

Railway authority. I, therefore, request the Central Government to direct the Railway Board to take up the new line immediately.

- (iv) **Need to develop the Vizhinjam Fishing Harbour into a dry dock cum cargo harbour during the Seventh Five Year Plan period**

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum) : Vizhinjam Fishing harbour in Trivandrum has all the potential for development as a cargo harbour. There are also natural facilities to build a dry dock in this harbour. From the answer given by the hon. Minister to Unstarred Question 1985 it is seen that the proposal is under the active consideration of Government. The construction of the Fishing harbour though badly delayed is now in progress and it will be completed by 1987-88. Construction of two break waters has been completed under the Fishing harbour project. A temporary wharf is also available. The depth of the sea and the availability of construction materials within the vicinity give ample scope for developing the neglected port into a dry dock cum harbour. The several lakhs of traditional Fishermen confined in the coastal belt of Trivandrum are below the poverty line. The problem of educated unemployed is also the greatest in this district. If the Vizhinjam Fishing harbour could be developed into a dry dock cum cargo harbour, it would generate sufficient employment opportunity to this weaker section of the community. I would, therefore, urge that the above work be given top priority in the Seventh Plan and the work completed during the plan period itself.

[Translation]

- (v) **Demnd for an Ammonia factory at Phulpur to increase production of urea**

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL (Phulpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of central government to the announcement made regarding setting up of Soda Ash Factory in IFFCO, Phulpur. The former Agriculture Minister, Rao Birendra Singh had announced on 30th December,

1981 in the presence of the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi in a large public meeting that another Soda Ash Factory would be set up in IFFCO, Phulpur. The announcement had set a wave of happiness among the people. In view of this announcement, I also made publicity among the people that the government had taken this step for the development of this area. But no concrete steps have so far been taken in this regard which may show that the proposed factory will be set up there. The then Agriculture Minister had made announcement of this useful project in an area which was represented by late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. I have come to know that due to some unforeseen circumstances, setting up of Soda Ash Factory there is not possible. I was given an assurance that some other big factory would be set up there in lieu of the proposed Soda Ash Factory. The General Manager of IFFCO, Phulpur has submitted a proposal to the government for setting up an Ammonia Plant. It will involve a cost of Rs. 275 crores. Besides, this will require lesser cost as compared to other places and will be set up within a shorter time. I had sent written requests to the hon. Prime Minister, hon. Finance Minister and the Agriculture Minister on 21.6.85 and 17.7.85 in this regard. But no final decision has so far been taken. I request the Central Government to set up the said Ammonia Factory at IFFCO, Phulpur at the earliest to increase the production of urea there.

[English]

- (vi) **Need to ensure prompt payment of dues of paddy growers of Punjab and Haryana far paddy purchased by F.C.I.**

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : The farmers in Punjab and Haryana have not been paid their amount for paddy purchased by Food Corporation of India. All this paddy was purchased by Food Corporation through commission agents. In many cases a period of 25 days to one month has lapsed. The number of farmers who have not been paid their dues is in thousands and the amount exceeds Rs. 150 crores. Whenever the farmers approach the

[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

commission agents they are told that Food Corporation of India has not paid money for their paddy. Foodgrain mandis of Sangrur, Barnala, Dhuri, Dhanaul, Tapa, Malukatla and Nihal Singwala owe Rs. 2 crores each to the farmers. The delay in payment is adding to the hardships of the farmers as they are to pay back the cooperative loans, bank loans and purchase seed and fertilizers for Rabi crop. The Minister of Food and Supplies should intervene immediately and help the suffering farmers.

[Translation]

(vii) Need to amend the Forest Conservation Act for speedy development of undeveloped forests and backward areas

SHRI M.L. JHIKRAM (Mandla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government have along been making efforts for the development of undeveloped forests and backward area and are committed to undertake development work on priority basis there. But such areas fall cent percent under forest and hill areas. Sir, after the enforcement of the Forest conservation Act, 1980, a ban has been imposed on the non-forestry use of the forest land. Therefore, it has become necessary to amend the said Act to facilitate development of such area so that roads, canals, electricity lines, irrigation barrages, etc. could be built there. Unfortunately, many works have been lying incomplete in those areas on which crores of rupees have already been invested. The portion of work already done is getting destroyed. Besides, no new construction work is being taken up in those backward areas.

Therefore, I humbly request the Central Government to suitably amend the said Act. Otherwise, these backward areas would continue to languish in the 19th century, what to talk of 20th and 21st century.

(viii) Demand for setting up a Fertilizer factory at village Nawan, Hanumangarh Tehsil of District Ganganagar in Rajasthan

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) : Mr,

Speaker, Sir, a discussion had taken place in Lok Sabha on 12-8-1980 on the question of setting up of a fertilizer plant in Ganganagar district. The concerned hon. Minister had given an assurance that a factory would be set up in Rajasthan but he did not disclose the place where it would be set up. I came to know from you that the factories to be set up in future would be located near the actual consumers so that they could get cheap fertilizers and in time.

I would request you to set up the proposed factory at village Nawan in Hanumangarh tehsil of Ganganagar district, in support of which I submit the following facts :—

1. The entire quantity of fertilizer to be produced in the proposed plant will be consumed in the Ganganagar District itself.
2. That the land was earmarked for this proposed 25-30 years back in the said village and the said land has not been put to any other use to date.
3. That raw material and water is available near this village which are essential for a fertilizer plant.
4. That Ganganagar is an industrially backward district and no public sector industry has been set up there as a result of which unemployment is growing there day by day.
5. That labour force is also available there to work in the proposed factory.

Therefore, my submission is that this factory will provide means of livelihood to the poor people of this backward district. So, the said factory should be set up immediately.