

[Shri Ismail Hossain Khan]
maintain punctuality of the train. Otherwise, the railway authorities will have no moral right to charge superfast charges from the passengers.

I further request the hon. Minister to provide drinking water in this train like all other superfast trains in our country, which is most essential in these hot days.

It is also requested that the hon. Railway Minister may revise the existing time table of Tinsukia Mail to avoid all the anomalies.

I request the hon. Railway Minister to arrange for every precautionary measure to minimise the sufferings of the passengers travelling by Tinsukia Mail.

(vii) INCREASE IN PRICE OF STAPLE YARN ETC. NEEDED BY COTTAGE AND SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES IN TANDA, DISTRICT, FAIZABAD, U. P.

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI (Azamgarh): Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government and the House the problem faced by cottage and small scale industries in Tanda, District Faizabad, U.P. In Tanda more than 8,000 powerlooms and 5,000 handlooms are being run by cottage and small scale industries, which is equivalent to the production of 16 mills. The daily consumption of staple yarn is 400 bales, with the help of which 4 lakh metres of cloth are being manufactured everyday. The industry employs more than one lakh people. The staple yarn is supplied to the weaver through agents of 11 mill-owners who have got their depots located in Tanda. The price of staple yarn in 1975 was Rs. 75 per bundle of 5 kg. In February 1979, the price prevalent was Rs. 80/82 per 5 kg. Suddenly in the last one or one and a half months, the price has shot up to Rs. 102 per 5 k.g.

Therefore, it has resulted in increase of Rs. 26 per bundle or Rs. 500 per bale. With total consumption of 400 bales per day, Rs. 2 lakhs per

day is being drained off by mill-owners, due to sheer carelessness of the Government.

Earlier in 1972 when such a situation had arisen, the Central Government had issued an order No. 180/72-Tax (F), which stipulated that 50 per cent of the production would be supplied to the weaver at Rs. 52 per bundle, and the mills were allowed to dispose of the balance 50 per cent of the production in the open market.

With the present alarming increase in the price of staple yarn and chemicals, the situation has become very difficult. If appropriate action is not taken by the Government at an early stage, the handloom and powerloom sector will diminish soon, and more than 35 lakh weavers will be rendered unemployed. Consequently, it will become a serious problem for the State and the country in general.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to bring staple yarn and chemicals under the Essential Commodities Act, production and sale of yarn should be regulated, staple yarn price should be fixed by the Tariff Board and the Tariff Board should have a representative of the weavers and depots should be set up for sale of staple yarn and the Government should take steps for setting up a composite dyeing, printing and finishing plant at Tanda to enable the weavers to get their raw material at moderate rates.

श्री हुकम देव नारायण यादव
(मधुबनी) : मैंने भी 377 में लिख कर
दिया है। वह आता नहीं है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : देखेंगे।

(viii) NEED TO ALTER THE DURATION OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR IN INDIA.

SHRI HARI VISHNU KAMATH (Hoshangabad): Mr. Speaker, by your leave, I proceed, under rule 377, to make the following statement on a matter of urgent public national importance.