

[Shri V. S. Vijayaraghavan]

health. This water, when used, has damaged the crops. Thus, the effluents that flow from this factory constitute a grave health hazard to the people living there.

Therefore, necessary steps should be taken by the Government to stop the discharge of effluents into the river and thus protect the health of the people living in that area.

(v) GRANT OF CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS TO PERSONS WHO CROSSED OVER INTO JAMMU FROM WEST PAKISTAN.

DR. KARAN SINGH (Udhampur): It is a strange but little known fact that lakhs of persons who crossed over into Jammu from West Pakistan during the disturbances in 1947 have still not been conferred with full citizenship rights by the State Government. Although they have now spent over three decades in India, their children still cannot secure employment in the State because they have not been declared permanent residents and, even more surprising, they are disenfranchised as far as State Assembly elections are concerned. A large number of these persons reside in my Parliamentary constituency and the Jammu Constituency. Frustration among them, particularly the younger generations, is growing rapidly because they are totally without employment and all avenues are sealed. Recently they held a 'Dharna' at the Pakistan border to highlight their grievances I would urge that the Government of India should immediately impress upon the State Government the necessity to grant them full citizenship rights, and that special measures should be initiated for their welfare and permanent resettlement in Jammu.

(vi) SEA EROSION IN COASTAL REGIONS OF QUILON DISTRICT

SHRI B. K. NAIR (Quilon): Erosion of a very serious nature has been going on in certain coastal regions of Quilon district in which my Constituency is

situated while certain other regions are also threatened with inundation during the monsoon months.

Thekkumbhagon is Paravoor village is the area now subject to erosion on a large scale. During the past three months, in spite of the weather being fine, the waves have been eating away large chunks of land spread over about three Kms. The sea has advanced over 100 ft. during this period and hundreds of valuable coconut trees have been uprooted. Scores of fishermen's huts have been destroyed. Of the two mosques situated in the area, one has already been destroyed and the other too is under serious threat. At another place, Neendakara, the sea walls constructed over several years ago have nearly disappeared in the sands. If repairs are taken up immediately, we can avoid new construction costing huge amounts.

Allappad is another spot about 20 kms. north of Quilon where the inhabitants are facing grave danger of a different kind. The Indian Rare Earths Ltd., a company owned by the Government of India has been resorting to indiscriminate mining of mineral sand right on the beach and this has resulted in the level being brought down to nearly that of the water itself. During the last monsoon, as a result of the Sea Water rushing in over a wide area, nine houses were completely destroyed and the inhabitants had to shift to temporary dwellings further inland. The Company goes on doing the mining operations over, fresh areas causing similar damage to the beach.

The only solution for all this devastation to my mind is to go in for large-scale protective measures by erecting sea walls throughout the length of the affected or threatened areas. The initial steps in this regard have to be taken immediately since the monsoon is just a few months away and the consequence of living things as they are would be considerable loss and destruction.