

[*Translation*]

- (II) **Need to take steps to improve the financial position of handloom weavers**

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has been taking steps from time to time to improve the condition of crores of weavers in the whole country. Under the New Textile policy, a decision has been taken to provide various facilities to improve their financial position. Despite all this, the problems of the weavers are becoming more complicated instead of being solved. Lakhs of weavers in Basti and Gorakhpur districts of Uttar Pradesh are facing starvation. A feeling of discontentment has been developing in their minds against the administration. The main problems of the weavers include non-availability of yarn in time, at reasonable price and in required quantity. As a result of this they are unable to weave cloth. Payment of the cloth purchased is delayed by months, due to which they are unable to weave cloth again and earn their livelihood. In this manner their condition goes on deteriorating day by day which should be remedied at the earliest.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Textiles to arrange to provide yarn in required quantity to them at reasonable rates and stipulate a period within which payment for the sold goods should be made. If the payment is not made within the stipulated period, provision should be made to pay them interest at the bank rate for the days exceeding the stipulated period. At the same time officers and staff found guilty of delaying the payment should be awarded deterrent punishment so that payment is not withheld unnecessarily in future.

- (III) **Need to declare the birthday of Maharishi Valmiki as a national holiday**

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Maharishi Valmiki has been an apostle in the history of India. He not

only wrote the heroic deeds of a great man in his epic Ramayana but also his epic has been inspiring the people to follow the various norms and ethics propounded by that great men.

The life of Maharishi Valmiki is a source of inspiration to us. It instils confidence in the minds of lakhs of down-trodden people. In view of this his birth day should be declared a national holiday.

- (IV) **Need to modernise Sindri Fertiliser Factory and to set up a big industry in that area**

SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH (Dhanbad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sindri fertiliser Factory is one of the oldest factories in the country and a large number of workers are working there. But today, it is on the verge of closure. It has upset the minds of the workers and their families. I request the Government to sanction adequate funds for the modernisation of this factory and start the work of modernisation immediately. Besides, keeping in view the importance of Sindri, some big industry should be set up in or around Sindri so that the persons who become unemployed there could be provided employment.

- (V) **Need to review the implementation of Urban Land Ceiling Act and to make suitable amendments in the Act**

[*English*]

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool): Sir, the implementation of the Urban Land Ceiling Act has created innumerable problems and hampered the growth of planned housing in cities where the Act has been made applicable. The granting exemption under the Urban Land Ceiling Act has not been uniform. In many cases serious allegations of corruption and nepotism are alleged in granting exemption under the Act. Moreover, the tribunals functioning under the Act have not been able to cope up with the cases and dispose them of expeditiously. There is