

employment for the tribal areas and the huge investment made in this plant, the Government should take steps to see that the work on Fertilizer Plant at Korba starts immediately where coal is also available in large quantity.

[English]

(ii) Need to settle the dispute between the management and labour of the Metal Box Company, Calcutta and to reopen the Company.

**KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE** (Jadavpur) : The Metal Box Company is a well established company situated in Calcutta. But this company is closed for the last 2-1/2 months. The management of this company has stated that the company will be re-opened if the workers agree to a 25 per cent wage cut. It is an unreasonable and inconsiderate attitude of the management. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Labour to direct the management to hold talks with the recognised union of the company immediately and to reopen the company.

[Translation]

(iii) Demand for setting up industries in Chambal region of Madhya Pradesh.

**SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV** (Morena) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the youths in Chambal division of Madhya Pradesh have no work to do now-a-days because neither any small scale or big industry has been set up there nor have the people there adequate agricultural land to maintain themselves and their families. Millions of hactares of ravine land is still lying useless and in millions of hectares, stone is available in hilly areas which can be utilized for manufacture of cement. The stone available is adequate to feed several cement plants.

I, therefore, request the Government to set up a Paper Mill at any place near Morena and a Cement Industry at Vijayapur or Karhal so that people of the Chambal division may get employment.

[English]

(iv) Demand for T.V. Relay Centres in Balasore district of Orissa.

**SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA** (Balasore) : It is a welcome policy of the Union Government to cover more areas

under the TV network specially backward and hilly areas and the interior most parts of the country. But only a few TV relay centres have been set up in the State of Orissa, particularly in Balasore district which is located in the extreme north of the State and border of West Bengal. After persuasion Balasore has been included in the Seventh Plan period for establishment of a TV relay centre but its execution has not materialised yet.

Realising the constrains of resources with the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, and considering the genuine necessity of covering the district with TV network specially when, the country's prestigious National Test Range project is being executed by the Defence Ministry in the district and inordinate delay in execution of the TV relay centre at Balasore, the State Government on their own, has decided to borrow three TV towers from the Defence establishment to be set up one each at Balasore, Baliapal and Bhadra of Balasore district with the intention to instal three small power TV relay centres to cover the entire district and portions of Mayurbhanj and Koonjhar districts, which are not covered by the TV relay centres already installed. Government of Orissa have requested the I and B Ministry agree to the proposals.

I, therefore, urge upon the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to take immediate action to instal these small TV relay centres in Balasore district.

[Translation]

(v) Need to set up new Sugar Mills in U.P. and other parts of the country.

**SHRI AKHTAR HASAN** (Kairana) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards rapidly decreasing importance of Sugarcane in Uttar Pradesh. Due to insufficient number of sugar mills and recession in Khandsari Industry, the farmers have to sell their sugarcane at the rate of Rs. 16 per quintal. According to the report of Uttar Pradesh Krishi Utpadan Mandi, the capacity of the mills to purchase sugarcane is 35% to 40% and this too from those farmers who have filledup hands with sugar mills. That is why the sugar mills purchase only very little quantity of sugarcane and the rest is

to be sold to Gur and Khandsari manufacturing units. The number of these units is also decreasing continuously. Therefore, the owners of these units are buying sugarcane from farmers at the rate of 16 to 18 rupees a quintal while the mill rate is Rs. 27.

The farmers of Uttar Pradesh produce only sugarcane on most of their agricultural land and their living depends upon this crop. I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the sugar mills get these bonds filled only from 20 to 25% of farmers and lift only 40 to 45% of their sugarcane. This problem is not confined to my constituency Kairana alone but it exists in entire of Uttar Pradesh and North India.

I, therefore, request the Government to take necessary steps to set up new sugar mills in all such areas.

[English]

(vi) Demand for increasing the pension of retired Army Officers of the former Indian State Forces.

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar) : Thousands of Officers and Jawans had been recruited during and before the Second World War (1939-45) in the Indian State Forces and most of them had participated in war efforts inside the country and outside on the battle-fields of middle East, Burma, and Far East. A big percentage of these Officers and Jawans had to be prematurely retired on the Indian-State Rates of Pension Rules (which differed from State to State) although these soldiers were getting the Indian Army rate of salaries for number of years that they were in service during war period and upto the date of their compulsory retirement from the Armed Forces in early 50s.

12.11 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

The cause of retirement of these Officers and Jawans was that all of them could not have been absorbed in the Indian Army Service after the merger of Indian State Forces into the Indian Army after independence,

The pension paid to such Officer on State Rules is so low that it is not only inadequate to make their two ends meet but it also affects their status as former Army Officers. Revisions of Pension Rules from time to time have not taken care of this neglected section of Ex-soldiers.

In view of these facts, I urge upon the Ministry of Defence to raise the rates of pension of these retired Army Officers of the Former Indian State Forces equal to the Indian Army Officers retired during that period of service.

(vii) Demand for early clearance to the projects submitted by West Bengal Government.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, the fate of three major projects of West Bengal viz., Haldia Petrochemical Complex, Bakreswar Thermal Project Plant and Teesta Barrage project has been uncertain for periods ranging from 3 to 10 years. These Projects have potential of transforming West Bengal into one of the most advanced States of the Union and open new horizons for agricultural development in the State. But sanction to Haldia and Bakreswar projects has been delayed and financial assistance to the ongoing Teesta Project refused. The letter of intent for the Haldia Petrochemical Complex was issued in November 1977. The State Government submitted a detailed project report to the Centre in May 1980 for a joint-sector venture with the Centre but after a period of more than three years, the Centre decided in July 1984 not to participate in the project. The State Government in May 1985 decided on a joint-sector venture. Since then, after various revisions the I.D.B.I. and other agencies have given their technical and financial viability clearance to the project. But Union Government has not cleared so far the proposal which has the potential to transform the south-western part of rural Bengal into another industrial complex, like Durgapur-Asansol.

The Bakreswar Thermal Power Project, already cleared by the Central Electricity Authority in May 1985, was opted for a joint venture between the State Government and a foreign collaborator by the State