

interested in purchasing potato to the tune of 45 million tonnes or even more.

I urge upon the Union Government to take the following urgent measures to save the potato producing farmers of our country.

- (a) to make immediate arrangements for ensuring support price to potato producers through State Governments by providing necessary funds to them for the purpose.
 - (b) to make immediate arrangements for export of the commodity.
- (xi) Need to re-open the S.K.J. Sugar Factory, Lauria (West Champaran Bihar) and clear dues of employees and cane growers

SHRI BHOLA RAUT (Bagaha): A sugar factory known as S.K.J. Sugar is located in Lauria, District West Champaran (Bihar) which is employing about 3,000 people. This sugar factory is lying closed for the last 6 months and the employees have been rendered unemployed. Their salary for 5 months is due to be paid to them. The cane growers who supplied their sugar cane to the factory have not been paid dues to the extent of about Rs. 3½ crores for the last 2½ years.

The plight of the employees is just pathetic for non-payment of their salaries for 5 months and same is the plight of the cane growers whose arrears are mounting over a period of 2½ years.

It is imperative now for the Government to take a serious view of the affairs of this factory and get the dues cleared by the owner to both employees and the sugar cane growers. Any delay in taking necessary action will adversely affect the people.

[Translation]

- (xii) Need to create a post of DIG of Police for Purnea (Bihar)

SMT. MADHURI SINGH (Purnea): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out to the Minister of State for Home Affairs, that as District Purnea touches the borders of many countries like Nepal, Bangladesh and others the anti-social elements of these countries continuously infiltrate into this area.

Nepal being adjacent to this area, it has become haven for smugglers. People from Bangladesh also infiltrate and take away cattle of the local people.

West Bengal and Sikkim, being contiguous people from those States have easy access to this district and commit crimes like dacoity, murder etc. They also bring and sell illegal arms and ammunition.

Keeping all these things in view, it is very necessary to create a post of DIG of Police for Purnea

I urge upon the Minister of State for Home Affairs to issue necessary orders in this regard at the earliest so as to provide some relief to the people of Purnea.

[English]

- (xiii) Irregularities in implementation of I.R.D.P./N.R.E.P. Programmes in West-Bengal

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI (Howrah): The serious irregularities in the implementation of IRDP/NREP programme in West Bengal have created problems for the poor. Rural Development Ministry must appoint an Enquiry Committee to find out the facts and take appropriate action in this matter. Political discrimination in distribution of aid to the poor should be removed.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : How has he been allowed to raise this issue of NREP and IRDP here ?

(xiv) Need for review of freight equalisation Scheme

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Mr Speaker, Sir, freight equalisation and its impact on location of industries and regional development was examined in depth by Marathe Committee. Subsequently, National Transport Policy Committee, headed by Shri B D Pande also examined the issue of freight equalisation including the need for extending it to the articles of mass consumption.

It was reported that the proposal of the Pande Committee to phase out freight equalisation scheme in industrial commodities was accepted by the Central Government but has not yet been implemented.

If the freight equalisation scheme in respect of Iron, Steel, Cement, Petroleum product, coal etc, is followed and selective non-equalisation of freight rates continues, then West Bengal alongwith other States of eastern region will continue to suffer.

The freight equalisation scheme for selected raw materials should be abolished as recommended by Pande Committee or all the raw materials of national importance like cotton, industrial alcohol etc. should be made available to States at controlled rates. Articles of mass consumption should be supplied at uniform price throughout the country as recommended by the Committee.

(xv) Need for holding talks with All-India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teacher's Association for solving their Problems

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY (Adilabad) : Mr Speaker, Sir, it is gathered from newspaper reports that All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers Association is to resumens their indefinite fast and other forms of agitation,

If it materialises, the agitation will render out of gear the education of three lakhs of students of five hundred Kendriya Vidyalayas spread all over the country on the even of Board examination.

Their eleven-point demands need immediate discussion between Union Government and teachers association. The Education Minister must take the initiative and try to solve their problems thereby saving the academic career of the students stauding in these pace-setting institutions.

(xvi) Need to investigate into the reported black in maruti Car

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar) : The much-awaited Maruti car long last came on the road, but as a potential money spinner. It is said that this car is being sold at a premium of Rs. 30 to 40 thousands of rupees and this has resulted in generating some crores of black money. The unsocial elements are making a fast buck of black money. Government are helplesly watching the situation as under the existing Rules, there is no control on the sale of these cars. In many cases, the delivery is taken directly by the interested parties on the basis of the allotment letters. In case Government are unable to regulate the resale of these cars within a period of 2 years of their original sale to the allottees, they should at least move in the matter by asking the Income Tax Department to investigate the source of income of both the original allottees and the buyers and even the benami sales as to who are these buyers and sellers and how they are manipulating such transactions. Government should move immediately to mop up all this black money. Further, in case of Maruti vans, the premium ranges between Rs. 50 to 60 thousands on the sale by the original allottees. Some regulation should be made against transfer within the initial period of two years. Even benami transactions should be got cleared by the Income tax Department. It is high time that all this *modus operandi* of generating black money is investigated and delinquent and unsocial elements taken to task.