

[Smt. Uma Gajapathi Raju]

Fertilisers has recommended the setting up of three large Ammonia/Urea plants to meet the growing deficit in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan. In view of the availability of natural gas in Andhra Pradesh and the high demand for urea, the case for setting up a large Ammonia/Urea plant in Andhra Pradesh is fully justified. Farmers and cooperatives in Andhra Pradesh are eager that IFFCO, a multi-State cooperative society and India's largest producer of fertilisers, should be entrusted with the task of setting up this Ammonia/Urea plant in Andhra Pradesh to meet their requirements urgently.

(II) Need to exempt small scale cotton oil extraction plants from obtaining licences

SHRI P. NARSA REDDY (Adilabad): The Government of India had notified in 1988 that edible oil plants extracting oil from cotton seeds under small scale sector should have a licence from the Government of India. Notwithstanding this notification, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had sanctioned and advanced loan to cotton oil seed extraction plants under small sectors in Adilabad district of Andhra Pradesh. Many of them have started production. The growth of cotton oil seed in Adilabad is about one and a half lakh quintals. All these plants hardly consume 5% of the production. Earlier, the Government had imposed a ban on such small scale entrepreneurs in the State due to which a great hardship is caused in the interests of small scale entrepreneurs, it is requested that small scale cotton oil extraction plants be exempted from obtaining licence from Government of India. Government of India could well visualize the hardship that would be caused to a small entrepreneur to come over to Delhi and run from

pillar to post to obtain to GOI licence to set up the industry on a small scale.

(III) Need to provide more central assistance to Government of Orissa to meet the damage caused due to floods in Ganjam district

SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI (Berhampur): I wish to focus the attention of the Government to the tragic loss of human lives, life-stock and crops in Ganjam district of Orissa, due to recent floods. Orissa's agriculturally rich southern district of Ganjam is in a shambles due to the unprecedented flood fury that has crippled its economy.

As many as 763 villages were affected badly. The deluge followed by floods took a heavy toll of 600 precious human lives. Official estimates of damage is over Rs. 1,000 crores. The assistance by Union Government given so far is inadequate. Many people in the interior rural areas are yet to receive any assistance.

Owing to the unprecedented magnitude of the devastation caused by cyclonic floods in Ganjam district, this incident has to be considered as a "Calamity of Rare Severity" requiring special dispensation, beyond the pattern of relief financing envisaged by the Ninth Finance Commission. As funds available under the Calamity Relief Fund have been fully utilised. Government of India should consider releasing atleast Rs. 100 crores as non-plan grant for enabling the State Government to continue relief and restoration work without interruption. Further, after the preliminary visit of the World Bank Team, a "Ganjam Reconstruction Project" report with an outlay of Rs. 792.27 crores has been sent to the Government of India. The project must be cleared expeditiously and forwarded to the World Bank for funding.