

(vi) Need to take steps to revive cement industry in Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan

DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA (Sawai Madhopur): Sawai Madhopur district in Rajasthan is basically a tribal area with more than 6 lakh voters belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. In this area, cement plant is the only industry employing more than 5,000 workers which not only provide livelihood to the 50,000 members of their families but on it depends the economy of the entire area. These 5,000 employees of the company have not received their salaries for the last 28 months due to closure of the plant and now they are virtually on the verge of starvation. About 47 persons have died due to starvation and malnutrition.

The IRBI (operating agency of BIFR) has suggested to the Government agencies to grant various concessions, but Government agencies have not responded properly in the matter of welfare of the employees.

As the turnover of factory is Rs. 70 crore out of which Rs. 38.44 crore is average revenue income of Government, I suggest: (1) selling unproductive assets of the company to generate funds of about Rs. 20 crore; (2) to declare this company a relief undertaking with immediate effect till it becomes viable; (3) Central Government should grant all concessions as recommended by IRBI; (4) allow excise rebate of Rs. 50 per tonne; (5) winding-up proceedings of the company by BIFR should be stopped; (6) the labour cooperative society, which is under consideration before BIFR and Government, should be set up and the factory should be started immediately in Government and public interest.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only the approved text will go on record.

[*Translation*]

(vii) Need for taking over the Katihar Jute Mill in Bihar

SHRI YUVRAJ (Katihar): Sir, the pay-

ment payment of wages, bonus, etc. has not been made to the workers of the Katihar jute mill in Bihar. This mill was being run by the Industrial Development Corporation of the State but the production is at a standstill there due to non-availability of raw material. The mill is open and the attendance is also taken regularly; but wages have not been paid since April, 1988, due to which the plight of workers is miserable.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to take over the highly modernized Katihar Jute Mill and alleviate the conditions of the workers.

(viii) Need for opening a polytechnic for women in Indore (Madhya Pradesh)

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Sir, today the entire nation is marching ahead on the path of progress. For the all round development of the country progress is necessary on the economic, social, industrial and all other fronts. There can be no progress if women who form an important part of our society are neglected. Recently the hon. Prime Minister had also described the allround development of women and the need to safeguard her honour as highly essential and said that the Government will implement a scheme keeping these things in mind. Employment oriented education or vocational education is very important from the point of view of development. Today women have a significant contribution in every sphere of life. Keeping this fact in mind Women Polytechnic have been opened in many important places throughout the country so that women can also get technical education.

Indore is a major industrial city of Madhya Pradesh. Major industrial centres like Devas and Pithampur have developed around it. Institutions such as C.A.T. have come up in Indore. With a view that women play an important role in industrial development of the country, it is necessary to establish a women polytechnic in Indore. I would therefore urge upon the Government to pay immediate attention to this matter.