

-fails in the month of September this year. All people in Kerala celebrate Onam as their national festival and the prices of foodgrains in the open market is likely to increase during the festival period of Onam unless certain effective measures for the distribution of these items at fair price are taken. The rice consumption during the festival period will increase and keeping in view this fact, the State Government intend to give, as usual, special rice at the rate of 5 kilogram per ration card. There are 50 lakh ration card holders in the State. The requirement for the distribution of special rice is 25,000 M.T. in a month. Therefore, I would earnestly request the Union Government to kindly consider the matter sympathetically and arrange to issue necessary orders enhancing the monthly Central allocation of rice to the State from 1,50,000 M.T. to 1,65,000 M.T. for the 4 month period, that is from July, 1992 to October, 1992 and to make special allocation of 25,000 M.T. rice for distribution as special rice for Onam during August-September, 1992. Thank you.

(III) Need for proper Implementation of schemes launched for the welfare of scavengers

[Translation]

SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI (Bijnor): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw your attention towards the plight of scavengers. Sir, they do not get their salaries even for 10-10 months. There is a lot of bunglings in their subsidy and other funds. They toil hard even then they are on the verge of starvation. They have to borrow money for their food and suffer losses. At some places their jobs are on contract basis and the contractors get the works done for ten or twenty rupees only and they themselves earn Rs. 100 to Rs. 200 daily. At some places caste male and female have been employed by the Government for this job but these people further, employ the scavengers for Rs. 50/- or Rs. 100/- per moth for performing the job.

Sir, I would like to submit that a review should be made of the implementation of the plan for the upliftment of the scavengers which was made by the Govt. and for which an amount of Rs. 560 crores were envisaged and there should be some representatives of scavengers in the concerned committee for welfare of scavengers so that the plan may be implemented properly.

(iv) Need to write off loans given to farmers settled on the Banks of River Narmada in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khar-gone): Mr. Speaker Sir, the farmers living in the adjoining districts along Narmada river in M.P. had to take loans amounting to one lakh to ten lakh rupees from the nationalised Banks for laying pipe lines in their fields under Lift Irrigation Scheme so as to face the constant droughts and famines and to provide foodgrains to the people of this country. The agriculture specialists of the banks did not provide proper advice to the farmers and got laid substandard pipe lines. The prices of Chemical fertilizers, seeds, insecticides and labour have gone up more than two times. Due to adverse weather conditions and infectious diseases, the farmers had to bear loss every year and now the bank interests have also been raised from 10% to 15.5% Due to all the above mentioned reasons, the amount of loans due to the farmers have also gone up. Those farmers have not been benefited from the loan waiver scheme either of the State Government or of the Central Government.

Today the farmers are on the verge of destruction. Their economic condition have gone from bad to worse. Today they are not in a condition to pay off their loans.

The agriculture of these farmers should also be treated as the sick industries and on that basis their loans should be waived off. Even after waving of the loans of these farmers the Government will not suffer loss because these farmers have increased the irrigated area in the country which was not at all possible from the Government plan of