

[Shri Veerendra Patil]

annum project for the manufacture of Phenol. The Hindustan Organic Chemicals is implementing the project and they have already initiated action on the project.

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL: I would like to thank the hon. Minister on behalf of the people of Kerala.

(vii) REPORTED CRASH OF RAW JUTE PRICES /

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Madras): Under Rule 377, I am making a statement.

A very serious situation has arisen in West Bengal due to total crash of raw jute prices at the very onset of harvesting season. Price per quintal of raw jute has crashed to Rs. 120 or even less. All the peasant organisations of West Bengal demanded that the minimum price of raw jute be fixed at Rs. 300 per quintal. The support price declared by the Government is Rs. 160 per quintal. Full harvest is yet to begin. Even then the price has gone below Rs. 120 i.e., even below the support price. Jute Corporation of India is neither making commercial purchase nor buying at support price. Reserve Bank of India is refusing to advance adequate money to JCI even for buying at support price. While RBI has advanced Rs. 200 crores to the Cotton Corporation of India neither the JCI nor the West Bengal Government is getting the necessary money from the RBI while Cotton Corporation of India goes for monopoly purchase of cotton, the JCI buys only a small fraction of the crop normally. The Government of West Bengal and most of the peasant organisations are demanding that the JCI must buy 20 lakh bales.

Unless immediately arrangement be made for JCI's large scale adequate advance for that several lakhs of jute growers will be completely ruined. Minister of Commerce has to act immediately to save the situation.

12.00 hrs.

(viii) FACILITIES TO ENCOURAGE SPORTS IN INDIA

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao): Sir, under Rule 377, I wish to raise the following matter:

The Olympic hockey gold medal which India lost 12 years ago at Mexico, returned to its original home yesterday. India managed to conquer Spain by four goals to three in the hockey final of the Moscow Games at the Dynamo Stadium in the capital of the USSR. This is a proud moment for the country. According to reports which have reached here, India played a faultless game and even the rival team acknowledged that the Indians fully deserved the victory. Let us all hope that this victory will start a renaissance in Indian hockey. One also hopes that much more encouragement and facilities will be given by Government to sportsmen and sports institutions throughout the country, so that our sportsmen may compete on equal footing with their counterparts from foreign countries.

I warmly congratulate the victorious and young team led by Bhaskaran which has brought much-coveted laurels to our country, and has definitely given a big morale booster to all our citizens interested in sports.

13.01 hrs.

FINANCE (No. 2) BILL, 1980—contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri R. Venkataraman on the 24th July, 1980, namely:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1980-81, be taken into consideration."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE