

12.26 hrs.

[*Translation*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to give remunerative price for Cotton in Andhra Pradesh**

SHRI P. NARASA REDDY (Adilabad): Sir, the price of cotton produce in Andhra Pradesh State with particular reference to Adilabad district (Agency Area) has gone down to a new low. Earlier, the price per quintal of cotton produce was Rs. 1050 (One thousand and fifty) but it has now gone down to Rs. 700/- per quintal. This has created a great disappointment among cultivators of the dry areas. The Cotton Corporation of India is purchasing cotton only at Rs. 710/- per quintal while the Maharashtra State Corporation is purchasing at Rs. 839/-. Hence, agitation of farmers for remunerative price is going on.

Government is requested to go into the matter and do justice to the cotton cultivators in that area.

- (ii) **Need to take steps to re-open Punalur Paper Mills in Kerala**

SHRI KIDOKKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor): Sir, Punalur Paper Mills, Kerala is a century old paper mills. It is one of the oldest paper mills in India and the State. It is the only paper mill in the world using Etta Reeds as raw material for paper making.

The mill is lying closed for more than three years now. The machinery are equipment would get rusted and damaged if they are allowed to remain idle for long.

About a thousand workers and their families are denied their livelihood because of the closure.

I urge upon the Government to take steps to reopen the mill.

- (iii) **Need to expedite the construction of Jamrali dam in Nainital district, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH PAL (Nainital): The Jamrali dam in Nainital district in Uttar Pradesh is under construction since 1975 and crores of rupees have so far been spent on it by the State and the Central Governments. But the work has not taken any concrete shape as yet. Non-completion of the work has resulted in drought situation in the Tarai Bhabar area of Nainital district. The construction work should be completed immediately.

- (iv) **Need to ensure regular supply of electricity to Maharashtra State**

SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE (Beed): The farmers are not getting electricity according to their requirements because of short supply of electricity to Maharashtra. Consequently thousands of pump sets of the farmers have been burnt and have become worthless, causing heavy loss to the farmers. It is, therefore, requested that the Government of India should supply electricity to the State Government regularly so as to avoid loss to the farmers.

[*English*]

- (v) **Need to provide financial assistance for rehabilitation programme of Haldia Fertilizer Plant of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation**

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk): Sir, The Haldia Unit of Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation has been limping for production since the completion of its construction works. The project works were completed in 1979 but the plant could not be commissioned commercially because of technological defects and design problems. Operational activities were banned by the Government of