

फसल बेचना पड़ रही है। गत वर्ष भारतीय जूट निगम और एन०सी०डी०सी० के परामर्शानुसार बिहार के कोपरेटिव मार्केटिंग यूनियन (विस्कोमान) के विभिन्न केन्द्रों के माध्यम से जूट की खरीद की गई थी जिससे किसानों में बहुत ही संतोष और उत्साह हुआ था और इस वर्ष किसानों ने जूट की फसल काफी लगाई। लेकिन भारतीय जूट निगम द्वारा सपोर्ट प्राइस पर जूट की खरीद नहीं होने से किसानों को भारी क्षति उठानी पड़ रही है।

वाणिज्य मंत्री भारत सरकार, जिनके अधीन जूट कारखाना तथा भारतीय जूट निगम है से निवेदन है कि गत वर्ष की तरह बिहार कोपरेटिव मार्केटिंग यूनियन को जूट खरीदने का आदेश दे।

(v) REPORTED SHORTAGE OF KEROSENE
IN TAMIL NADU

SHRI ERA MOHAN (Coimbatore): There is a very acute shortage of kerosene in Tamil Nadu. In several areas housewives have to wait endlessly from the early hours of the day in vain in an attempt to secure kerosene. The ration shops have no stocks, and enquiries reveal that there is shortage all over the State. The State Government machinery for distribution has broken down due to inefficient administration, and they are unable to tackle the situation. The misery inflicted on women and elders is unbearable. Further, the State blames the Centre for poor supply. As a result, the poor people suffer untold hardships. At a recent meeting at Hosur in Tamil Nadu, the hon. Minister for Petroleum and Chemicals, Thiru Veerendra Patil, pointed out that the State Government had not indicated that they needed more supplies of kerosene.

The people of Tamil Nadu should not be penalised for the indifferent

attitude of the AIADMK Government. I request the hon. Minister to look into the matter and rush supplies of kerosene to the State as otherwise there will be an outcry by public in protest precipitating law and order situation.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): Recently, I had an occasion to tour Tamil Nadu. I visited Hosur and there some members complained—I was addressing a public meeting, that was a hall meeting—that kerosene is in short supply and that it is being sold in black-market. I said that it is a surprise to me because I am hearing for the first time that kerosene is in short supply and my impression is that whatever quantity of kerosene and diesel oil has been asked for by the AIADMK Government in Tamil Nadu has been supplied. I do not know whether we have been able to supply cent per cent, but till this day, I have not received any communication from the Chief Minister or any Minister of Tamil Nadu asking me to supply more kerosene. I said that if they wanted me to supply more kerosene or diesel oil, I would have supplied. But the fact remains that the system of distribution is wrong there. It is being handled by private people, by private traders. They are selling it in the blackmarket and the result is that the actual consumer is not getting kerosene in sufficient quantity. That is the position which I learnt after going to Hosur. I said that the distribution is the responsibility of the State Government and that they should make all possible efforts to see that as far as possible, the consumers get enough quantity of kerosene.

On this point, I want to make one thing clear. In the recent price increase that we had effected with regard to the petroleum products, we had not increased the price of kerosene with the result what is happening the price of diesel oil, but not kerosene—a sizable quantity of kerosene is going in adulteration. I had a

[Shri Veerendra Patil].

series of discussions with our officers and I am told that if kerosene is mixed with diesel, even upto 100 per cent, it is not possible for us to detect. That is the position and we are trying our best to find out a method to dye or colour kerosene so that it may be difficult for them to adulterate kerosene with diesel oil. But we have not been able to find out any solution to this problem. That is why I feel that this kind of adulteration might be going on in Tamil Nadu and that is why there is shortage. I want to assure the hon. member and the House that if Tamil Nadu wants more quantity of kerosene, I am prepared to supply. But my only suggestion and my only request to the Government of Tamil Nadu is to see that the distribution system is perfect and they should make all attempts to see that the consumers get enough quantity of kerosene that we are supplying in bulk to the State Government.

(vi) REPORTED DIRECT APPROACH BY THE CHIEF MINISTER OF RAJASTHAN TO WORLD BANK ABOUT ASSISTANCE FOR NARMADA PROJECT.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister and the House to the following unprecedented matter. It is really unprecedented and it has never happend in the history of free India.

It is reported that the Chief Minister of Rajasthan has directly approached the World Bank requesting it not to consider the proposal of the Gujarat Government for assisting multipurpose Narmada Project till the dispute between the two States over the sharing of the Kadana waters was settled.

The water dispute between two States is purely an internal problem and it could be settled either by

direct negotiations between the concerned States or through the intervention of the Centre.

Taking this internal dispute to the World Bank is highly objectionable and the Union Government should clarify its stand in the matter.

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDEY): Should I clarify just now?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you want, you can.

SHRI KEDAR PANDEY: The Chief Minister of Rajasthan telephoned to me today. He has not written any letter to the World Bank. That is all, I have called both the Chief Ministers of Gujarat and Rajasthan and we shall discuss the matter amongst ourselves.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Since he has chosen to clarify, I would like to say that yesterday's *Times of India* (Bombay Edition) carried a front page report that the Prime Minister... (*Interruptions*)... Mrs. Gandhi has also disapproved this particular action.

SHRI KEDAR PANDEY: I know, what is in the notice of the Government. That is quite wrong and baseless.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Jai-pur): One more clarification. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, please. The Minister has contacted both the Chief Ministers of Gujarat and Rajasthan and they have denied the report. (*Interruptions*). Whatever the press report comes, the Government is not responsible for that. I am not permitting anybody to speake on that. All of you please sit down. Because the Minister wanted to clarify the position. I permitted him. Then, Prof. Dandavate said something. That is over (*Interrup-*