

[*Shri Chintamani Jana*]

this plant is not taking any interest to re-vitalise the plant. According to the knowledgeable persons, the plant could have been made workable within a couple of months, if effective steps had been taken, much earlier.

I would, therefore, request the Government to take up expeditious action to revive this plant and start production of heavy water.

(v) Measures needed to check the spread of various diseases in tribal areas of Orissa.

SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA (Bolangir) : A sizeable population of Orissa comprise of tribals. Apart from the need to have a close watch and regular follow up action to raise their standard of living, it is also imperative that some special attention needs to be paid to give relief to them from the diseases they suffer. One such disease is the 'ring worm' disease or it is also called the poor man's disease. The patient becomes anemic, limbs get twisted, joints get swollen and gradually the patient dies a slow death. It is felt that oxygen content and the red corpuscles get reduced and the person dies. It is very painful. The incidence of this disease is as high as 11 per cent in Orissa although it is also prevalent in the neighbouring States of Bihar and Andhra Pradesh. No positive cure has yet been found. It is necessary that the Centre should come forward and take up the research work and send experts to give proper medical aid to them. In addition, leprosy is also on the increase. We have one centre but the number of patients has gone up so high that it cannot cope with the problem. Coupled with this the tribals are suffering from a long disease. It is not asthma. It does not come in bouts, the breathing capacity gets weakened and slowly the patient approaches death. It is said that diseases of some ethnic section of our population should go unnoticed but we really want to help them. It is, therefore, necessary that not only the Centre should take up such cases on themselves, but

should ensure that World Health Organisation help, that is now being used only for cities, should appropriately be used in the tribal areas in setting up hospitals and research centres for the cure of diseases which affect the tribals.

(vi) Need to render financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh for providing drinking water to East Godavari district and also to clear Polavaram Project

SHRI SRIHARI RAO (Rajahmundry) : In my constituency, Rajahmundry (A¹) there is a dry upland where no drinking water is available as there has been a continuous drought for the last 4 years. It is in Burugupudi and Kadium Assembly Constituencies and there are also other uplands in Assembly Constituencies of East Godavari District. The people of this area are greatly suffering for lack of drinking water for themselves and also for their cattle. I request the Central Government to provide adequate financial assistance to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh under the central scheme of ARWS for providing drinking water to the villages so that the State Government may take up the scheme and provide drinking water to the people of drought affected areas of these Assembly Constituencies. I also request that the polavaram project may be given early clearance so that water may be supplied to these drought affected areas on permanent basis. The Polavaram project will also supply water for the steel plant at Visakhapatnam and also to other towns enroute.

(vii) Need to re-examine the SC/ST reservation formula for Bengali families settled in Rajasthan

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar) : Thousands of Bengali families had been up-rooted from Bangla Desh (the then East Pakistan) at the time of the Partition of our country in 1947. These families belonged to all classes and castes of non-Muslim population including the

Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribes people and these have been settled in different parts of the country including Rajasthan after their arrival in India. Couple of thousands of these Bengali families have been settled in the Shahbad, Kishanganj, Tehsils of Kota District also but they have been broadly entered as Bangalees families in Government records without classifying their caste and class compositions

The Bengali families settled in Kota district mostly belong to the Namoshudra, Pandeia Kashtriya, Dhopa, Moochi, Para Manik castes and tribes who are treated as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Bangla Desh and in West Bengal but not in Rajasthan They have thus been deprived of the Privilege available to SC/ST people

In view of the discrimination against the S/C and S/T Tribe Bengali families settled down in Rajasthan and similar discrimination in favour or against other castes and tribes, the formula of caste/tribe reservation be rationally re-examined by Government of India to do justice to deserving communities in future and include Namoshudra and other Bengali families of Rajasthan in the list of S/C and S/T people

12.36 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1987-88 --
CONTD

Ministry of Agriculture --Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER · We will now take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Agriculture Since we have received requests from many hon. Members to participate in the Demands, I will also request all the hon. Members to be brief because the time is also very short.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad) · Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, in a country like india, the Agriculture Department is required to feed the people and to solve the problem of rural unemployment This department is totally a failure in this regard

You have said on pages 3 and 4 of your annual report that--

[English]

Under the revised Twenty Point Programme, Agriculture has been given due prominence.

[Translation]

But what prominence have you given to it ? You please go through the Economic Survey Report-

It was 6.1 in Agriculture. It was 5.9 per cent in the Seventh Plan and in the outlay of the annual plan of 1986-87. it was 5.6. This is the prominence you are giving. If you want to make the Agriculture Department a success, then its first condition will be--

[English]

Land to the tillers with proper financial assistance to procure or purchase agricultural implements ; fertilizers and seeds ; remunerative prices to the farmers and rural unemployment problem.

[Translation]

In the first point, I place before you report about Land reforms Up to December, 1986, 76,06,131 acres of land was declared surplus in whole India and 12,54,000 acres of land was declared surplus only in West Bengal - which is 1/6 of the total land. You have made the total possession as 5821723 acres and out of which 11,07,665 acres belong to West Ben-