

arrange to supply kerosene to Balasore District, Sambalpur and Rourkela Regions from Vizag.

I urge upon the Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas to look into the suggestion and do the needful at the earliest.

[Translation]

(ii) Need to open 'Navodaya Vidyalaya' and 'Kendriya Vidyalaya' in Ghosi, Azamgarh and Ballia, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh are lagging behind in the economic development. The population of these districts is very dense but in proportion to that the number of schools there is small. In deference to my efforts and the demand of the people it was decided to open a Navodaya Vidyalaya at Jeeyanpur in Azamgarh district in the wake of the implementation of the new education policy. But it is now being set up in Azamgarh city instead of at Jeeyanpur. This has given rise to discontentment among the people of Jeeyanpur. Therefore, it should be started at Jeeyanpur immediately. If the construction of a building is likely to be delayed, it should be started in some other building for the time being. I request the Minister of Education to sanction the opening of Navodaya Vidyalayas and Kendriya Vidyalayas in the newly created district of Maunath Bhanjan, Ghosi, Azamgarh and the Rasara town of Ballia.

(iii) Need to direct the mills to give preference to purchase of sugarcane from weaker sections

SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD (Mohanlalganj): Sixty per cent of sugarcane growers belong to weaker sections in Sitapur, Lakhimpur, Kheeri, Pilibhit, Hardoi, etc.

districts of Uttar Pradesh have to sell their sugarcane to the cane crushers at a rate of only Rs. 12 to 15 per quintal for want of passes from the sugarcane cooperative societies. While the big sugarcane growers and some terrorists are able to get more passes which are sold to the poor sugarcane growers. The Central Government is, therefore, requested that in regard to this very important matter, directions may be issued to the State Governments.

12.24 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

To do away with the present speculation system being adopted by the cooperative societies so that the poor and small sugarcane growers are able to get fair price of their sugarcane. I would like to suggest that rules be framed under which the mills are asked to purchase sugarcane from the 60% growers belonging to the weaker sections on priority basis.

[English]

(iv) Need to undertake Welfare Schemes for Craftsmen

DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai): Sir, our craftsmen are doing a great service to the nation. By not looking after them, we cannot protect and enrich our cultural heritage. I urge the Government to frame a national policy for protection of craftsmen. I request the Government that necessary welfare schemes should be undertaken for them.

[Translation]

(v) Need for Construction for a Stadium in Bah Tehsil of Agra (U.P.)

SHRI GANGA RAM (Firozabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, although our country lagged

[Sh. Ganga Ram]
 for behind in the last olympic games. Still it cannot be said that there is lack of talent in the field of sports. The situation is that our country abounds with good players and we are proud of them but it is essential to take effective steps to formulate a time-bound and planned programme to develop and encourage the right talent after making proper selection. For this, we should raise the standard of sports by opening training Centres and stadia on large scale for imparting suitable training to good players and by making good use of the talent available in the country. There is a provision for construction of stadia at the level of district headquarters. In order to achieve further expansion in this matter, a scheme should be formulated to construct stadia at tehsil level. In the beginning at least one tehsil should be selected in every district for the construction of a stadium. Best players not only of Asian level but also of world level are available in Baah tehsil of Agra district which have earned fame in the field of sports, won many awards and set up new records. There is a great scope of developing their talent. A stadium is already there in Agra city. Therefore, the Government may kindly take necessary steps for the construction of a stadium at Baah as early as possible by providing the requisite amount of funds to the Government of Uttar Pradesh as a special case.

[English]

(vi) Need to set up New Spinning and Textile Mills in Punjab

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOV:-
 ALIA (Sangrur): Sir, the consumption of cotton within Punjab is very low at 3.5 lakh bales, when compared to the production level at 18.5 lakh bales, leaving a surplus of 14 to 15 lakh bales every year. The imbalance in production and consumption of cotton within the State results in artificial glut in cotton, leading to fall in prices of raw cotton

to unremunerative levels, as witnessed during the current year. The price of raw cotton which ruled around Rs. 950 per quintal in January, has declined to Rs. 825 per quintal, in response to the recent statements by the Union Textile Minister indicating imports of cotton and simultaneously ruling out exports. A small number of spinning mills have recently been commissioned in the cooperative and joint sector, but there is still need for setting up of spinning and textile mills within the State of Punjab to bridge the gap in production and consumption of cotton. Export quotas for Punjab varieties should be released by the Government of India to ensure remunerative price to the growers and to encourage them to continue to produce more. In order to encourage cotton growers in Punjab, a limited export quota of 5,000 bales of Bengal Deshi (short staple) and 20,000 bales of F-414 (long staple) varieties may be released on the last year pattern to the Punjab State Marketing Federation, which will have a positive impact on the sowing intentions of the growers during 1988-89.

I, therefore, request the Government to set up new spinning and textile mills or transfer the closed mills from other States to Punjab. It will provide marketing facility for the farmers, employment opportunities for the youth and will pave the way to change the dumped investments of sick mills into running capital.

(vii) Demand for a TV Centre at Dhubri (Assam)

SHRI ABDUL HAMID (Dhubri): The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, has taken a laudable policy decision to establish T.V. centre in all important border towns and started implementation of their policy to the satisfaction of the people.

Dhubri, is a district town, situated on Indo-Bangladesh border without having any