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SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): Edible oil is an essential part of the daily food for the common man. To check price rise of the indigenously produced edible oils, the Central Government is importing edible oils spending more than hundred crores of rupees every year in Foreign Exchange. In spite of it the price of indigenously produced edible oils is rising day by day.

It is a matter of consolation that the Central Organisation for Oil Industries (COOIT) has offered to enter into a voluntary rice control agreement with the Government to enable it to maintain the prices of edible oils at a reasonable level.

It is understood that the Oil Refiners Association of India has written to the Government requesting that if the imported oil seeds are given to the processing industries in the same manner as imported edible oils are given to the Vanaspati Units at a predetermined price, they are agreeable to enter into such an agreement.

These edible oil refining industries mostly come under small scale sector. They are facing lot of difficulties to run the industries in the absence of allocation of imported raw oils at the same rate as allocated to the Vanaspati Industries.

In such circumstances, I request the Government to give due weightage to the offer of the COOIT and their request for allocating imported oilseeds and imported raw dils at the same rate as to Vanaspati Industries so that the price of indigenously produced edible oils may be reduced.

(v) Need to have steamer service throughout the year from Calcutta to Karimgani.

SHRI SUDARSAN DAS (Karimgani): During rainy seasons the National Highway No. 44 passing through Meghalaya State and Lumding Badarpur Rail Link of N.F Railway passing through Karbi Along and North Cachar Hills, get often blocked due to landslides, etc. causing scarcity of essential commodities, rise in prices and distress to the people of Tripura, Mizoram States, Cachar and Karımgani districts of Assam and the Western part of Manipur State. To meet the situation, the new seasonal steamer service from Calcutta to Karimganj through Bangladesh operating only a few months of the year may be operated as previously throughout the year.

I, therefore, request the Government of India to see that steamer service is made possible throughout the year.

(vi) Need to set up a TV relay station at Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI (Chittoor): I request the hon. Minister for Information and Broadcasting to set up a TV Relay Station at Chittoor. The people of the area not able to see regional programmes as well as national programmes. Several representations have been made to the hon. Minister from the people of Chittoor. The people of Chittoor are in dark about the developments in the country. I request the hon. Minister to sanction a TV Relay Station immediately. The People of Chittoor will be grateful to the Minister for this.

(vii) Need to appoint a Judge of the Supreme Court to resolve the Maharashtra-Karnataka boundary dispute.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): The boundary dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka is pending for the last thirty one years. It is likely to harm

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beyond repair the brotherly feelings among the people living along the borders of the two States and will ultimately affect national integration. All efforts including the appointment of the Mahajan Commission by the Union Government have failed to bring about a satisfactory solution to the Maharashtra-Karnataka boundary dispute.

The Union Government have advised the Chief Ministers of both the States to solve the dispute amicably but there is not solution whatsoever so far.

In the interest of national integration, harmony and bortherhood between two States, I appeal to the Union Government to appoint a judge of the Supreme Court to examine the recommendations of Mahajan Commission, to study the data and evidence collected by the Commission and to recommend fresh proposals applying the principles of (i) village as a unit; (ii) geographical contiguity; and (iii) linguistic affinity, viz. relative linguistic majority and wishes of the people and to report within three months.

(viii) Need to enquire into the nonpayment of compensation under the Crop Insurance Scheme to the tribal farmers in Maharashtra.

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli): The Crop Insurance Scheme introduced in Maharashtra for the benefit of the farmers affected by scarcity and flood has failed to provide compensation to the scarcity affected policy holders in the Tehsil of Kinwat, District Nanded, Maharashtra in the year 1986-87. Though the Paisewari of 133 villages was below 50 paise, still they were denied their legitimate claim. This has created great unrest and doubt about the scheme.

Adjoining areas having better conditions were given compensation while the tribals of Kinwat Tehsil were denied compensation under the scheme. The Government should enquire into the matter and find out the fact both from the people and the officials and sanction the claim of insurance to the people of Kinwat, Maharashtra.

[Translation]

(ix) Need to stop the flow of contaminated water into the Ganga in Kanpur.

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir. Kanpur is a big industrial town of North India. No doubt, the factories and mills contribute in polluting the Ganga, but the leather tanneries have worsened the situation still further. Recently the Supreme Court in one of its directives had ordered to keep these tanneries closed till the appropriate pollution preventing equipments are not installed there. It should be ensured that the Supreme Court orders are strictly enforced. In Kanpur the water of the two drains before Bheron Ghat pumping station and Kesa Power House goes in the Ganga. This results in the pollution of water. Moreover the same water, is sent to Kanpur to meet the demands of drinking water after necessary treatment. This causes a lot of diseases among the people. The Government is requested that this should be stopped with immediate effect and the shortage of drinking water be met by clean drinking water.

12.40 hrs.

[English]

REGIONAL RURAL BANKS (AMEND-MENT) BILL

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Janardhana Poojary on the 23rd November, 1987, namely:—

"That the Bill further to amend the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976, be taken into consideration."

Hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARD-HANA POOJARY): Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members who have taken part in this debate. About twenty hon. Members from this side and also from the Opposition side have taken part in this very informative debate and I have to mention the names of some of the hon. Members whose contribution was very effective. They are, Shri