

[Translation]

- (vi) Need to bring the Rajasthan Tanneries in the Joint Sector in order to save them from closure

SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA (Tonk): The Rajasthan State Tanneries Undertaking was set up in 1972-73 in Tonk (Rajasthan) with the object of removing the backwardness of the area through rapid economic development. But this undertaking despite modern equipments and plants, has been sustaining loss from its very inception. This undertaking is continuously incurring loss due to lack of personnel with sufficient experience and requisite managerial and technical skills, excessive administrative expenditure, lack of will to work and heavy debt charges. This undertaking is at present in a very critical condition and is facing closure. I suggest that this undertaking should be taken over immediately in the joint sector so that efforts could be made both at the Government as well as at the non-Governmental level to save it from closure and to help in achieving its objectives,

[English]

- (vii) Need to allow Kerala Government to grant title deeds to the settlers in forest land in Kerala.

SHRI K. MOHANDAS (Mukundapuram): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the question of granting of *Pattas* (title deeds) to the settlers in what was considered to be forest land in Kerala has been hanging fire for a long time. The then Government of Kerala had taken a decision in 1978 that all the settlers who settled on fresh land prior to 1st January, 1977 would be granted the title deeds. The reason was that although the land on which they settled was categorised as forest land on record, it was no longer so, as much of it was developed into towns and townships and the density of population in that area had increased steadily. Therefore, there is no question of felling of trees as they are no longer forest land.

The Government of Kerala has been approaching the Centre for permission to grant title deeds to the settlers. But the Centre has so far not conceded this request.

In the absence of title deeds, the banks are not providing financial assistance to the farmers. This is causing severe hardship to the farmers which is affecting agricultural operations in the State.

Therefore, I would request the Centre to give permission to the Government of Kerala to grant title deeds to the settlers in Kerala.

13.24 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL)
1985-86 (CONTD)

[English]

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT (CONTD.
CONCLUDED)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we will take up item No. 7 on the Order Paper. I will request the Minister of State for Rural Development, Shri Chandulal Chandrakar to reply to the debate.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, we have not spoken on the Demands.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We have already completed discussion.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Minister Shri Buta Singh has fallen sick and he has gone to hospital and therefore, the Minister of State is going to reply.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): Sir, First of all, I express my gratitude to the hon. Members for their valuable comments on agricultural economy of our country and ways and means of improving it. Many Members who have participated have given valuable suggestions and certainly we will take full advantage of their suggestions. A large number of speakers who participated here.....