

steps are being taken to ensure that these projects are completed on time to provide safer and more efficient rail and road connectivity? I urge the Government to expedite these projects and ensure that the people benefited from improved transportation infrastructure at the earliest. Thank you.

### **Demand to establish a Centre of Excellence in Nursing Education in Kerala**

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P (Kerala): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, it is a request to establish a Centre of Excellence in nursing education in Kerala. I am very happy that the hon. Union Health Minister is present here.

Kerala is always known as the best State of professional nurses. Our institutions are also well-known. As far as training is concerned, our institutions are always keeping a very high standard. But, the problem is that there are only 7,300 seats in Kerala for nursing education. So, comparing with demand, these seats are very less in number.

Our request is to give more and more seats to Kerala, start more and more colleges, and to start a Center of Excellence in Nursing profession. The migration of Kerala nurses to other countries, especially the European Union, GCC started long ago, way back in 1960s. Even now this demand is at a rise, always. But, we are nowhere to adjust to the aspirants in this field. And, our students are compelled to take this education from other States, especially neighbouring States and institutions, where the standard is not that much high. I am not blaming any other institutions. But, in this field, private institutions are not offering that much standard. So, I request, through you, Sir, to take it very seriously. This also contributes to our economy in a bigger way, increase more and more seats in Kerala and start a Center of Excellence in Nursing field. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by hon. Member, Shri Sandosh Kumar P: Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri Saket Gokhale (West Bengal), Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shri A.A. Rahim (Kerala), Shri M. Shanmugam (Tamil Nadu), Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu) and Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala).

Now, Ms. Sushmita Dev--Need to ensure human conditions for workers working in hazardous industries. Hon. Member, not present. Shri Debashish Samantaray--Demand for Declaring Puri Ratha Yatra as National Holiday.