

[Shri P. Rajagopal Naidu]

Even the U.K. Government which is under pressure through inflation is obliged to agree to higher prices for foodgrains, to be supplied by continental countries through the E.E.C. agreement, just because the European farmers have to be assured of just the remunerative prices. Why should our Government be unwilling to continue the earlier policy of subsidising fertilisers or at least abstain from increasing the prices of fertilisers borne out of petrol products, thus allowing the difference to be treated as subsidy for agriculture? Otherwise, the farmers would be justified to complain that apart from abandoning the earlier subsidy they are being burdened to the tune of Rs. 100/- per hectare through these high prices, a burden which is much bigger than land revenue.

(iii) REPORTED SHORT SUPPLY OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES TO ORISSA AGAINST ALLOTMENTS

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar): Sir, I want to raise the following matter of urgent public importance under rule 377.

Essential commodities like salt, controlled cloth, sugar, kerosene oil, soft coke and cement are in short supply in Orissa as against their allotments. Against Orissa's requirement of 2 lakh tonnes of salt, it is getting less amount because of non-availability of wagons and because of restrictions for import of salt from Tuticorin. Controlled cloth is not being supplied to the State according to its requirements. Against the requirement of 2000 bales per month, the State got only 892 bales from the Textile Commissioner, Bombay.

Against the allotment of 57,582 M.T. sugar from 17th December, 1979 to the end of May, 1980, only 48,775 M. T. have been received. So, there is an acute scarcity of sugar in Orissa.

There is also shortfall of kerosene allocation to the State. So far as the

soft coke is concerned, as against the State's requirement of 250 wagons a month, only 22 wagons per month is being supplied.

The Orissa Government have not been given allotment of cement against their full requirement of 2 lakh tonnes per quarter. Only 77,400 tonnes were allotted during April, 1980 to June 1980. The Central Government should look into this and should take urgent and effective steps for ensuring speedy delivery of the allotted quantities of the above mentioned essential commodities to Orissa.

(iv) REPORTED LOCKOUT IN PREMIER AUTOMOBILES LIMITED BOMBAY

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY (Bombay North-East): Sir, under Rule 377, I wish to raise the following matter.

The Premier Automobiles Ltd., in Bombay, and makers of the Fiat prototype Padmini car is once again on a lockout. Due to the lockout, the workers of the factory, and the buyers of this car, primarily the taxi drivers, are suffering. After every lockout, the price of the Padmini car is raised.

This fact creates an apprehension that the lockout of the company is due to a sinister collusion between the management and some trade union leaders. The Central Government should intervene immediately and ensure that the factory is reopened.

(v) REPORTED ACUTE SHORTAGE OF DRINKING WATER IN CERTAIN VILLAGES OF RAJASTHAN BORDERING PAKISTAN

श्री मनमूल सिंह चौधरी (बीकानेर) : माननीय चेरमेन, महोदय, नियम 377 के अधीन सूचना ।

सुरतगढ़ तहसील एवं पाकिस्तानी सीमा से सटी हुई अनूपगढ़ तहसील क्षेत्र के अनेक गांव पीने के पानी का गंभीर संकट का सामना कर रहे हैं। सुरतगढ़ तहसील के राजियासर, मोलसर, खारिया डीडवाना, किगदासर, बच्छबारा, करडू, देवी दासपुरा, कोनपालसर, सावलसर, भोजसर, एटा, ठुकराना आदि गांवों में हालत बहुत खराब