

unemployment in my constituency Saharasa. Since there is no industry in the public sector or private sector in the area, the poor people have to go outside Saharasa to earn their livelihood.

I have also raised many questions in the house regarding setting up of industries in Saharasa but no scheme has been prepared in this regard so far. With the result unemployment is on the rise. The area is very backward and flood-affected also.

Therefore, I would like to submit that the Government of India should prepare a scheme to set up industries in Saharasa and implement it as soon as possible so that the problem of unemployment could be solved.

- (vii) **Need to open more LPG outlets in divisional/district town, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal**

[English]

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SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the acute crisis of LPG connections in the divisional/district town, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal. There are more than 10,000 applications seeking LPG connections pending till 1987. Only one dealer is operating on temporary basis there. The people of the area are agitated over this. The district administration has also brought this issue to the notice of the authorities concerned. There are so many applications for dealership, etc., pending, of which the Wholesale Consumers' Cooperative Society is only one recommended by the district authority. Under the circumstances, I urge upon the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas to appoint at least one more dealer in

this area, which would solve this burning problem of the district.

- (viii) **Need to announce higher procurement price for Narma Cotton**

[Translation]

SHRI BIRBAL (Gangunagar). Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, last year the sale price of 'Narma' cotton was Rs. 1450/- per quintal. But this year the rate is ranging between Rs. 1075/- and Rs. 1125/- per quintal whereas there has been a great increase in the rates of fertilisers and pesticides. Apart from this the rate of pesticides has increased from 20% to 25% as compared to last year.

The rates of diesel, labour and spray etc. have increased. Therefore, I would like to request the Central Government that the rate of 'Narma' cotton should be at least Rs. 2000/- per quintal.

14.19 hrs.

#### DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

#### **Situation Affecting Agriculture and Farmers Interests due to Increase in Re Prices of Fertilizers and Wheat Import**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up the discussion regarding the serious situation affecting agriculture and farmers interests due to increase in the prices of fertilizers and import of wheat.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, these are two topics which are, to some extent, interconnected. But each in its own right is an extremely important matter - policy of the