

abolition of the same for ungradation of the existing telecommunication system, and similar other issues. In view of the special geophysical position of the State and its tiny size but strategic importance, the demand for special favoured treatment in the shape of Central financial assistance is the minimum the State of Tripura expect, to enable it to march alongside other States of the Union.

I, therefore, urge upon the Minister concerned to announce Government's decision in the matter of abolition of extra 14.5% air fare for the passengers of Tripura or grant of subsidy of the said enhanced rate, efforts to upgrade the existing telecommunication system, linking of Agartala with rest of the country by railway system, development of roads in the State and regarding schemes for generating employment in the State by setting up industries.

[*Translation*]

- (viii) Need for a Central scheme to save the flood affected people of District Madhubani, Bihar on a permanent basis

SHRI ABDUL HANNAN ANSARI (Madhubani): Lakhs of families have been affected by the floods due to breaches at several places in the Kamla Balan Dam in Madhubani district of Bihar. I would like to draw the Government's attention to this tragedy and request them to make arrangements for shifting them to some safe place and ensure payment of compensation for the loss suffered by them. This devastation by floods is a regular annual feature and the people incur loss of life and property. So, I shall request the Union Government to prepare some scheme to solve this problem on permanent basis so as to relieve these people of this recurring loss.

[*English*]

- (ix) Problems faced by workers employed in Bata Shoe Factory at Faridabad

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): Some sixteen hundred

workers of the Bata shoe factory at Faridabad are without any work, without any salary for nearly three months. The workers are not on strike, the management is not giving the workers any job to do. The management tried to force the packers to do the job of controllers. The controllers salary is more than that of packers. It is an attempt of the management to have indirect retrenchment and bring down manpower. The Management refused to give job to the workers and informed the Government that workers were on strike. But actually workers are daily giving attendance and asking for jobs which the management are not giving. The D.C. Faridabad made an on the spot enquiry and found the workers to be at the place of duty. But even then the management refused to give job to the workers nor do they declare a lock out. Not only that. At the instance of the management the supply of rations to the workers has been stopped. The Central Labour Department should move to solve the problem and force the management to start production forthwith.

- (x) Demand for a Vayudoot Service from Hyderabad to Bellary and Raichur

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary): This is to bring to the notice of the Government the need for extending the Vayudoot service to Bellary and Raichur districts in Karnataka State. I would like to invite the attention of the Government to the importance of Hospet, Bellary and Hampi (Vijay Nagar Empire ruins), Tungabhadra Dam and Donimalai Iron Ore Project of National Mineral Development Corporation. Hampi being a historical place every year more than 10-150 tourists are coming from foreign countries to see the Great Vijaya Vithal Temple known for its sculpture etc. A recent survey shows that the runway seems to be suitable. The Karnataka Government has already requested the Central Government to start the Vayudoot service during October and November of this year. I have been told that Dornier 228 Air

[Shrimati Basava Rajeswari]

craft based at Hyderabad Airport goes to Cuddapah, Rajmundry on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday in a week and returns to Hyderabad at 12.50 P.M. On those days, it is not at all utilised for the rest of the day. I would suggest that Dornier 228 can be operated during spare time available from Hyderabad to Raichur and Bellary and return to Bangalore and Hyderabad via Bellary and Raichur. I am sure that within no time the traffic will pick up and Government may have to introduce daily services of Vayudoot to and fro from Hyderabad to Bangalore.

14.22 hrs.

DISCUSSION ON THE NEW  
TEXTILE POLICY (CONTD.)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will now go to the next item. The House will now take up further Discussion under Rule 193 on the new Textile Policy announced by the Government on 6th June, 1985. Hon. Members, we have already exhausted the allotted time for this item. Therefore, I would request the hon. Members to cooperate with me. I would request that each Member may take only five minutes because many Members are interested to take part in this debate. I would request the Members to be very brief. After four minutes, I will ring the bell and from the fifth minute onwards, your speech will not be recorded. Therefore, I would request you to make only the points. Now, Mr. Y. S. Mahajan to speak.

SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Textile Policy announced by the Government is realistic and calculated to secure the development and rapid growth of the industry in a balanced manner. The

consumer has shown a decided preference for blended and polyester filament fabrics. By allowing full flexibility in the use of various fibres and promising adequate availability of man-made fibres through increased domestic production supplemented, if necessary, by imports, the policy statement expresses the Government's determination to satisfy the consumers' preferences. In this way, the new policy seeks also to restructure the industry with a long term perspective. The whole policy would be guided by the objective of providing clothing for our increasing population at a reasonable price.

The Textile industry is the biggest industry in India. It provides employed to 1.2 million people in the organised mill sector, constituting 17% of the aggregate factory labour in the country, 3.2 million people in the powerloom sector. and 7.2 million people in the handloom sector. From the point of view of employment, the handloom sector constitutes the biggest sector. The Policy Committee has, therefore, made a number of proposals calculated to improve the earnings and welfare of the weavers. They will be given help for modernisation of their looms and provided with technological and other inputs for improving productivity and the quality and finish of their products. I believe that the provisions made in this behalf are adequate and sound.

The organised mill sector, which attracts more attention than others suffers from managerial and structural weaknesses. The policy statement proposes certain measures for the revival of sick units. The idea is to make a detailed and objective study of the causes of sickness in the case of each sick unit and if it is potentially viable, to prepare a package of measures for its rehabilitation and work out a suitable financial package and hand over the job to a nodal agency for completion.

If the unit is not likely to be viable in the immediate future, the policy suggests that the mill may be closed