

[*English*]

- (iv) **Need to Sanction the proposal submitted by the Government of Karnataka for strengthening the ground water Organisation**

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur): On 20th May, 1987, the State Government of Karnataka had sent a proposal to the Union Government to renew the sanction during 1988-89 to purchase equipment worth Rs. 8,99,517/- for strengthening of Ground Water Organisation in Karnataka under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The State Government had also requested for import licence and for foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. 13 lakhs. The Union Government has not yet communicated its decision thereon.

I request the Minister concerned to look into the matter.

[*Translation*]

- (v) **Need to ensure early payment of crop insurance claims of Gujarat farmers**

SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOT-TAMBHAI PATEL (Godhra): The farmers of Gujarat are passing through difficult times due to drought for the third consecutive year. Most of the crop insurance claims for the kharif season of 1986 could be cleared in the month of April 1988 only. There is great resentment among the farmers on this account. The farmers of the State are demanding for an early payment of crop insurance claims for the kharif season of 1987. A further delay in the payment of claims for the kharif season for 1987 may lead to a mass agitation.

The figures of expected agricultural yield based on the estimate of kharif crop for the year 1987 has already been sent to the General Insurance Corporation by the State Government. The Central Government should take steps to ensure early payment of crop insurance claims.

- (vi) **Need to take steps to improve the condition of villagers and for removal of unemployment.**

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, India is a country of the villages. Seventy percent of the labourers and farmers live in these villages but the condition of the villages is deteriorating day by day. Consequently, the condition of the farmers and labourers is going from bad to worse. Agriculture is becoming unprofitable. Youth belonging to both farming and labour classes are migrating from the villages. Unemployment has reached serious proportions thereby posing threat to the unity and integrity of the country. If we want to maintain the unity and integrity of the country, we have to make rapid development of the villages. Immediate necessary steps will have to be taken to check floods, and development schemes will have to be undertaken at the village level. Agriculture should be given the status of an industry and youth should be stopped from migrating. For this small industries should be opened in the villages. Then only we can hope of removing starvation and unemployment to some extent. The Government should take immediate action in this direction.

[*English*]

- (vii) **Need to send ICAR team of agricultural experts to study the feasibility of establishing an Agricultural College in district Ganjam in Orissa**

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): The district of Ganjam in the State of Orissa is primarily agricultural. The people of the area are hardworking and never relent to work in the fields facing all oddities. Practically their philosophy is agriculture. The students of the district have been all along agitating for the establishment of an agricultural college in the district. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research should collect necessary data and explore possibilities of establishing an agricultural college in the district. Such an institution can go a long way in providing

higher educational facilities in the realm of agriculture to the students of the area. The college when established, be affiliated to Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology.

I would suggest that the ICAR be entrusted the responsibility of sending a team of agriculture experts to visit the district and see the possibility of establishing a college in consultation with Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology and Orissa Government.

The establishment of an agricultural College in the district is a long standing demand. The Central Government should consider the matter sympathetically and do the needful soon.

[Translation]

(viii) **Need to transfer the quarters of BALCO from Delhi to Bilaspur or Korba in Madhya Pradesh**

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA (Janjgir): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a BALCO plant is situated at Korba in Madhya Pradesh. A BALCO factory is also situated at the same place which is earning profit. There are only two plants of BALCO in the whole of India, the Korba plant being the most important of them. But the irony is that its headquarters are in Delhi due to which the officials have to visit Delhi frequently for every work. As a result of this, a lot of money and time is wasted. If the headquarters are set up at Bilaspur or Korba then the wastage of time and money arising out of frequent tours of the officials can be avoided. Besides, allied industries connected with BALCO can also be set up there. Therefore my submission is that just as the BALCO headquarters have been shifted to Orissa, a similar provision should be made in Bilaspur or Korba as well.

14.28 hrs.

DIRECT TAX LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL CONTD.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri S.B. Chavan on the 22nd February, 1989, namely:-

"That the Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961, the Wealth-tax Act, 1957, the Gift-tax Act, 1958 and the Direct Tax Laws (Amendment) Act, 1987, be taken into consideration."

Shri S.B. Chavan to Continue his Reply.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): Sir, Yesterday I had informed this Hon. House about some of the doubts which were expressed by Hon. Members as to what the position is. I would like to continue with the same.

The first point which I would like to clarify will be about the system of evaluation of the wealth tax. The Hon. Member opposite said that the evaluation of the wealth tax and the system followed should be such that a common man should be able to understand as to what exactly are the rules and the producers which he is expected to follow so that he is not required to go to any tax consultant for filing his returns. First of all, I would like to clarify that the evaluation under the wealth tax is not going to attract any common man as such, it is beyond a particular limit that persons are supposed to file their returns for the wealth tax. The procedure has been laid down and it is contained in Rule 7 which in fact is absolutely clear both about the immovable property—whether it is a free hold or a lease hold or whether it is an acquired property.

All the three have been clarified in Part B on page 41 page Taxmans publication.