

16.00 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) Need to increase the statutory price of sugarcane by Rs. 25 per tonne at 8.5% recovery for the year 1989-90. (Mub?)

[English]

SHRI M. BAGA REDDY (Medak): Sir, sugarcane crushing season commences from the month of October. Government of India announces minimum statutory price before the season. Advance price of Rs. 23 per tonne has been announced long back.

The minimum statutory price of sugarcane for the year 1988-89 was fixed at Rs. 195 per tonne at the recovery of 8.5 per cent. The price was fixed by the then Government at Rs. 220 by enhancing Rs. 25 per tonne for the year 1989-90.

Now, the present Government has fixed at Rs. 230 per tonne which is an increase of only Rs. 10.

There is no justification in enhancing only Rs. 10 in the minimum statutory price. I suggest that the Central Government should increase anything more than Rs. 25 per tonne of sugarcane of 8.5 per cent recovery.

- (ii) Need to fill the vacancies in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in U.T. Administration, Central Government and Public Undertaking offices by giving employment to unemployed youths of Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Mub?)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKATA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): The unemployment problem in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands has mounted up and a large number of educated unemployed with professional trainings from the mainland institutions are running from pillar to post for employment.

Andaman & Nicobar Island Administration is having more than 1,300 posts in various categories lying vacant for a long time which have remain unfilled. It is stated that due to quota reservations these posts are not filled up for want of candidates in that category. The Andaman & Nicobar Islands are a Union Territory having a casteless society and people are living with amity irrespective of caste, creed, religion and language.

It would not be in the interest of the country to fill up those posts from the mainland on the basis of castes. The candidates locally available in Andaman & Nicobar Islands as per the prevailing employment system in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands should be given jobs.

I would request the Central Government to ensure that the unemployed youth of Andaman & Nicobar Islands are provided employment without any further delay in the Islands where U.T. Administration, Central Government and Public Undertakings posts are lying vacant.

- (iii) Need to form Development Boards for backward regions of Vidarbha, Marathwada and Konkan in Maharashtra (Mub?)

SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT (Nagpur): Sir, it has been established by various Committees that there is tremendous backlog in the backward region of Vidarbha, Marathwada and Konkan against which the people of these regions are agitating since long. At the time of States re-organisation, the people of Vidarbha and Marathwada were assured by the then Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru that there will be no injustice to the people of backward regions. To remove all apprehensions, Constitution was amended and assurance was given through Article 371(2). In 1984, both the Houses of Maharashtra Legislature adopted a Resolution recommending Development Boards for the Vidarbha and Marathwada regions.

On 15th August, 1990, the Prime