

(viii) Need for Strengthening B.S.F. posts on the India Bangladesh border in Certain areas of West Dinajpur district in West Bengal to prevent decoity and Cattle lifting by Bangladeshis

DR. GOLAM YAZDANI (Raiganj) : The whole of Chopra P.S. and Islampur P.S. and Goalpukur Block I Raiganj, and Kaliaganj P.S. of West Dinajpur District in West Bengal situated along with Bangladeshis border is very vulnerable to all sorts of anti-social activities by Bangladeshis who cross the border at night at unguarded points and carry on dacoities in the houses of the Indian villagers and carry away looted property and cattle also. The cattle-lifting occurs very frequently by gangs of Bangladesh. The B.S.F. posts are situated at long distances and night patrolling by them is not as desired. Hence, the Bangladeshis can cross the border undetected and can also safely go back with looted property. There is also free traffic of smugglers from Bangladesh at certain points of the border. These gangs from Bangladesh go about 3-4 Kilometres deep into Indian territory to loot cattle and other things. People on the Indian side feel very insecure and helpless because the police cannot protect their life or their property and cattle. To prevent such anti-social acts by Bangladeshis, more B.S.F. posts should be set up along the border or alternatively C.R.P. camps should be set up in between two B.S.F. posts along all along the border the strength of the B.S.F. camps should also be increased and continuous patrolling of the whole border at night arranged.

I draw the attention of the hon. Home Minister to this vital problem of the people and request him to take necessary steps soon.

(ix) Need to stop transfer of Coal workers working in Ranchi area to Talcher unit of Central Coal field Ltd.,

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, I was given to understand while at Talcher a few days before that about 1200 (twelve hundred) coal workers presently working in Ranchi area of Bihar are being sent to Talcher unit of the Central Coal Field Ltd, for working there on perma-

nent basis. Employment prospects of the local unemployed youth and unemployed children of the local coal workers are being adversely affected by this and resentment among the public and coal workers is mounting up.

Dissatisfaction is already prevailing in this area on account of inadequate amount of compensation paid to the people for acquiring their land for extension of the coal-field and non-fulfilment of assurance of giving jobs to the displaced people and also keeping this unit under the CCL with headquarters at Ranchi instead of forming a separate division in Orissa with the vast coal-fields in IB valley and Talcher area taken together. Against this background, the present decision of sending about 1200 workers from Ranchi to Talcher is like adding insult to the injury.

May I, therefore, draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister of Steel, Mines and Coal to the aforesaid grievances of the people of this area with a request to take necessary remedial measures immediately.

(x) Need to export Potatoes and ensure support price to potato producers in West Bengal

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : The production of potato in West Bengal as in some other parts of our country is expected to surpass all past records. However, due to very limited storage facilities available as also for the reason that only a small portion of this huge production can be consumed internally, the potato producers are seriously concerned now over their future. There is already a marked decline in the price of potato even before the produce has started coming to the market. The existing price of potato has crashed down to all alarming low level of Rs. 45 per quintal.

In these circumstances the only course left to protect the Potato producers is to take immediate measures for the export of the commodity.

Reports published in some national dailies reveal that countries like Japan are