

[English]

- (ii) **Demand for reducing import duty on raw wool to encourage export of hand-knotted carpets.**

SHRIMATI CHANDRA TRIPATHI (Chandauli): Indian handknotted Carpet industry is the oldest cottage based industry in the country employing several lakhs of people directly and indirectly. Most of its production is exported to various European, American and other countries for earning valuable foreign exchange for the country.

The exports of rugs, druggests and woollen carpets have risen from about Rs. 12. 75 crores in 1971-72 to about Rs. 164.5 crores in 1985-86 . The target for 1986-87 is Rs. 220 crores which envisage a growth in export of over 15 per cent.

To achieve this ambitious target, it is necessary that there is a substantial increase in production which depends on availability of basic raw material that is raw wool.

Apart form shortage of raw wool, high prices have also come in the way of greater production and export of Indian hand-knotted carpets. It is , therefore, requested that the import duty on raw wool may please be substantially reduced.

- (iii) **Need to provide more telephone connections to Yavatmal city of Maharashtra.**

SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL (Yavatmal): A very strange situation has arisen in the Yavatmal city of Maharashtra State in the matter of providing new Telephone connections there. So far only 1000 telephone connections have been provided and more than 500 people are on waiting list for new Telephone connections.

During the last financial year, it was assured that 350 new connections would be given but till now no new connections have been allotted . It is understood that no new board is available there, where as one Board of five hundred lines is lying idle at Badnera in Amaravati District which can be utilised here.

Although the telephone Department at Yavatmal have made provision of spaces for installation of new machinery at their presently occupied premises, yet no effort has been made to procure the machinery to provide new telephone connection in spite of an assurance given in Lok Sabha in reply to one of my questions.

12.27 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

- (iv) **Demand for an overhead bridge across Chambal river between Chau Mehla and sitamow to enure smooth communication between Rajasthan and M.P.**

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar): Communication between the border areas of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh States in Jhalawar Parliamentary constituency region is not satisfactory as inter-state Roads have not been built to open the two areas to each other.

Not only the new Roads have not been built but even traditional routes of cart and vehicular traffic that existed between CHAUMEHLA in JHALAWAR District (Rajasthan) and Sita Mow in Mandsores District in M.P. have been blocked for nearly three decades as a result of the back flow of water in river Chambal., after the construction of the Gandhi Sagar Dam in Madhya Pradesh.

CHAUMEHLA area of Rajasthan and Sita Mow of M. P. run parallel to each other for miles together with river Chambal

forming the boundary between them. This river was crossable at many points after the rainy season till the Dam at Gandhi Sagar was constructed. People have thus been deprived of even the emergency facility which was available to them three decades back. In view of these facts, I would request the Minister of Irrigation, Government of India and the Minister of Surface Transport to please construct an over-head bridge across River Chambel between CHAUMEHLA and SITAMOW via Kundla so that the two areas of Rajasthan and M. P. may once again begin to enjoy open communication between them.

- (v) **Demand for adequate supply of Postal Orders of different denominations in West Bengal.**

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): The Postal Orders of different denominations are in acute shortage in West Bengal. These Postal Orders are required to be submitted as application fee in different Government and Semi-Government organisations along with applications for employment. The acute shortage of Postal Orders has caused and is causing a great deal of harassment to a large section of unemployed youths in West Bengal. They are not able to apply for jobs in various Government and Semi-Government organisations. So let the Government consider either to ensure adequate supply of the Postal Orders or to abolish the application fees which Government and Semi-Government organisations are charging with the applications in the form of postal orders.

- (vi) **Demand for clearance to Manugur Thermal Plant in Andhra Pradesh.**

SHRI GOPALKRISHNA THOTA (Kakinada) : In our country many states are facing acute shortage of power. Andhra Pradesh is facing acute shortage of power. The factories are suffering

because of shortage of power. So it is the Primary duty of the Central Government to provide adequate facilities to improve the situation and consider setting up new Thermal Power Stations. Firstly, raw material, coal is most important for Thermal power stations. According to experts, Manugur in Andhra Pradesh is a very good place for construction of a new Thermal Plant. Singareni Collieries are very near to this place. Plenty of Coal is there. Transportation is very cheap. We can also supply power to the other states from this station and main problem of unemployment can also be solved. In future Hydro-electrical projects are not useful in summer. So, we should develop the Thermal Power station. Please give clearance to the Manugur Thermal Plant in Andhra Pradesh.

- (vii) **Need to make available infrastructural facilities to Palda and Mudialy Fishermen's Cooperative Societies in West Bengal.**

SHRI R.P. DAS (Krishnagar) : Consequent upon the declaration of the year 1982 as 'Productivity Year', the Governing Body of National Productivity Council initiated Productivity Awards at the national level for selected industries for improved performance in productivity.

Since then the National Productivity Awards are being presented to the eligible units in industrial and agricultural groups and sub-groups.

It is gratifying to know that such productivity awards of 1985-86 were also presented to the winner units on 22nd April last and West Bengal scored the best and the second best productivity performance in Inland Fish Production in Cooperative Sector in 1985-86 on national level.

The objective of NPC is to stimulate productivity services with a view to maximising the utilisation of available resources to wage war against waste and