

(vii) Need to provide Financial Assistance to West Bengal for Construction of proposed integrated and state-of-the Art Complex at Bantala in South 24-Parganas.

SHRI SANT KUMAR MANDAL (Jaynagar): West Bengal, which is the biggest producer for raw skins and hides, now stands to lose its position among the States contributing to exports and future of some 500 tanneries generating business worth Rs. 1,200 crore and employing millions of people, hang in balance, as a result of the shifting of all the tanneries in East Calcutta to the proposed integrated and state-of-the-art complex at Bantala in South 24-Parganas. There is no doubt that the small scale of production and capital investment makes individual affluent treatment systems not feasible. The Supreme Court, however reacting to the hazard of pollution caused by the numerous small tanneries scattered over the Tangra, Topsis and Tijala belt, directed that either all the offending tanneries be moved to a new complex with a common effluent treatment plant at Bantala or they be closed down.

Funds pose a major problem and the relocation of the tanneries is estimated to cost Rs. 1,000 crore. The State Government of West Bengal is unable to put in Rs. 150 crore before matching aid comes from UNDP, World Bank and the Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund. Then, there is the problem of moving the farmers out of the Khas land in Bantala area and land had to be developed.

I urge the Central Government to take care of the infrastructure of the proposed complex and extend necessary financial assistance to the West Bengal Government going ahead with this project.

(viii) Need to formulate clear-cut policy in respect of opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (MANDSAUR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to impractical decisions taken by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, there is mismanagement in Kendriya Vidyalayas. Since regional balance has not been kept in mind in the opening of the Kendriya Vidyalayas many controversies are arising because the interests of the concerned people are not being protected by it. It is, therefore, imperative that the Government should have a clear cut policy and suitable guidelines, otherwise such decisions will adversely affect the educational environment. A new crisis has arisen in Madhya Pradesh where the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has taken a lop-sided view and decided to cancel its earlier decision in regard to opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas in the State.

The Central Government, I therefore, requested to formulate a clear cut policy in this regard and lay down suitable guidelines in respect of opening of Kendriya Vidyalayas in the country.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House stands adjourned for Lunch to meet again at 2.10 p.m.

13.90 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.15 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]