

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (Ranchi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to Ranchi which is a major city of Bihar. There is acute shortage of electricity and water. People have to tread long distances to get water and the electricity remain suspended for 10-12 hours a day as a result of which most of the industries are suffering and are on the verge of closure. The Government is not making any arrangements to provide adequate water and electricity supply. Ranchi has a population of 12 lakh and there is acute shortage of water. I would urge the Government to improve the position and solve the drinking water and electricity problem there.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk Delhi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government has repeated assurances to bring about amendments to the Delhi Rent Control Act. But even today the Damocles Sword is still hanging on the people. 90 per cent of the people want that the amendment should be brought forth immediately. The Government has given assurances repeatedly but how long will it remain silent? Why have the amendments not being brought? They should be brought forward immediately so that the people are benefited.

*SHRI VEERABHADRAM THAMMINENI (Khammam): Mr. Chairman Sir, I want to bring an important point to the notice of this august House. Just a few minutes back, One hon. Member from Karnataka was asking for the immediate stoppage of work on Telugu Ganga. But now I am on my legs to ask for the immediate stoppage of the construction of work of Almatti project. No Hon. Member in this august House should feel that we the members coming from different States rising issues in this Supreme Forum pertaining only to their States. The controversies related to Almatti and Telugu Ganga have been referred to the Committee consisting of five Chief Ministers for the solution. An Expert Committee was constituted by this Chief Minister's Committee. Now I want to quote a few sentences from the Report of the Experts' Committee.

"Karnataka states that FRL of plus 524.256 mm enables the State of Karnataka to steer of water available to it under Scheme B when it comes. It means that only when Scheme B fructifies there will be large storage available to the quantity of 23 TMC under Polavaram Division and 165 TMC from Scheme B.

* Translating of the speech Originally Delivered in Telugu.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot give a speech in the Zero Hour.

The Expert Committee is quite clear in its Report that it is not at all necessary at this stage to take up the work on Almatti. The Experts' Committee has now submitted its Report. Andhra Pradesh Assembly has unanimously passed a resolution asking for the immediate stoppage of construction work on Almatti. All the permissions granted so far for the construction of Almatti should be withdrawn at once. So I request that, in view of the Expert Committee's opinion, the Union Government should take immediate action to stop the construction work on Almatti.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Government will take a note of it.

You please be seated. I have given you the chance. They will take note of it.

SHRI VEERABHADRAM THAMMINENI : the Court has already given a judgement on this.

[Translation]

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, keeping in view the economic plight of the farmers it is urged that the Central Government should provide electricity free of charge for tubewells and provide adequate funds for the implementation of JRY, RLEGP and Integrated Employment Programme and million wells schemes. This would enable the farmers to raise the standard of living. The Madhya Pradesh Government and other State Government should be provided adequate funds so that these schemes are effectively implemented and the economic plight of the farmers is improved. Immediate action should be taken in this regard.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to an important issue. During the last few months, the prices of wheat have risen tremendously. As a result the consumer was fleeced. This is all because there is no well planned agriculture policy in the country and the support price is fixed for the farmers and the businessmen. The what was procured at Rs. 380 per quintal and it was sold Rs. 800 per quintal. As a result the consumer and the farmers both suffered. Today the situation is that no farmer of Punjab and Haryana is ready to sell even 1 kg of wheat to the Government Agency. The hon. Finance Minister gave a

[Prof. Prem Singh Chandumajra]

statement in the Rajya Sabha we would import wheat. But the imported wheat has been stored.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do you want to say to the Government ?

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Sir, I would like to know whether the Government is ready to pay that much to the farmers of Punjab and Haryana which they have paid to the foreign agencies for importing wheat. If Rs. 100 per quintal is not given as bonus to the farmers, as promised by the Finance Minister in the Budget speech, the farmers will not sell wheat to the Central Pool. Therefore, my request to the Government is that steps should be taken in this direction.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, after two days there is holi festival. The Food Corporation of India had to supply wheat in the open market to Rajasthan but it has not so far reached the market there. The price of wheat, maida and suji has increased by Rs. 100 per quintal. Last week the price of wheat in Rajasthan was Rs. 700 per quintal but today it is Rs. 850 per quintal. Similarly, the price of maida has increased by Rs. 100 per quintal whereas the holi festival is round the corner.

I demand from the Central Government that the share of Rajasthan which the FCI has to supply should be released early because the traders have deposited Rs. 5 crores in cash with the FCI for this purpose. I urge that wheat should be supplied immediately in the open market before the holi festival otherwise the consumers would suffer a lot.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Lot of injustice is being done to the students of the Rohelkhand University in U.P. The students who had been awarded Bachelor's degree from the Indira Gandhi National Open University are not being admitted to this University and their admission forms are being cancelled. This is inspite of the fact that all degrees and diplomas of IGNOU are treated at par with the other recognised Central and State universities of the country.

I would like to point out that IGNOU was set up with the main aim of providing and promoting informal education under the new education policy. All the degrees and diplomas of IGNOU are at par with other universities in the country. There is clear instructions in this regard from the UGC and the Human Resource Development Ministry

has also issued a notification in this regard. In spite of these instructions it is strange that Rohelkhand University is not allowing the holders of degrees of IGNOU in the examination and their forms are being cancelled.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do not want to say exactly?

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : I want the HRD Minister to intervene so that the forms of these students are not cancelled and their future is not bleak
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you want to speak please submit hurriedly.

SHRI MAHAVIR LAL BISHVAKARMA (Hazaribagh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the teacher of minority schools are not getting salaries for the last 8 months as a result of which they are facing a lot of difficulties. When the education in the country was brought under one umbrella and nationalised these minority schools were not nationalised.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is a state subject you cannot raise it here.

SHRI MAHAVIR LAL BISHVAKARMA : The Government gives aid to these schools, therefore I want to submit that these teachers should be provided salaries at the earliest.

[English]

PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri) : I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the telephone connections in the Jamaula Sub-Division in Mekliganj area of Coochbehar district of West Bengal have been remaining non-operative since long it is a very important area. There are so many schools and colleges, Panchayat Offices and other Government offices. So, the telephone connection there should be restored immediately.

I urge upon the Government to take necessary action so that the telephone connection in Jamaula Sub-Division in Makliganj area of Coochbehar district is restored.

SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH (Bulandshahr) : Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the prevalent corruption resentment and chaos in the telephones department. In our area almost all the telephones are lying out of order. In most of the big cities in my district the telephone remains for weeks together. The business has come to a standstill because telephones are not functioning properly. Besides the entire telephone