उपर्युक्त रेल लाइन को भारतीय रेल की जनजातीय परियोजना में जोड़कर गति प्रदान की जाए। यह हमारी माँग है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member, Shri Samir Oraon: Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu) and Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha).

Now, hon. Member, Shri A.A. Rahim; Demand to set up Modern Doppler Radars in Kerala for Proper Weather Forecasting.

#### **Demand to set up Modern Doppler radars in Kerala for the proper weather forecasting**

SHRI A.A. RAHIM (Kerala): Sir, Kerala has been facing natural calamities and extremely heavy rainfalls for the past few years. Cyclone Okhi in 2017 has killed 91 people and the homes of 150 families have been destroyed. More than 450 people have died and there have been damages of around 44 thousand crore rupees in the 2018 flood which was declared as a level 3 calamity by the Central Government. Similarly, in the flood of 2019, more than 121 people died. The main challenge faced by Kerala is that the weather monitoring and forecasting system is inadequate. Kerala does not have even a properly functioning advanced radar for weather forecasting. The radar in Kochi is not properly functioning most of the time and is an old system that does not provide data in digital format for use in decision support systems. The radar at Thiruvananthapuram is under ISRO and cannot be used all the time for meteorological purposes. In Northern Kerala, there is not even a single radar. Kerala has been demanding modern Doppler Radars since 2013 but the Union Government.... *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have to read only the approved text.

SHRI A.A. RAHIM: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, only that will go.

SHRI A.A. RAHIM: Yes, Sir, correct. You can follow it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You continue with last para, 'Kerala has been demanding modern Doppler Radars since 2013.'

SHRI A.A. RAHIM: Kerala has been demanding modern Doppler Radars since 2013 and Modern Doppler Radars should be allowed for the Northern, Southern, and Central regions of Kerala. I also urge the Government that an X-band Mini Doppler Radar should be allotted to the Idukki region which is a highly ecologically fragile area.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member, Shri A.A. Rahim: Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha) and Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala).

Now, Shri A.D. Singh; Concern over lack of funds for research in higher educational institutions in Bihar.

#### **Lack of funds for research in Higher Educational Institutions in Bihar**

SHRI A.D. SINGH (Bihar): Sir, the funds allocated for research in Higher Educational Institutions in Bihar are much lower than the national average. The research projects submitted by the institutions to the national funding agencies are not receiving funds. As a result, Bihar's research and development activities are lagging behind even though the best talent is available in the State. Recently, the Department of Science and Technology invited proposals for Research and Development Infrastructure Allocation Fund, IIT, Patna-led Consortium comprising of the Central University of South Bihar, Gaya; Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Motihari and Aryabhata Knowledge University, Patna submitted a proposal for funding support on sharing basis. The proposal was rejected stating reasons that the proposal is not focussed and the research outcome is not impressive. I want to apprise the House that IIT, Patna, alone has contributed more than 2,000 research papers and 35 patents in the duration specified for consideration of the proposal. The overall contribution by the Consortium to the field of research is much more and commendable. I, therefore, request the Ministry that the recommendation denying the infrastructure funds to the Consortium for the growth of R&D culture in Bihar may be reviewed so that an