

Minister did not give a clear assurance for reducing the cost. Thousands of those who desire to acquire flats are worried on this account and are making frantic enquiries from the DDA office but the officials do not give satisfactory reply to them.

Besides, DDA has not yet allotted flats to those who registered their names under HUDCO scheme in 1979. It has deprived thousands of people of lower income group from getting flats.

The Government is urged upon the cancel the untimely and undue increase in the cost of flats under self financing scheme and provide considerable time to deposit money in order to provide relief to those who are really desirous of acquiring flats. They should also allot flats to the people of lower income group under HUDCO scheme immediately to do justice with them. (*Interruptions*)\*\*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing goes on record, except Mr. Pardhi.

[*English*]

- (v) **Need to provide inland water transport facility between Ernakulam and Kanyakumari**

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagarcoil): Provision of inland water transport facility between Ernakulam and Kanyakumari, the southern-most part of our country, would accelerate and promote greatly the economic and tourist activities of the south-western region of our country. Such a facility could be easily secured by the renovation and removal of the gaps that exist in some places, mainly between Kanyakumari and Trivandrum.

Previously, there was continuous and regular inland water facility between Kan-

yakumari and Trivandrum, through the ancient Ananda Victoria Marthanda Varma Canal. Subsequently, breaches occurred which closed some portions of the A.V.M. Canal with sand and earth, and they have not been removed for years. Due to non-maintenance and long neglected, now there is no continuous water transport service. If the gaps in the AVM Canal are removed and canal renovated, continuity could be restored, and a convenient and highly useful inland water transport facility could be easily achieved between Trivandrum and Kanyakumari too. By carrying out renovation and maintenance work further north between Trivandrum and Quilon, a very useful inland water transport facility between Ernakulam and Kanyakumari can be provided. Such a facility would greatly promote trade, commerce and tourism, and also provide cheaper and popular transport facility. It would promote national integration too.

In request that Government may take immediate steps for the speedy implementation of this inland water transport facility between Ernakulam and Kanyakumari.

- (vi) **Need to rehabilitate the Sir Silk Ltd. Kagaznagar in Andhra Pradesh by handing it over to the workers cooperative**

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad): I wish to draw the attention of the Minister for Industries towards the closure of the Sir Silk Limited, Kagaznagar in Andhra Pradesh for more than four years, rendering more than 5,000 workers unemployed.

As a part of the programme to rehabilitate this industry, it was referred to the Board of Industrial Finance and Reconstruction (BIFR). But so far, no concrete scheme for reconstruction has emerged. I urge upon the Government to immediately rehabilitate the industry, by handing it over to the workers' cooperative, and remove the widespread distress of the workers and their dependents.

\*\*Not recorded.