

Government of India is always revising its crop insurance policy from time to time. In the last Budget, Government revised the crop insurance policy. Later on, they added some more crops like horticulture, bajra etc. Government may add some more crops like vegetables, grapes, cotton, sugarcane, potato, jawar, tobacco and other crops which come under its purview. Looking to the cycle of drought, cyclone and flood, farmers have become the victims of the natural calamity with no fault on their part.

The farmers have not only to face the handicaps imposed by soil and weather, but they are also disinclined to adopt improved technological practices because they are sceptical about their utility and also nervous due to the financial losses in the event of drought manifesting itself.

To allay the suspicions of the farmers about the new technology and to provide them positive inducement to go in for improved practices, a scheme of insurance which will take care of the risks involved, is absolutely necessary. The crop loan insurance scheme should be made applicable to all crops in the drought prone areas and Ahmadnagar district in particular. Unless the Government are able to induce confidence in these farmers by guaranteeing them against losses on account of drought and other natural calamities, they would never be able to come out of the vicious circles of defaulted loans, dues and a traditional agriculture. There would be a steady income under the protection of the crop insurance scheme. Government should consider this matter.

[Translation]

(ii) Need to provide employment to at least one persons of each family displaced due to acquisition of their lands for Singrauli Project in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Roberts-ganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the local people and especially the displaced persons have not been offered employment in Kakri, Bina and Kharia projects of Singrauli coalfield area (MP) despite the agreement with the local people conclude at the time of acquisition of their land resulting in acute discontent and resent-

ment among the public against the Government.

It may be recalled that before the acquisition of land, the officers of Singrauli Project, local public representatives and the representatives of displaced persons had unanimously reached an agreement which *inter-alia* provided that one person from every displaced family will be provided employment according to his ability and without any prejudice if vacancy exists. But the management of Singrauli Project has stated that under the directions of Bureau of Public Undertakings, the displaced persons will not be employed even though the vacancies exist.

The outside people are being recruited there and it has led to a serious problem. If the displaced persons are not employed according to the provisions of the agreement, the production will suffer due to the agitating mood of the public and the officers who concluded the agreement unanimously will be solely responsible therefor.

Therefore, I draw the attention of the Energy Minister and request him to direct the Project Officers to provide employment for the benefit of the Project and Public to at least one person of each displaced family if vacancies exist.

(iii) Stringent measures needed to check the widespread use of intoxicants in the country, particularly among students

SHRIMATI USHA RANI TOMAR (Aligarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the 1980 report of the International Narcotics Control Commission did not make any mention about the use of narcotic drugs in India. The increasing use of narcotics in India during the last five years has become a matter of serious concern. Today India has become the biggest centre for the supply of these drugs. The Government of India have themselves admitted that the volume of smuggling along Indo-Pak border has greatly increased now. It should be immediately stopped. Heroin can be purchased under the name of brown sugar and smack in many big cities of the country. Some recently concluded surveys have disclosed that about

[Shrimati Usha Rani Tomar]

37 per cent students of a certain university are becoming drug addicts. This increasing addiction of drugs by younger generation hinders the development of the country. It is absolutely necessary to free the youths from the clutches of this poison. The Government of India should impose a strict ban on drug abuse and bring the smugglers to book boldly.

[English]

- (iv) Need to adopt necessary measures to improve the deteriorating telephone services in Calcutta

DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai) : The telephone system in the city of Calcutta is in a very deplorable condition. There is wide-spread resentment among the subscribers. There are number of complaints every day. But the concerned officers do not take any action in spite of the fact that the telephones are dead for weeks and months. But bills are never less. Sometimes the amount seems to be inflated also. Instead of removing the complaints of the people, the officers are indifferent. Many telephones remain out of order for long periods. The result is that it is causing inconvenience not only to local subscribers but also to people of other areas and States, as well as people from foreign countries. Therefore, the department concerned should take immediate steps to improve the deteriorating telephone services in Calcutta.

[Translation]

- (v) Demand for adequate funds for the construction of school buildings in the country

SHRI M.L. JHIKRAM (Mandla) : Sir, I am raising a very important issue of utmost public importance in the House under rule 377. Sir, we almost every day read in newspapers about the collapse of one school building or the other or closure of a school due to lack of building etc. It is true that the lack of space and buildings for schools is becoming a country-wide problem. There is shortage of school buildings in every State. The buildings are not being constructed in proportion to the number of new schools being opened every year specially the

students of primary, secondary and higher secondary schools are facing much difficulty. The schools are held in two and three shifts. The classes at some places are even held in Varandahs, temples, Dharamshalas, Panchayat Ghars, under the trees and in tents. Thus, our tiny tots, who are the future and hope of India are exposed to the winter, rains and summer in the open. The students, teachers, guardian and public representatives are very much perturbed over this state of affairs.

I, therefore, request the Government of India to provide for separate funds in the Budget for the construction of school buildings so that this nation-wide problem could be solved. At the same time Government should also advise the States to spend at least 50 per cent, if not 75 per cent, of the amount of crores of rupees deposited in banks as savings by the Education Boards, Secondary Education Circles and Text book Corporations on the construction of school buildings and direct them that every year 50 per cent amount should be compulsorily spent on the construction of school buildings to solve this nation-wide problem. Sir, this huge amount is received only from the students and there should be no problem in spending this money for the benefit of the students. Moreover, it is not only proper but justified also.

[English]

- (vi) Need to make provision of special quota of seats for MLAs in the Railways

SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA THOTA (Kakinada) : Sir, in every State, a large number of people visit their respective capitals for personal work. These people go along with their representatives for their work. But the representatives are not getting seats or berths in the trains. Because of this, the people visit offices without their elected representatives. People are facing lot of inconvenience. In the past MLAs were treated under VIP quotas in Railways. Now MLAs are not treated so and are finding difficulty in getting seats in trains. The Assembly Sessions are taking place for four months