

interested in purchasing potato to the tune of 45 million tonnes or even more.

I urge upon the Union Government to take the following urgent measures to save the potato producing farmers of our country.

- (a) to make immediate arrangements for ensuring support price to potato producers through State Governments by providing necessary funds to them for the purpose.

- (b) to make immediate arrangements for export of the commodity.

- (xi) Need to re-open the S.K.J. Sugar Factory, Lauria (West Champaran Bihar) and clear dues of employees and cane growers

SHRI BHOLA RAUT (Bagaha): A sugar factory known as S.K.J. Sugar is located in Lauria, District West Champaran (Bihar) which is employing about 3,000 people. This sugar factory is lying closed for the last 6 months and the employees have been rendered unemployed. Their salary for 5 months is due to be paid to them. The cane growers who supplied their sugar cane to the factory have not been paid dues to the extent of about Rs. 3½ crores for the last 2½ years.

The plight of the employees is just pathetic for non-payment of their salaries for 5 months and same is the plight of the cane growers whose arrears are mounting over a period of 2½ years.

It is imperative now for the Government to take a serious view of the affairs of this factory and get the dues cleared by the owner to both employees and the sugar cane growers. Any delay in taking necessary action will adversely affect the people.

[Translation]

- (xii) Need to create a post of DIG of Police for Purnea (Bihar)

SMT. MADHURI SINGH (Purnea): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out to the Minister of State for Home Affairs, that as District Purnea touches the borders of many countries like Nepal, Bangladesh and others the anti-social elements of these countries continuously infiltrate into this area.

Nepal being adjacent to this area, it has become haven for smugglers. People from Bangladesh also infiltrate and take away cattle of the local people.

West Bengal and Sikkim, being contiguous people from those States have easy access to this district and commit crimes like dacoity, murder etc. They also bring and sell illegal arms and ammunition.

Keeping all these things in view, it is very necessary to create a post of DIG of Police for Purnea

I urge upon the Minister of State for Home Affairs to issue necessary orders in this regard at the earliest so as to provide some relief to the people of Purnea.

[English]

- (xiii) Irregularities in implementation of I.R.D.P./N.R.E.P. Programmes in West-Bengal

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI (Howrah): The serious irregularities in the implementation of IRDP/NREP programme in West Bengal have created problems for the poor. Rural Development Ministry must appoint an Enquiry Committee to find out the facts and take appropriate action in this matter. Political discrimination in distribution of aid to the poor should be removed.