

from across India. However, the absence of a direct train link from Pune, a major urban center, poses significant inconvenience. Currently, travellers from Pune must either change trains at Manmad or rely on bus services to reach Nashik. This indirect route not only extends the journey time but also increases costs and discomfort, especially for elderly devotees and economically weaker sections.

Introducing direct train service between Pune and Nashik would significantly improve access to the Kalamandir, thereby boosting religious tourism in the region. This initiative would reflect the Government's commitment to preserving and promoting India's rich cultural heritage.

Furthermore, establishing this train route would create employment opportunities and spur economic development in the local areas. It would also stand as a testament to the Government's dedication to facilitating the spiritual and cultural journeys of its citizens.

Therefore, I urge hon. Railway Minister to consider the immediate initiation of direct train services from Pune Junction to Nashik. This move would not only meet the needs of the devotees but also underscore the government's commitment to upholding cultural values and ensuring public welfare. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by Dr. Medha Vishram Kulkarni: Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala).

Demand to increase the supply of Fertilizers to Odisha

SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI (Odisha): Sir, fertilizers are integral to sustaining agricultural productivity by supplying essential nutrients crucial for crop growth. Timely availability is imperative for successful agricultural practices as it directly impacts crop quality.

Last year, hon. former Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik ji, formally communicated with the Union Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers, emphasizing the fertilizer shortage and requested for a larger allocation of Di-ammonium Phosphate (DAP) and Muriate of Potash (MOP).

In response to the fertilizer scarcity, the then Odisha Government led by our former Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik ji, implemented measures such as the Krushak Assistance of Livelihood and Income Augmentation (KALIA) and BALARAM Scheme, etc., to support the farming community of Odisha. Despite these efforts, the persistent unavailability of fertilizers poses a significant challenge to crop production quality. It is crucial for the Central Government to intervene promptly in

addressing this issue. Therefore, Sir, through you, I respectfully request the Central Government to take requisite measures expeditiously to supply fertilizers to Odisha.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): The following Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by hon. Member, Shri Niranjana Bishi: Shrimati Sulata Deo (Odisha), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shri A.A. Rahim (Kerala), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Shri Muzibulla Khan (Odisha) and Shri Subhasish Khuntia (Odisha).

Concern over increase in Anti-microbial resistance in India

SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is a growing problem in India with an increase of 5 to 10 percent in resistance levels for broad-spectrum antibiotics. Factors such as indiscriminate use of antibiotics, easy over-the-counter availability and the misuse of strong antibiotic-based treatment for common infections are exacerbating the AMR crisis. Treatment of infectious diseases like E.Coli and K.pneumonia has become exceptionally challenging due to the resistance to antibiotics like Imipenem. According to a WHO report, India ranks high in multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) and drug-resistant typhoid cases, posing immense difficulties in effective treatment due to the emergence of AMR. The ICMR Report also flags this as a major concern.

The new Action Plan 2.0 for AMR is pending finalisation and may have to be unveiled expeditiously to tackle this problem. Prominent medical professionals have warned that AMR in India has the potential to trigger the next epidemic. Failure to address this issue urgently will result in severe consequences, including prolonged hospital stays, escalated treatment expenses, heightened post-treatment healthcare costs, and, most importantly, a grave threat to human life. Thus, I request the Central Government to swiftly prioritize and implement decisive measures to combat AMR with utmost urgency.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): The following Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by hon. Member, Shri S. Niranjana Reddy: Shri Niranjana Bishi (Odisha), Shri Jawhar Sircar (West Bengal), Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shrimati Sulata Deo (Odisha), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shri A.A. Rahim (Kerala), Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala) and Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu).