

[English]

SHRI PALA K M MATHEW (IDUKKI)
Sir I use to point out a very urgent matter drastically affecting small rubber growers in Kerala

Now the commerce Minister has suddenly come out with an announcement in invit applications for the grant of licence to import into India the seven lakh and odd small cultivators of rubber in Kerala view this as an extreme concern with deep anguish and alarm

Now the consequent downfall in prices will ruin the small farmers These steps will marginalise the STC and would permit the industrialists and monopolists to import rubber This is most unfair to the small rubber farmers

Yielding to the monopolists will automatically break the backbone of the economy of the Kerala also The official assessment of the bureaucrats regarding the shortage of rubber is unrealistic and untrue Now there is no dearth of rubber in India at the moment The present price is most unremunerative also The small farmers are in the unorganised sector and they have no pressure groups or lobbies for canvassing for them

So I would request the Government to raise the minimum price of rubber at least to Rs 3 per kilo and I strongly urge upon the Government not to import even a kilo of rubber

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) It has been reported that about 143 employees of the Indian Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) have been retrenched recently and they are out of job since 14.4.1993 It is against the Government's assurance in the House that no public sector unit in such a way would retrench its employees and if there is a surplus they will be replaced and redeployed But here in Delhi in the ITPO office at Pragati Maidan they have retrenched 143 employees saying it is done because of economic reasons

You will be surprised to know that lakhs of rupees are being spent to bring some machines for attendance of the employees there You will be also surprised to know that the Chairman and other officers of ITPO are going abroad every week and every month and lakhs and lakhs of rupees are being spent and they talk of economy In that situation I will say that it should be stopped For these foreign trips and other things there should be some norms In the name of economy only the employees should not be retrenched and the 143 employees should be taken back and they should be given back their employment in the ITPO

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY (Ranchi) Mr Chairman Sir I would like to make some submissions about Ranchi city of Bihar Ranchi has a population of ten lakh The central Government as well as the State Government have been asked for the last two years to provide a by pass there In the absence of by pass there is a lot of traffic jam which apparently is the main cause of many accidents there Therefore through you I urge the Central Government to construct a by pass in Ranchi There are many cities in the country which have a population of more than 10 lakh by passes should be provided in all the such cities

DR LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur) Mr Chairman Sir the Central Government opens Central schools at various places in order to provide facility to Central Government employees and proper education to their wards I am sorry to say that the number of Central schools in Madhya Pradesh is not sufficient It is very sorry to know that even after making recommendation to open new schools at various places in Madhya Pradesh the same have not been opened It is totally unjust not to provide a central school in Mandsaur which is a C R P F Centre and is also inhabited by employees of Excise Income tax and Railways

Therefore through you, I would request the