

closures and lock-outs. It had been our policy and the Prime Minister had reiterated it yesterday. We, therefore, always follow and implement that policy and the Housing Minister has stated that an enquiry would be held in this matter. It is not possible to implement the Master Plan immediately. Unless it is in the interest of the country to shift a mill, it will not be shifted, whether it is the case of Bombay or any other big city. If any probability of an incident like the Bhopal tragedy occurring is there then the shifting of that factory could be considered. But there is no such danger posed by this factory. This is not a factory which should be shifted from the safety point of view. It is no use asking for more details. When the enquiry is held, all the details will be worked out. The mill owners have created a strange situation. Now they are demanding that the sick mills taken over by the Textile Corporation should be given back to them. Some people are demanding this. Five or Six mills have regained their viability and now the mill-owners are demanding that the mills should be restored to them but on the other hand some are closing down their mills. Thus a strange situation is there. I suggest that a condition should be imposed on the managements of such mills that closure could never be resorted to because the question of closure should not arise. When a mill is to be closed down, why should they seek licence for that? There should be no question of closure after taking the licence. There is a history of hundred years behind this mill. The mill has earned a lot and I feel Government will never tolerate its closure.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we take up matters under Rule 377.

[Translation]

(i) Need to give clearance to the Sidhmukh and Nauhar Canal Projects in Rajasthan

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) :
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sidhmukh and Nauhar Canals are the most important

canals of the Rajasthan State. They will provide irrigation facilities to about 8 lakh acres of land in Tehsil Bhadra and Tehsil Nauhar of Ganganagar district and Tehsil Taranagar of Churu District. The survey in respect of these canals had been conducted by the Central Water Commission and the reports have been sent to the Central Government. These canal projects are under consideration of the Central Water Commission for clearance for a long time. The Irrigation Department of the Central Government is, therefore, requested that they should take steps to get the approval of the Central Water Commission for these canals so that the farmers of the area could derive benefit from these canals and increase their agricultural production and also improve their economic condition.

(ii) Need to provide good seeds, fertilisers and means of irrigation to farmers and ensure remunerative price for their produce

SHRI R. P. SUMAN (Akbarpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the following matter of urgent public importance under rule 377. It is very necessary to give special attention to the burning problems of the farmers in a big agricultural country like India. It is a fact that our agricultural policy is very sound on account of which our country has been able to achieve self-sufficiency in the matter of foodgrains. But if fertilisers, irrigation facilities and good quality seeds are provided to the farmers at the appropriate time, they can further increase their agricultural production. As a matter of fact, seeds, fertilisers and irrigation facilities are not provided to the farmers in time. The Electricity Department is also responsible for this to a great extent. The crops have to suffer because they are not watered at the proper time due to non-availability of electricity. I, therefore, request the Central Government that in order to make the country stronger and more powerful, the problems of the farmers should be solved by providing good quality seeds, good quality fertilisers and sufficient irrigation facilities to them at the proper time. Steps should also be taken to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers for their agricultural produce and while doing so, the cost of production of agriculture should also be kept in view. It is necessary to do so in