

[Shri Baldev Singh Jasrotia]

In the national interest, it is urged upon the Government that a High Power Committee be appointed to look into the matter. 690 Megawatts should come up as early as possible and change the destiny of the Northern India and if circumstances require CBI assistance may also be called for to bring the guilty to book as there seems to be great bungling in the project.

(v) REPORTED DISPUTE BETWEEN WORKERS AND MANAGEMENT OF PULP DIVISION OF GWALIOR RAYONS AND SILK MFG. & WEAVING CO., MAVOOR (KERALA)

SHRI K. A. RAJAN (Trichur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Pulp Division of the Gwalior Rayons and Silk Manufacturing and Weaving Company, Mavoor, an industrial undertaking engaged in the manufacture of rayon pulp, employing about 2,500 workers, besides about 25,000 workers employed indirectly on contract and through contractors through the State, is not functioning since 30-11-1977. The long-term agreement between the management and the workers had expired on 26-10-1975. There was also much discontentment among the workers in view of the steep fall in the emoluments of workmen over a period of two years due to the decrease in the cost of living index. Though negotiations were started for a fresh long term agreement and a series of conferences were held by the officers of the Labour Department, no agreement could be reached even

after two years of strenuous efforts, in view of the recalcitrant attitude of the management. In the circumstances, the workers went on strike from 30-11-77. Since then several conciliation conferences were held in the presence of the Labour Minister to bring about a settlement. As these negotiations failed, a number of conferences were held in the presence of the Labour Minister and Industries Minister. But these also failed due to the adamant and non-cooperative attitude of the management.

Now the position is very grave in that thousands of workers and their families are in utter distress due to the uncompromising attitude of the management. Further, as the concern is not functioning, the Central Government and the State Government are losing crores of rupees by way of excise duty and sales tax. All this forced the State Government to step in to make some temporary arrangements for the functioning of the factory. Accordingly, the State Government are taking immediate steps to take over the management of the concern temporarily and for this necessary ordinance is being promulgated. I request the Central Government to extend all support to the steps taken by the State Government in the matter.

(vi) PRODUCTION OF LEATHER AND RUBBER WEAR FOR EXPORT AS WELL AS FOR INTERNAL CONSUMPTION

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): The country's production of leather and rubber wear