

August, 1981 of the Railway officers, officers of Agriculture Department, District Magistrates, representatives of betel businessmen's association and representatives of Tamil Mahakuma Panchasi Samiti (Tamil sub-divisional betel growers' association). In that meeting I myself was present. The Railway authorities promised to maintain previous booking system in Mechede, Panskura, Bagnan and Srirampore stations. Some improvement took place—but that failed to solve the problem, to save the growers and to give guarantee for the railway transportation of betel leaves baskets.

In respect of betel basket transportation 9UP Dehradun Erpress in Srirampore station and 30UP Bombay Express in Bagnan, Mechede and Panskura stations are very important. VP. for the betel leaf transportation in 9UP and 30 UP (three V.Ps.) trains should be made regular and all the baskets of betel leaves should be allowed to be loaded in the train—all restrictions of UP and DOWN train should be removed.

In the transit stations (Howrah, Kharagpur, Rourkela, Bilaspur, Benaras, Delhi etc.) quick movements of betel baskets should be made carefully.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to see that the booking of betel baskets in Mechede, Panskura, Bagnan and Srirampore stations is guaranteed and quick transportation of betel leaves is ensured taking into account that betel leaves are highly perishable and a large number of people have to live upon the betel leaves production.

(ii) NEED FOR HOLDING SOME OF THE FOOTBALL MATCHES TO BE PLAYED IN ASIA 82 AT CALCUTTA.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Durgapur): It is reported in the newspapers that 24 countries will take part in the Football event 1982 Asian Games to be held in New

Delhi. According to the decision of Asian Games Authority the Football matches would be held group-wise and on league basis. The teams will be divided into four groups and the total matches will be 100. The organisers of the Asian Games are facing difficulties in holding the matches in Delhi due to inadequate Football grounds. In this connection I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government to the requests made by the West Bengal Government and particularly the Chief Minister of West Bengal offering to hold football matches in Calcutta since the City is having a large number of Stadiums and Football grounds.

Moreover, the people of West Bengal always take a keen interest in football. So, it will be more appropriate to hold some of the football matches in Calcutta.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to reconsider the matter and hold some of the Football matches in Calcutta so that the people of Eastern Indian where football is very popular can also witness the Asian Games

(iii) STEPS TO PROTECT THE HANDLOOM WEAVERS BY CONTROLLING RISING PRICES OF YARN AND BY PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE WEAVERS.

श्री हरिकेश बहादुर (गोरखपुर) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे देश में बुनकरों की स्थिति दिन-प्रति-दिन बिगड़ती चली जा रही है। सूत और कैमिकल्स के मूल्यों में होने वाली निरन्तर वृद्धि को रोकने में भारत सरकार की उदासीनता और असमर्थता अत्यन्त चिन्ताजनक है क्योंकि करोड़ों लोग हथकरवा उद्योग में लगे हुए हैं। उन की आर्थिक स्थिति को सुधारने के लिये यह आवश्यक है कि सूत और कैमिकल्स की बढ़ती हुई कीमतों को तत्काल रोक जाय और उसे कम भी किया जाय तथा सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के कारखानों में अधिक से अधिक सूत का उत्पादन किया