

matter. There is a great resentment and I am afraid if no immediate remedial action is taken, the affected people might resort to agitation.

Further, the Delhi Development Authority is also serving notices on thousands of lower middle class people who were long back allotted small plots through the Cooperative Housing Societies, charging Rs. 70 per square metre for peripheral charges. In a very large number of cases, the plot holders have already paid the agreed amount of Rs. 16 per square metre when they constructed their places of shelter. It is not proper for Delhi Development Authority to issue notices to such persons. Moreover, the increase in the amount is more than four times. Such an action on the part of Delhi Development Authority, perhaps, has no parallel. There is a great resentment on this account.

I appeal to the Minister of Urban Development to ask Delhi Development Authority to reconsider these issues. The Delhi Development Authority should defer realization of this unjustified enhancement till it calls for the views of the affected parties.

(vi) Need to lodge a protest to USA and Pakistan with regard to the setting up of a communication base at Gwadar Port in Pakistan

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur): Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it has been reported that Pakistan Government has allowed U.S. to operate communication base in the strategic important Gwadar Port on the South-West of Pakistan's Makran ranges.

According to the defence news letter in Washington which has quoted that General George Crist, Commander in-Chief of the US Central Command (Centcom) forces in the Persian Gulf, visited Islamabad in June

to look for a forward base headquarters to move command and control from Tampa, Florida to the region. It has also been reported that the Pakistan Government had already granted the Centcom a communications base in Gwadar and a naval port on the Makran coastline in the southwest province of Baluchistan. According to London Observer Service, all Pakistanis will have to seek special permission to visit Makran and the entire coastline is banned to local journalists.

Sir, this is a matter of grave concern and strong protest should be lodged with US and Pakistan Governments for setting up a base in Gwadar Port.

(vii) Need to clear medium and major projects in Orissa to meet drought and floods in the State

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): The country is facing the worst drought and famine conditions of the Century, borne out by the fact that only 9 out of 35 Meteorological subdivisions in the country had received adequate rainfall till 15th July, 1987.

There has been further deterioration in the rainfall pattern, resulting in prolonged dry spells. This has affected kharif production, the main income generating crop to farmers and employment generation to unemployed farm labour, etc. This has broken the backbone of the rural economic structure, which account for 82% of our population, apart from affecting National income of which Agriculture contributes more than 62%.

The State of Orissa is very hard hit as it is beset with three calamities i.e. drought, floods and cyclone over a period of 25 years. This has compelled the State Government to divert scarce resources from development needs to granting doles and relief thereby eroding the economic base.

[Sh. K.P. Singh Deo]

The need of the hour, apart from immediate short-term measures is to take up permanent preventive measures to combat drought, flood and cyclone. This can be made possible by commissioning massive programmes, on a war footing within a stipulated time frame and programme with adequate financial support from the Central Government for improving the ecological, environmental health of the State and augmenting assured irrigational potentials of the State with immediate effect.

This will result in not only providing gainful employment to poor people, rural labour but would also husband the vast unutilised water resources for productive purposes, create permanent assets and be an insurance against drought and flood.

(viii) Need to stop import of launches and to purchase them from Indian manufacturers

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur): The Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBBC) is making efforts for the import of ten launches from Singapore at a cost of Rupees Five or Six Crores for anti-smuggling operations. M/s Alcock Ashdown, Bhavanagar in the State of Gujarat, a company owned by Government of India, has manufactured in the last one year about ten Launchers of the same type and delivered to the CBBC. These launches have been in use for quite sometime and their performance has been evaluated by a Committee.

In the year 1974 Government has imported twenty speed boats at a cost of ten or twelve crores of rupees out of which only six or seven alone are in working condition and the rest are not repairable for want of spare parts and the company from which these were imported has gone into liquidation.

Such a thing should not be repeated.

Efforts should be continued to build up indigenous capacity to construct boats and thereby save valuable foreign exchange. Hence it is desirable to stop import of the Boats from other countries and purchase them from Indian manufacturers only.

[*Translation*]

(ix) Need to fix the purchase price of opium keeping in view the prevalent price in the open market and to announce the same immediately

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur): Opium cultivation is done in Mandsaur-Javara region of Madhya Pradesh and it is a traditional crop. The Government has admitted time and again that the cost of its cultivation has been increased. The prices of opium have not been raised in proportion to the cost of production. It is necessary that the new price of opium be fixed keeping in view of the prevalent price in the open market in the interest of the farmers. The price policy being followed for the last several years may please be done away with. Under the present price policy called the "slab system" farmers producing more opium get less price and smuggling is encouraged. This negative policy should be radically changed. Besides this, the Government should announce the licencing and price policy for the year 1987-88 in September 1987 itself so that the farmers can make preparation for its cultivation. It is almost certain that due to failure of monsoon this year, the opium cultivators will be adversely affected. The Government should also assure that due to failure of monsoon the licences of opium producing farmers will not be cancelled in 1987-88 and all those farmers will be issued licences in 1988-89 who produced 32 kilograms of opium per hectare on an average and sup-