

loan despite the fact that these educated unemployed pledge their certificates at the time of getting loan from the bank.

My submission to the Central Government is that the interest on the loan taken by the unemployed youth should be waived off as they pledge their certificates with the banks and all the educated unemployed youth of the country should be given loan amounting to rupees one lakh for setting up of industries or for starting other work so that they can lead a smooth life.

Besides, the loans should be renewed in the case of those educated unemployed youth who have failed in their endeavour to start an industry or work due to any reason and they should be encouraged by giving loan again so that they may raise their standard of living.

(viii) Need to resolve the dispute between shipping agents and Calcutta Port Trust early

[English]

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (Joynagar) : Sir, the working of the Calcutta Port Trust has come to a standstill since 14th July, with the shipping agents having refused to undertake any export carting or accept import deliveries. They have also decided to stop their operations in stuffing, de-stuffing, carting and delivery activities. As a result, besides Russia-bound tea, refrigerated shipments—mainly shipments—mainly shrimp and other marine products—to Japan are hit. In fact, shippers apprehend that all commodity exports from the Calcutta Dock system, including cast iron, engineering goods, mica, jute, jute goods and leather products may be dealt with a body blow if the current impasse continues.

I would urge the Minister of Surface Transport kindly to exercise his good offices to resolve the dispute and ensure that normalcy returns soon to the Calcutta Port, and tea, marine products and exports etc. are not upset anymore.

13.00 hrs.

MOTION RE : CONSIDERATION OF THE 'DRAFT AGRICULTURAL POLICY RESOLUTION (AS MODIFIED)' - CONTD.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We shall now take up further discussion on the Draft Agricultural Policy Resolution. It is the turn of Shri Sukdev Paswan. But Shri V.S. Rao has made a request that he may be permitted as he has got some other engagement. If Shri Paswan obliges, we can allow Shri V.S. Rao.

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (Araria) : Sir, let him speak first.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Thank you. Shri V.S. Rao may speak now.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I convey my sincere thanks to you and to Shri Paswan for obliging me.

As the hon. Minister for Agriculture said yesterday it was most unfortunate that this country did not have an agricultural policy for all these years. Their industrial policy was formulated as far back as 1948 and eight subsequent modifications have taken place for that. But in this country, where 75 per cent of the population is directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture, neither the planners nor the Government think it fit to have an agricultural policy at all. I may tell that if a policy is there it will act like a beacon to the sailors in the sea. If the Government implements the policy with all sincerity it will help a lot in the development of that particular sector and in this case it is our agriculture which is involved.

Sir, Japan was having a basic agricultural law in 1961. Two important objectives of it were to increase productivity and to increase the income levels of the farmers on par with the people who are in other sectors of the economy. Similarly the European Community also has a common agricultural policy.

The first effort to formulate an agricultural policy was initiated by the National Front Government in 1989-90. I was associated with that formulation as I was a member of the Standing Advisory Committee headed by Shri Sharad Joshi at that point of time. We all dealt with the subject at length and we had prepared a draft also. Of course, later it was modified and a very condensed one has been brought out now.

In this connection I would like to bring to your kind notice certain things about the Draft Agricultural Policy as modified by the Standing Committee on Agriculture which has expressed a lot of dissatisfaction with this present Draft. I will quote from their report :

"They are not satisfied with the scheme and strategy enunciated therein and find it inadequate on many accounts to meet the challenges listed in itself. ... The challenges need a more systematic and exhaustive narration. The Draft lacks specifics and is silent on many important issues concerning agriculture and its overall development.

The Committee concluded that a fresh determined effort should be made by the