

महाराष्ट्र के किसानों ने अपने दो किसान साथियों को शहीद बना कर अपनी स्थिति कुछ बेहतर कर ली है। उन के आन्दोलन के बाद सरकार ने भारतीय राष्ट्रीय कृषि सरकारी विपणनसंघ, मर्यादित (नेफेड) के द्वारा 40 से 60 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल प्याज खरीदने की व्यवस्था की है। अतः बिहार के प्याज उत्पादक स्वभावतः यह मांग उठा रहे हैं कि सरकार प्याज के उन के स्टॉक को भी नेफेड के द्वारा 40 से 60 रुपये क्विंटल के भाव से खरीद ले। ऐसा कर के ही बिहार के किसानों को विनाश की विभीषिका से बचाया जा सकता है।

सरकार को शीघ्र ही आवश्यक कदम उठा कर किसानों की हित रक्षा में अग्रसर होना चाहिए।

(iii) REPORTED CLOSURE OF LEADING UNITS OF J. K. GROUP IN KANPUR RESULTING IN UNEMPLOYMENT OF WORKERS

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN (Kanpur): Kanpur, the major industrial town of UP is facing very serious crisis because of the illegal closure of the leading units of the J. K. Group since the last few years. This closure has rendered more than 10,000 workers' families without a living. Many of the affected workers have committed suicide and many of them fled in search of work. Now, about five days back, the workers of the J. K. Rayon have gone on indefinite hunger strike. According to the information received in the morning of 23rd June, 1980, the condition of two striking workers has become serious. In the meantime, the workers have suspended their agitation as a mark of respect to the memory of Swargiya Sanjay Gandhi.

It is note worthy that the mill was closed down under the pretext of 66 per cent power cut and the Management had pleaded for 50 per cent supply to keep the unit running. The U.P. Government have already restored 75 per cent power supply but the Management is refusing to re-

open the unit more because of the internal feuds and conflicts. This is to bring the matter to the notice of the of the House and request the Government to take appropriate action to save the workers from total ruin.

(iv) NEED FOR GODOWNS, RAILWAY WAGONS FOR JUTE GROWERS.

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (Cooch Behar): The golden fibre raw jutes are coming to the markets of North Bengal. Due to alarming situation in Assam the raw jute from Goalpara district and other adjacent areas of Assam are also flowing in the North Bengal markets. But there is no purchaser of raw jute from the Jute Corporation of India. Not to speak of remunerative price of raw jute as recommended by Parliament Estimates Committee at the rate of Rs. 497/- per quintal, the jute growers are being forced to sell their jute far below the support price of Rs. 155/- per quintal as declared by the Jute Corporation of India. The raw jute is selling at the rate of Rs. 120/- to Rs. 130/- per quintal in North Bengal.

According to West Bengal Government Agriculture Department larger areas have been brought under jute cultivation in 1980-81. If the weather remains favourable the new jute crops would be at least 15 lakh bales alone in North Bengal. 180 kg. equal to one standard jute bale.

It is a matter of grave concern that the Jute Corporation of India is not operating in this area. The JCI have been bound to pack up their purchasing business due to shortage of godowns. In last year the JCI along with the help of cooperatives had purchased one lakh eighty eighty thousand one hundred and forty six bales which is only 13.42 per cent of total raw jute production of North Bengal. Moreover, the JCI could not despatch a substantial quantity of raw jute due to shortage of Railway wagons and due to the ill motive of the jute mill owners. At present,