

vation and other benefits extended to them by virtue of their having been listed as a Scheduled Caste, no perceptible improvement has come about in their social status or economic condition.

Now, a very explosive situation has been created in Kerala because of the recommendation made by the Mandal Commission Report that the Pulaya Community be included in the list of other backward communities. Such a step will deprive this community of whatever benefits it enjoyed so far by way of reservation, etc., and will further accentuate its backwardness. Moreover, in the note circulated along with the questionnaire to the States by the Mandal Commission it was specifically mentioned that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be excluded while furnishing information about the other backward communities. In this circumstances, it is surprising as to how the Commission decided to include the Pulaya community in the list of other backward communities which is against the terms of reference of the Commission. This has caused dismay and shock among this community and they have launched an agitation to persuade the Government not to accept this recommendation.

Therefore, I would earnestly request the Government that this recommendation of the Mandal Commission listing Rulayas as 'other backward Community' should be rejected and they should do justice to this most backward community.

(vi) EXPANSION OF HALDIA REFINERY.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (Dum Dum): There is a proposal to expand Haldia Refinery from 2.5 to 5.5 million tonnes. I recently visited Haldia Refinery. I found the refinery working wonderfully well. The Haldia Refinery came to the rescue of the country in a big way when the Assam agitationists succeeded in closing down the Gauhati Refinery. The R and D of the Haldia Refinery has developed completely indigenously two new commercial products viz., cylinder oil and a new type of ore, which is commercially viable. If the refinery is expanded to 5.5 m. tones capa-

city, the Haldia refinery will present the country with more new products and will be able to supply fuel stock for the proposed Haldia Petro-Chemical Complex.

I visited the Haldia dock and found that a point has been discovered between the oil jetty and the dock where super tankers will be able to berth. The work of deepening the draught of the navigational channel is proceeding smoothly. I urge upon the Minister of Petroleum and the Minister of Planning to give the green signal for the expansion of the Haldia Refinery.

(vi) DEMAND TO INCREASE THE PENSION OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, सरकार ने सन् 1972 के 15 अगस्त से स्वतंत्रता सेनानी पेंशन योजना क्रियान्वित की। सन् 1980 के जुलाई तक सेनानियों को भारत सरकार से दो सौ रुपए माहवारी पेंशन की राशि मिलती रही। पेंशन की राशि 1-8-80 से बढ़ा कर दो सौ के बदले तीन सौ रुपए माहवारी कर दी गई। इस प्रकार अभी 1,23,861 सेनानियों को पेंशन की राशि मिल रही है।

मंहगाई आसमान छू रही है और यह अब तक की मंहगाई से अधिक है। एसी स्थिति में तीन सौ रुपए माहवारी में सेनानियों के लिए काम चलाना मुश्किल है। इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि :—

(1) स्वतंत्रता सेनानियों की पेंशन की राशि बढ़ाकर पांच सौ रुपए माहवारी की जाए,

(2) सेनानियों की विधवाओं को भी सेनाधियों के बराबर पेंशन दिया जाए,

(3) पेंशन पाने की शर्त छः माह जेल की सजा को घटा कर तीन माह कर दिया जाए,

(4) गांधी-इर्विन समझौते के बाद रिहा सभी सेनानियों को पेंशन दिया जाए,

(5) स्वतंत्रता सैनिक केन्द्रीय परामर्शदात्री समिति की पिछली बैठकों में लिए गए

[श्री रामावतार शास्त्री]

तमाम निर्णयों को अविलंब लागू किया जाए,

(6) जाली सेनानियों को मिलने वाली पेंशन की राशि बन्द की जाए तथा उनके विरुद्ध सक्त कार्यवाही की जाए और सेनानियों का संक्षिप्त जीवन परिचय प्रकाशित किया जाए।

(viii) DEMAND TO WITHDRAW INCREASE IN POWER RATES IN UTTAR PRADESH, BIHAR AND HARYANA.

श्री राम विलास पासवान (हाजीपुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक तरफ तो देश में किसानों को कृषि हेतु बिजली नहीं मिलती, दूसरी तरफ उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, हरियाणा आदि प्रदेशों में बिजली दरों में वृद्धि कर दी गई है। उत्तर प्रदेश में बिजली पांच पैसे प्रति-यूनिट बढ़ोतरी कर दी गई है। किसानों के प्राइवेट ट्यूबवेल की बिजली का दर प्रति-हार्सपावर पंद्रह रुपए से बढ़ा कर बाइस रुपए पचास पैसे कर दिया गया है।

हरियाणा में भी अठारह रुपए से बढ़ा कर बिजली की दर प्रति हार्स पावर बाइस रुपए कर दिया है। इसी तरह अन्य प्रान्तों में भी बढ़ोतरी की गई है। दर बढ़ाने के बाद भी बिजली कितने घंटे उपलब्ध हो पाएगी, पता नहीं।

विद्युत दरों में बढ़ोतरी किसानों के लिए कष्टदायक है। इससे भुगतान समय पर नहीं हो सकेगा। फलस्वरूप कनेक्शन कटेगा तथा सिंचाई पर प्रभाव पड़ेगा। किसानों में काफी रोष है। अतः सरकार बिजली दर में की गई बढ़ोतरी को वापस ले तथा किसानों को बिजली उपलब्ध कराने की गारंटी दे।

14.48 hrs.

MOTION RE: SIXTH FIVE YEAR PLAN

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we take up Motion regarding Sixth Five Year Plan 1980-85.

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do consider the 'Sixth Five Year Plan 1980-85', laid on the Table of the House on the 6th May, 1981."

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): When there was a discussion on the Fifth Five Year Plan, I was already on my legs. Then the House was dissolved. So, I can continue.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: I consider it to be an honour and a privilege to initiate this important debate on the Sixth Five Year Plan. I shall try to be brief in my remarks so as to leave ample time for the hon. Members of the House, those views on the Plan we are most anxious to hear.

The Plan document has been before the country since February, 1981. I had given notices thrice to discuss the Plan, but there was not time for discussion. We have also presented to Parliament the Annual Plans for 1981-82 and 1982-83, which review the performance of the economy in 1980-81 and 1981-82 as well. Currently, a mid-term appraisal of the Sixth Plan is in progress with a view to assessing the upto-date performance and determining the tasks that should be accomplished in the remaining period of the Plan. In this appraisal we shall also identify the problem areas where corrective action would be required. We have also initiated action for the formulation of the Annual plan for 1983-84.

The main features of the Sixth Five Year Plan are well known. It aims at a growth rate in gross national product of 5.2 per cent per annum; this will be achieved through a growth rate of a little less than 4 per cent in agriculture and about 7 per cent in mining and manufacture. The achievement of these targets will require a considerable effort to make fuller utilisation of capacity which already exists in the system and to provide for additional capacity in agriculture and industry as well as in power and transport. Vigorous efforts will have to be made to improve the working of the infrastructure