

This kind of deposits, even though they may not be heavy, the bank will have done some service. The Pigmy Deposits do not give high profits and involve work to bankers. Now the banks have the permission of the Reserve Bank to stop the opening of new Deposits, which means virtually closing the Pigmy deposits.

The worst sufferer is the Pigmy collector and, to some extent, the depositor. The Pigmy Collectors, who are more than 6,000 to 8,000 in Karnataka alone, will be rendered jobless and will have to starve. The bankers will lose an opportunity to serve the weaker sections.

On behalf of a large number of unfortunate Pigmy Collectors, I am making this demand, because they have requested me to get them relief at an early date. This Pigmy Deposit will help the success of the 20-Point Programme of the hon. Prime Minister.

(viii) NEED TO AUTHORISE THE RELEASE AND SUPPLY OF LEVY/NON-LEVY CEMENT TO THE COMPANY AND FACTORY AT KYMORE.

SHRI GULSHER AHMED (Satna) : Asbestos Cement Limited has a factory at Kymore, Tehsil Murwara, Distt. Jabalpur, M.P., a notified backward area of Madhya Pradesh, where it has been manufacturing asbestos cement building products, since 1934. It employs more than 1000 workers.

Ordinary Portland Cement (OPC) is one of the major raw material required for the production of asbestos cement products, and that is why Asbestos Cement Limited established its factory at Kymore, adjacent to ACC Ltd. which was started in the year 1920. The Company has been obtaining its supplies of OPC from the adjacent factory of the Associated Cement Companies Ltd. (ACC Ltd.) right from the inception of its manufacturing activities.

The ACC Ltd. discontinued the supply of cement to the Company from 26th August, 1982, and the Company was, therefore, forced to effect lay-off of the factory from the 2nd September, 1982. The ACC Ltd. have advised that it is unable to supply cement to Asbestos Cement Ltd. for a few months because it has to meet

its obligations of supplies in the levy quota and does not have OPC available for supply to non-levy consumers or the market.

The Company has been increasing its activities in Kymore to help in the development of this backward area. Initially in 1934 the Company started operations with one machine. In 1957 it doubled its capacity by commissioning a second machine. It also progressively introduced the manufacture of pipes.

To overcome the problem the Hon. Minister is requested to authorise the release and supply of levy or non-levy cement to the Company's factory at Kymore.

This measure will enable the Company to lift the lay off and to recommence production.

(ix) COMPLETION OF MAHATMA GANDHI BRIDGE IN BIHAR.

श्री राम बिलास पासवान (हाजीपुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पटना हाजीपुर के बीच नवनिर्मित महात्मा गांधी सेतु बन चुका तो हो गया लेकिन उसका एक भाग ही बन पाया है। फलस्वरूप दुर्घटनाओं की बाढ़ सी घा गई है। एक तो किसी तरह से बनाए गए इस पुल की फिनिशिंग नहीं हुई है, दूसरे यह पुल सबसे अधिक व्यस्त पुल हो गया है। यदि अविलम्ब दूसरे हिस्सों को नहीं बनाया गया तो बरदान के बजाए यह अभिशाप हो जायेगा।

प्रश्न: केन्द्र सरकार स्वयं विलक्की लेकर इस पुल के अधूरे कार्य को पूरा कराने और आवश्यकता हो तो बिहार सरकार की आर्थिक सहायता भी दे।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we shall take up Legislative Business for consideration and passing.