

**Demand for speedy completion of Khongsang-Imphal and Jiribam-Imphal Railway
Line Project in Manipur**

SHRI MAHARAJA SANAJAOBA LEISHEMBA (Manipur): Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. Though Jiribam-Imphal railway line project was started around a decade back, it has not been completed yet. Only Jiribam to Khongsang portion has been completed but the remaining portion, that is, from Khongsang to Imphal, is still incomplete due to many reasons. Manipur being a hilly State, our only connectivity with other States depends on national highways and airways. During rainy season, people bringing in of essential commodities and travelling outside along the National Highways are facing hardships because of bad roads, landslides and extortions by different armed groups, etc. Besides this, *bandhs* and economic blockades by different groups, as a means of giving pressure to the Government to meet their demands, are becoming their normal practice. The reason why I urge upon this demand to the Government is that during this ongoing crisis, around 20 lakh valley people of Manipur could not travel outside the State through the National Highway and they are facing financial problems for travelling by air due to high prices of airfares.

Moreover, Sir, the prices of foodgrains and other essential commodities are also rocketing sky-high. So, the railways have become the only alternative means to resolve all these problems. In spite of the efforts made by the State and Central Governments to curb this situation in the State and along the national highways, unprovoked firings, attacks, killings and abductions of innocent people and extortions along the national highways are being carried out. To save the lives and properties of the civilians, many brave jawans have become martyrs and many are injured in the hands of these illegal immigrants. They are really waging war against the nation with the help of foreign hands or countries. So, instead of doing appeasement policy and before it is too late, the Government of India should act with these foreign narco terrorists or separatists with an iron hand to restore normalcy in the State as well as along the national highways and complete the Jiribam-Imphal railway line project positively by 2025 or at the earliest. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Shrimati Mausam B Noor — Request to release pending funds to the State of West Bengal used for key welfare and development schemes such as MNREGA; not present. Shri Sanjay Singh — Need to implement Fifth Schedule in Hilly Regions of Uttarakhand; not present.

Shrimati Priyanka Chaturvedi — Concern over poor implementation of Regional Connectivity Scheme - UDAN⁹; not present. Dr. Ashok Kumar Mittal — Need for insurance sector reforms to ensure fairness and accessibility; not present.

Concern over the problems faced by ASHA Workers appointed under National Health Mission

श्री महेंद्र भट्ट (उत्तराखंड): महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान सरकार के 'राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण स्वास्थ्य मिशन' द्वारा ग्रामीण एवं शहरी आबादी को स्वास्थ्य तथा सामाजिक निर्धारकों के बारे में जागरूकता अभियान चलाने सहित बच्चा-जच्चा को स्वास्थ्य सुविधाएँ प्रदान करने के लिए कार्यरत आशा कार्यकर्ताओं की समस्याओं की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

महोदय, जब से इस मिशन को प्रारंभ किया गया है, तब से जहाँ ग्रामीणों को स्वास्थ्य संबंधी जानकारी प्राप्त हो रही है, वहीं आशा कार्यकर्ताओं के द्वारा कोरोना काल से लेकर आज तक लगातार स्वास्थ्य जागरूकता के कार्यक्रम आयोजित किये जा रहे हैं। महोदय, इनके कार्यों को देखते हुए भी आज तक इन्हें न्यूनतम वेतनमान से वंचित रखा गया है। इन्हें मात्र 4,500 रुपये की मासिक प्रोत्साहन राशि ही दी जाती है, जो इनके कार्यों को देखते हुए काफी कम प्रतीत होती है। अनेक राज्यों में इन्हें वार्षिक प्रोत्साहन राशि भी दी जा रही है। उनमें भी केवल उत्तराखंड ऐसा राज्य है, जहाँ इन्हें 5,000 रुपए वार्षिक प्रोत्साहन राशि दी जा रही है।

अतः मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से माँग करता हूँ कि इनके द्वारा स्वास्थ्य के क्षेत्र में किए जा रहे कार्यों के महत्व को समझते हुए इन्हें न्यूनतम वेतन अधिनियम की परिधि में सम्मिलित किया जाए, जिसमें राज्य सरकार का अंश भी सम्मिलित हो, धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by hon. Member, Shri Mahendra Bhatt: Shri Naresh Bansal (Uttarakhand) and Dr. Kalpana Saini (Uttarakhand).

Proposed mega power project by China on the Brahmaputra River

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to raise a very important issue relating to the people of North-Eastern Region in general and Assam in particular. River Brahmaputra is our lifeline and the Brahmaputra Valley Civilization is one of the ancient civilizations of the world. Now, we are very much concerned because of the proposed/initiative taken by China to build world's largest mega power generation projects on the River Brahmaputra. It will be a great threat to our Brahmaputra Valley Civilization. It will be a great threat to