

[Sh. Manku Ram Sodji]

[English]

SHRI K. MURALEE DHARAN (Calicut): The people of Kerala are mainly dependent upon the ration rice which is supplied through Food Corporation of India. The decision of the Government to increase the price of ration rice and wheat has adversely affected the entire public in Kerala. Even though the Government of Kerala had taken a decision to compensate the price rise and distribute the ration rice without affecting the general public, yet it is an extra burden of Rs. 180 crores on the State. The decision of Centre for increasing the price of ration rice and wheat should be reviewed urgently. Kerala is fully depending on a statutory rationing and the supply of rice and wheat is from outside the State. Under such circumstances this decision will adversely affect our State. I request the Central Government to look into this matter and to withdraw the decision and thereby save the State Government from the extrak burden.

- (iv) **Need to set up an electronic telephone exchange at Jalesar, Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI(Jalesar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, communication system in my constituency Jalesar which comprises four districts is very poor. There are three reserved assembly seats in this Parliamentary constituency, which are very backward and there are no means of communications in these places. According to the policies of the Government arrangements for telephone facility are being made and these will be made available to the village heads (Gram Pradhans) but no STD facility is available to the M.P. of this constituency. It is totally impossible to work for the development of this backward area to contact the people and to remove their hardships and problems without any proper com-

munication system.

Therefore, I request the Union Government that provisions should be made to set up an electronic exchange at Jalesar and justice should be done with the people of this area by providing STD facility immediately.

- (v) **Need to protect the interests of labourers of Maguracherra and Shinglacherra tea gardens in Karimganj district, Assam**

[English]

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj): There are two tea-gardens in Karimganj District, Assam, namely Maguracherra and Shinglacherra. They were flourishing ones, but due to ownership disputes they are on the verge of extinction. The labourers cannot have their rations, daily or weekly wages. Plucking of tea leaves remains suspended for several months which amounts to national loss. There is labour unrest and at any moment there can be breach of peace.

I urge upon the Central Government to look into the matter immediately for greater interest of the tea-labourers and for upkeep of the gardens themselves.

- (vi) **Need to set up industries in Kodarma, Bihar**

SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI (Kodarma): Kodarma is an industrially backward area and the people there are very poor and jobless. After the collapse of mica industry, lakhs of employees have been rendered unemployed. There is no other source of livelihood for them. Not even a single industry has been established in this area. A vast track of land is lying unirrigated and rest of the area is covered by mountains and forest. The standard of living of the people of this area has gone down beyond imagination. As such I urge upon the Central Government to establish industries in this area to provide employment opportunities to the landless,