

to the people of Ganganagar district at the same scale at which it has given to the people of Punjab and Haryana, because some floods have caused damage in Punjab, Haryana and Ganganagar. Crores of rupees have been given in the form of compensation to the people of Punjab and Haryana, but nothing has been given to the flood affected people in Ganganagar district so far. Due to this, resentment is growing among the people.

So, I demand from the Government of India to compensate the people of Ganganagar for the loss of life, property, crops houses and tubewells.

**(v) Need to postpone recovery of loans given under I.R.D.P.**

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the loans given under I.R.D.P. has played a major role in the economic upliftment of those people living below the poverty line. But this programme has not met with much success as it was expected. This is due to lack of devotion in Government machinery and lack of interest among the political and social activists to educate the beneficiaries.

Because of lack of anticipated help and knowledge, the loans given under the aforesaid programme were misused. Now, recoveries are being made from these beneficiaries on large scale. They are being sent to jails. So, instead of fulfilling its real objective, it is having negative effects.

So, I request the Government of India to write off the loans given to the beneficiaries under I.R.D.P. with immediate effect in the interest of social justice.

**(vi) Need to develop 'Harihar area' a Pilgrim Centre in Bihar.**

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH (Chapra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we may go to any pilgrim centre, there the whole country seems to be one and there is no discrimination. Unity in diversity is seen

there. We get the inspiration of being one in spite of our diversities. Late Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia once said that the pilgrim centres in the country should be made attractive. But it is unfortunate that instead of making them attractive, those pilgrim centres are in a depleted state.

'Harihar area' in Bihar is a pilgrim centre, which is called Sonapur now-a-days. Lakhs of people go there for taking bath in River Gandak and to worship Lord Shiva and Vishnu every year on 'Kartik Purnima'. This cattle fair is famous in the whole of Asia and is held for one month. The idols of Lord Shiva and Vishnu, installed in Harihar area have a speciality that the stone has been carved in such a way that one can see both the deities in the same idol. There is no other idol of this type anywhere in the country. It clearly shows that this is a place of get together of Shaiv and Vaishnav Communities of Hindu religion. This is the place where in the Mahabharata period, fighting took place between the elephant and the alligator and the wicked alligator was defeated. It is the place of meditation of Tantrikas also. This pilgrim centre gives the inspiration to respect all religions, to destroy the wicked tendencies like that of alligator, to create goodwill, brotherhood and unity in diversity. But it is a matter of regret that this historical place of ancient civilization and culture is in a depleted state. So, I meant that the Government should develop 'Harihar area' by paying special attention towards it.

**(vii) Need to lay gas pipeline from Oraiyya to Agra via Firozabad.**

SHRI GANGA RAM (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at present industrial development in Agra district is obstructed due to the apprehension of pollution of the Taj Mahal. The problem of environmental pollution is very serious because of furnaces operated by coal. Ofcourse, environment is polluted as a result of use of coal but at the sametime it affects the health of workers working in the factories and the common man as well. Fortunately H.B.J. gas pipeline is passin through the outskirts of Firozabad

[Sh. Ganga Ram]  
for Salempur (Hathras). It is understood that the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent a scheme of Rs. 100 crores to the Central Government for extending the pipeline from Oraiyya to Firozabad. An extra amount of Rs. 10 crores will be spent to bring this gas pipeline from Firozabad to Agra. On one hand, this ambitious plan will solve the problem of environment pollution in Agra and Firozabad and on the other hand, possibilities of opening large industries in Agra district will increase and the present deteriorating condition of Firozabad will also improve. So arrangements should be made to implement this gas pipeline scheme immediately.

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12.38 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

[English]

**Demands of Farmers and Agricultural Labour-Contd.**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion on the demands of farmers and agricultural labour raised by Shri C. Janga Reddy on the 3rd November, 1988.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I anticipated from the hon. Members of the Opposition to speak about the subject because it is very important. But they seemed to be giving much stress to the *Kisan* gathering at Boat Club. The massive rally to commemorate that martyrdom of Shrimati Indira Gandhi to pay homage to one of the greatest leaders of the country, where lakhs of farmers—marginal and small—and workers gathered, exhibited which way the wind blows.

The Opposition has a right to criticise the policy of the Government if it is not one with which they agree. But on many issues, what is spoken outside the House is not at all substantiated in the House. In democracy, the Opposition leadership and Opposition

Members who speak, should be objective. They must speak how best the programme can be improved or implemented keeping in view how to improve the lot of teeming millions.

As for the issue under discussion, let me bring it to the notice of the hon. House that this Government under the leadership of the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had laid foundation for the second green revolution. You have to understand that and appreciate and you will be further surprised when you see the results.

The first green revolution was started in 1960 under the leadership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the country became self-sufficient in foodgrains in spite of growth of population, but the production of rice and wheat remained static. However, steps have been taken to raise the production. This year the production target of 166 million tonnes of foodgrains will exceed and the target fixed for the next year 175 million tonnes is also likely to be achieved.

Government have taken steps to concentrate on the vast rainfed areas. A separate Ministry for food processing to give essential opportunities to the cultivators and to put an end to wastage and to give scope for employment has been constituted.

Steps have been taken to supply adequate credit in time through the banks to the cultivators. In this connection, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that the credit must reach the farmers in time and unless the credit reaches them in time, it gets wasted. If, for example, the credit to be given to purchase fertilizers to be utilised at the time of transplantation is given to cultivators at the time of harvesting, it will be counter-productive.

The setting up of NABARD has been helpful in a great deal in granting loans to the farmers, but let me make it clear that the loans should be given to the cultivators in time.