खेती हो सकती है। अचानक कानून बनाकर खेसारी की खेती पर रोक लगा दिए जाने से किसानों में बेचैनी का पैदा होना स्वाभाविक है। खेती न होने से बहुत बड़ी संख्या में किसान अपनी आमदनी खो बैठेंगे और उनकी जीविका चलना कठिन हो जायेगा।

मेरा केन्द्रीय कृषि मंत्री से अनुरोध है कि वह उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को मलाह दें कि वह तवतक खेसारी की खेती पर रोक का कानृन गाजीपुर जिले से उठा ले जबतक कि किसानों को दूसरी फसल के लिए प्रोत्साहित न किया जाए। इस सम्बन्ध में केन्द्रीय कृषि मन्त्रालय की एक टीम गाजीपुर जानी चाहिए जो भूमि का सर्वेक्षण करे और किसानों को यह बतलाए कि वह खेसारी के स्थान पर उतनी ही आमदनी की कौन सी दूसरी फसल पदा कर सकते हैं। उक्त खेती के लिए किसानों को प्रोत्साहित करना चाहिए। जवतक ऐसा नहीं होता तबतक उस क्षेत्र में खेसारी पर रोक लगाने का कानून अनुचित है और अधिकतर लोग इसका पालन न करने के लिए बाध्य हो जायेंगे।

15.33 hrs.

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[DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI in the Chair]

(iv) Irregular supply of Cooking gas to U.P.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR (Gorakhpur): There is a deep crisis of cooking gas in many States including Uttar Pradesh. Non-availability of cooking gas, malpractices in its distribution and black marketing have created great difficulty for the people. Inspite of all efforts, people have not been getting cooking gas for even six months in many districts of Uttar Pradesh. Therefore, they are in a quandary. Fairness in distribution is most essential so that even less supply of cooking gas cylinders may not become a very big problem. I urge upon the Government to increase the supply of cooking gas and get the distribution system streamlined in order to solve the problem of the people, otherwise the present crisis may result in a great frustration.

(v) Regular supply of coal to Small Scale Industries in Bihar.

SHRIR.L.P. VERMA (Kodarma): This is to bring to your kind notice for drawing the attention of the Ministry of Energy, Department of Coal, that the small soale industries in Jhumari Telaiya, Ramgarh, Dhanbad, Giridih, Hazaribagh and Ranchi in Bihar, which are situated in the coal mines area, are not getting the quantity and quality of coal for which they have permanent linkages with Eastern Coal Fields Ltd. and C.C.L., thus affecting the wages of about two lakh labourers.

For example, for the last six months six industries of Jhumaritelaiya and 106 Hard Coke Ovens in Dhanbad and Ramgarh area are getting only 50% of the linkaged coal and that also of poorer quality, which has caused closure of these factories for 15 days in every month causing untold misery to about 55,000 workers.

They have been approaching different authorities of the F.C.L. and C.C.L. of the Coal India Limited to remove the anomaly that industries in the coal field area are being starved of coal.

Hence it is requested that immediate steps should be taken to see that the permanent linkages of coal are allotted and given to different small-scale industries in Bihar, which is backward in industries.

(vi) Haldia Fertilizer Plant

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (Dum Dum): Project completion date of the Haldia Fertilizer Plant has been deferred eleven times since March 1976. Costs have escalated from Rs. 125.58 to Rs. 348 crores. Negligence, irregularities and transfers of key officials are responsible for this. Work done by Projects and Development India Ltd. was not upto the required standards. There was no synchronisation and coordination with the supply of mechanical equipment by foreign concerns. Irregularities in case of oxygen compressor and the methanol plant reactor were glossed over. The time slacker has virtually broken down. The air sepa-

ration plant is riddled with leakages because no proper biography of the boilers is taken. There is no deficit in power supply with 20 megawatt gas turbine sanctioned by Centre and SEB Power supply. The Production Chief at a critical juncture was a man without construction experience. Equipments kept in the open got rusted.

In view of the urgent need for urea, fertiliser soda-ash and methanol, I demand a thorough probe into this state of affairs and rapid completion of the Haldia Fertiliser Plant in proper condition.

(vii) Need to expedite the establishment of nickel extraction plant to Sukinda area in Cuttack (Orissa)

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack): Government of India approved a proposal for establishment of a nickel extraction plant in Sukinda area in the district of Cuttack in Orissa in 1974 involving an investment of Rs. 39.50 crores. The project is yet to be taken up by Government due to certain technical difficulties involving process technology. Sukinda area in the District of Cuttack in Orissa contains the only commercially workable deposits of nickel ore in the country.

As India is a net importer of nickel metal involving sizable foreign exchange, production of nickel from ores available in the country is necessary from all considerations. It is understood that the Ministry of Steel and Mines had approached Government of Canada for assistance in providing an appropriate technology for setting up a Nickel Extraction Unit in Orissa. It is requested that the matter may be expedited as otherwise the cost which has already escalated appreciably, will increase still further. It may be noted that it is already 9 years since Government of India accorded approval to the project. Therefore, I demand that the concerned Ministry should make all possible efforts to expedite the project so that the Project work is started before the end of the Sixth Plan.

15.39 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF PROCLAMA-TION IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF PUNJAB

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.C. SETHI): Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution:

> "That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 6th October, 1983 under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Punjab."

Copies of the Report of the Governor and Proclamation have been laid on the Table of the House.

The House is aware of the situation in Punjab which had been causing concern. The atmosphere of public order in Punjab vitiated on account of illegal activities of the extremist, terrorist and secessionist elements in the State. A number of violent incidents have been perpetrated with a view to creating scare amongst the peaceful people, and to vitiate the communal atmosphere in the State.

The Chief Minister of Punjab in his letter dated 6th October 1983 to the Governor, had stated that he had reviewed the unfortunate developments in the State and had come to the conclusion that they had acquired a dimension which was not confined to the State of Punjab but had serious implications for the country as a whole. The Chief Minister felt that the situation called for an intervention of the Central Gov ernment for temporary period to meet the requirements of the national security and integrity. In view of the position stated by him, the Chief Minister tendered the resignation of his Council of Ministers and suggested that the Governor may recommend to the President to exercise his powers under Article 356 of the Constitution and take over the administration of the State for a temporary period.