

protected from various diseases especially, the root-wilt disease prevailing in Kerala. To raise new plantations, there is necessity of producing large scale seedlings of high yielding variety. Keeping this in view, the Government should encourage the scientists to do more research on 'tissue culture' and to produce seedlings of high yielding variety. Government of India should take up this issue seriously and set right the lapses if any, in the research work in this particular field.

[Translation]

(vi) **Need for action against the management of BEC Fertilizer Plant, Sirigahi, (Madhya Pradesh) for polluting the atmosphere.**

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA (Janjgir): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, BEC Fertilizer Plant at Sirigahi Industrial Estate in my constituency in district Bilaspur of Madhya Pradesh is creating heavy pollution. The people of Kormi village in its vicinity are very much fed up of it. The vegetables and other crops are getting damaged by the gas emission from the plant. It is also polluting the water of the adjoining drain near Kormi village which is causing death of the animals. 5-6 months back there was also a gas-leakage from the plant which had resulted in the fainting of some of its workers but the matter was hushed up. It may lead to some devastating incident like Bhopal Gas tragedy in future. The Public Health Engineering Department, Bilaspur is obliging

them by providing special facilities for the plant. From the water supply system of the village, water is not being supplied to the residents of the village but to the factory. It has reduced the water level in villages. The wells have also dried up and the people have been deprived of the supply of water for drinking and irrigation purposes. The land in these villages has gone barren.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Environment to conduct an immediate inspection of BEC Fertilizer Plant and take action against the management of BEC Fertilizer plant for causing environmental pollution.

[English]

(vii) **Need to accede to the demands of State Government Employees of Punjab.**

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): There has been a wide spread resentment prevailing among the employees of Punjab Government against the recommendation of 3rd Punjab Pay Commission. The doctors have resorted to hunger strike and Punjab Roadways employees are agitating against retrenchment. The Anganwari workers are agitating for regularisation of services and equal pay with other categories of employees; teachers are also on the agitation path. Gap between employees and the Government is getting widened. The State administration should be directed to accede to genuine demands of the employees.