

- (ix) **Need to extend the copyright of Tagore's works from 50 years to 100 years.**

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch-Bihar): The copyright of Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore's works is due to expire in 1991 when fifty years will be completed after the death of the author. Tagore's works are not only read very widely, but are taught to the students of all categories beginning from primary upto research level. In the event of the expiry of the said copyright, the unscrupulous publishers, those who are bent upon making easy money, are sure to bring out unauthentic and substandard editions of Tagore's works.

Rabindra Sangeet has a special unique position in as much as both its text and tune were framed and composed by Rabindra Nath Tagore himself. To preserve the sanctity of Tagore's writings, extension of copyright is the only answer. Many countries in the world, a number of which are signatories to the Berne Convention have already extended copyright from 50 to 100 years. The principle of equal treatment to all authors should not stand in the way as Tagore's writings stand on quite a separate footing and are unique in character.

Tagore's writings deserve a special treatment also because the beneficiaries in the copyright are not individuals but the Institution Visva Bharati, which is a Central University.

The working groups of UNESCO, on the subject, was unanimous in recognising the two categories of measures which are likely to ensure preservation of intellectual works, safeguard the interest of the public and prevent abusive uses.

Hence, I would like to draw the attention of the Prime Minister who is the Chancellor of Visva Bharati also and the Minister of Human Resource Development to do the needful so that the copyright of Tagore's works could be extended from 50 to 100 years.

[*Translation*]

- (x) **Need to compensate the farmers of Pali, Balotra and Jodhpur districts whose crops have been damaged as a result of polluted water discharged from factories**

SHRI SHANKAR LAL (Pali): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, nothing has been done by the Government so far to provide compensation to the farmers, whose irrigation wells and land measuring thousands of bighas have been damaged by the polluted water discharged from the dyeing and printing factories of Jodhpur, Balotra and Pali in Rajasthan, although the affected farmers had submitted their representation before the collector of Pali on Nehru's birth day, the 14th November, 1988. The Government of India should provide compensation to the affected farmers. Technical assistance should be provided to those factory owners who want to set up treatment plant or who has adopted ways to prevent pollution. Under the law, strict action should be taken against those industrialists who are indifferent towards setting up treatment plants or to solve the problem of pollution. Justifiable decision should be taken to reopen the factories about whom the Pollution Board has already given report to the effect that their pollution has since stopped. It is necessary to take immediate actions to compensate the affected farmers and to stop the pollution in rest of the factories.

12.24 hrs.

DISCUSSIONS UNDER RULE 193

[*English*]

- (i) **Communal Situation in Various Parts of the Country—
Contd.**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, We will take up further discussion on the communal situation in various parts of the country, raised by Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia on 24th April, 1989. Shri Charanjit Singh Walia.