

[Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

Pushkar is also important from cultural, religions, historical, pilgrimage and tourism point of view. Millions of people from different parts of India come here to have a holy dip in the Sarovar. A large number of foreign tourists regularly visit this place. Siltation of such a secured lake and the emergence of drought like situation is not proper. The water of this lake has become polluted.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to get the Pushkar Sarovar desilted and formulate and implement special plan immediately to save it from pollution so as to ensure proper development of Pushkar.

(ii) Need to grant approval for setting up a Sugar Mill in Unnao District, U.P.

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH (Unnao) : The Sugarcane growers in Unnao District have to face a lot of difficulties, the sugarcane growers have to take their cane to sugar mills which are located far away because there is no sugar mill in Unnao district and due to that very reason the farmers are gradually inclined to stop production of sugarcane.

I had earlier many times demanded in this House of setting up of a Sugar Mill in Unnao district, I had also received from the Ministry of Food that the proposal of setting up of a Sugar mill had been sent to the Ministry of Industry but I have not got any information from the above Ministry so far.

I, therefore, again request the Government that the Sanction for setting up a sugar mill in Unnao district of Uttar Pradesh may expeditiously be accorded.

(iii) Need to ensure remunerative prices for the Agricultural produce

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH (Meerut) : Ours is predominantly an agriculture country, when a farmer increases production of its crops in any part of the world, he is given all sorts of incentives but whenever the farmer of our country increases its production, he does not get sufficient remunerative prices. On the other hand, if a farmer produces more sugarcane, its prices fall down, if he increases the production of potatoes, its prices come down, if the production of rubber increases, its prices show a downward trend, similarly if the production of cotton is boosted, its prices also come down because of which the farmer gets discouraged and the agriculture production

registers a shortfall and as a result of which sometimes we face shortage of sugar in our country and sometimes we have shortage of foodgrains in the country. Due to this very reason, we had to import sugar in 1995 and similarly, we imported wheat during 1996-97. If the Government provides sufficient assistance to farmers on increasing production of their produce, there will be no shortfall in agricultural production in our country but we could export agriculture based produce on a permanent basis. I want to make two submissions to prevent economic exploitation of the farmers of the country :

1. While making assessment of the production cost of agriculture produce, the interest accrued during the crop period may be added to the cost of land.

2. 80 per cent members in the Agriculture Price Commission should be included from among farmers.

(iv) Need to open a Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Mayurbhanj, Orissa

[English]

KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA (Mayurbhanj) : Madam, as per the directions of the Government, Krishi Vigyan Kendras are being opened in many districts of the country of even in some of the districts of Orissa. But it is surprising that Mayurbhanj, one of the largest districts of the country, has been deprived of a Krishi Vigyan Kendra in spite of the repeated assurance given by successive Governments.

The setting up of a Kendra in Mayurbhanj which consists of people mostly from tribal areas will certainly help in promoting the agriculture in the district and obviously will assist in generating employment to the jobless youth of the areas.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to take necessary steps for setting up a Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Mayurbhanj, Orissa, as early as possible.

(v) Need to establish a Permanent Engineering Wing at Arakha Kula in Puri district, Orissa, for regular desilting of Chilka lake

SHRI ANADI CHARAN SAHU (Cuttack) : Sir, Chilka is the largest salt water lake in Asia. It has varieties of fish. The Arakha Kula is the mouth of Chilka joining the sea. Because of silting of the mouth, there is reduction of the tidal influx of sea water. As sea water does not come regularly, it affects the marine species in Chilka. In addition, the land side coastline of Khurda District and Puri District