

3. Initiate discussion with National Confederation of officers' Associations of Central PSUs on sick units and other enterprises so as to improve the efficiency and productivity;
4. Put an end to all moves to privatize the PSUs;
5. Stop excessive off-loading and imports (of both technology and equipment);
6. Grant the officers trade union rights based on the ILO Compendium for Professional Worker (to which the Government of India is a Party).

These demands are very relevant and important for the effective functioning and desired development of the PSUs. Government is hereby urged to take positive view of the demands of the officers of the Public Sector Undertakings and start dialogue with them without delay for the interest of the economy of the country.

- (vii) Need to provide adequate assistance to Bihar for giving relief to the people affected by recent earthquake.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): The havoc caused by the earthquake in Bihar in August, 1988 is unparalleled in the last 50 years. People of Madhubani, Darbhanga and Munger are worst sufferers. Their miseries cannot be described in words.

Hundreds of people have died and thousands disabled. Besides, several thousand people have become homeless. Their dwelling units have crumbled. Nearly two lakh houses have developed cracks and are uninhabitable. They can give in at any time.

Thousands of quake affected people are living under the open sky braving the sun and the rains. With the onset of winter, it is feared that their plight will be pitiable.

Unfortunately, proper relief is not reaching the people mainly because of long-drawn strike by Government employees in Bihar.

It is, therefore, requested that the Central Government should intervene in the matter immediately so that relief is given to the affected people before it is too late.

Besides, the Centre should give adequate aid to Bihar so that poor and middle class people get sufficient loan on a nominal interest rate to enable them to reconstruct their dwelling units.

[Translation]

- (viii) Need to increase the quota of essential commodities for Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal): Madhya Pradesh is a poor State having maximum population of Harijans and Tribals. It is very essential to provide foodgrains, edible oil and kerosene to these poor people at subsidies rates.

The allocation of rice, edible oil and kerosene to the State of Madhya Pradesh during the previous years has been for less than its requirement. If the quota is increased for one month after great efforts, in some to other month it is again reduced for below than even the previous quota. Allocation of rice to Madhya Pradesh was 35,000 metric tonnes per month from October 1987 to January 1988. It was suddenly reduced to 15,000 metric tonnes thereafter. In June 1988 it was 20,000 metric tonnes which is quite inadequate. This quota should be raised to 40,000 metric tonnes immediately.

Similarly the quota of edible oil should be raised from 5,000 metric tonnes to 10,000 metric tonnes. It is also necessary to increase the quantum of kerosene and cheap cloth.