

irrigation, more funds should be allocated for the construction of canals and sinking of tubewells and the prices of agriculture produce should be fixed in consultation with the farmers.

I hope that the above suggestions will be considered seriously.

(viii) Need to set up a memorial at Patiali town in Uttar Pradesh in the memory of the great poet Amir Khusro.

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Etah in Utter Pradesh is a Parliamentary Constituency as well as an Assembly constituency. There is an ancient town named Patiali in it. This town has also its historical importance. It is the birth place of the famous Urdu-Hindi poet, Amir Khusro. The riddles written in Hindi and urdu by Hazrat Amir Khusro are very famous and are very popular even today. But it is a matter of regret that the Central Government has not set up any such institution in this town which may keep the memory of this great poet alive. Hazrat Amir Khusro has a very important place in Hindi literature. Several books have been written on him in Hindi and Urdu.

I want that a literary institution should be set up at Patiali (District Etah), the birth place of the famous poet. Patiali town is one of the important places of the tehsil and has railway station, block and police station also.

The Government should set up an Institution or park in that town to perpetuate the memory of this great poet Hazrat Amir Khusro so and to ensure the development of that town.

14.30 hrs

[English]

Statement regarding price Policy for raw cotton for 1987-88 season.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON) : Sir, after taking into account all relevant factors including

the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, Government have decided to fix the minimum support prices for the fair average quality of raw cotton for the 1987-88 season as follows :

(a) For the basic variety, H-4, in the long and superior long staple group of cotton, the minimum support price shall be Rs. 550 per quintal. The support prices for other varieties in this staple group will be fixed by the Textile Commissioner in the light of their normal market price differentials with the basic varieties.

(b) For F-414/H-777 variety, the minimum support price shall be Rs. 440 per quintal. For varieties other than those in the long and superior long staple group, the Textile Commissioner will fix the support prices in the light of their normal market price differentials with F-414/H-777 variety.

The Cotton Corporation of India will undertake price support operations in all cotton growing States, except Maharashtra, in case market prices trend to fall below the level of the minimum support prices fixed by the Government.

The minimum support prices of raw cotton of fair average quality fixed by the Government for 1987-88 season mark an increase of Rs. 10.00 per quintal over the corresponding prices for the previous season and are intended to provide continued incentive to cotton growers to increase production and productivity of cotton.

14.33 hrs

[English]

Railway Budget 1987-88 General Discussion

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House shall now take up general discussion on the Budget (Railways) for 1987-88.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you are initiating