

[English]

- (v) Need to take appropriate measures to check rising prices and to streamline the distribution system

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : In the state of Orissa the prices of essential commodities have gone very high. The price of kerosene has gone beyond the fixed price and in some rural areas the availability of kerosene has been difficult. The prices of vegetables, fish and other articles of common use have also gone up. The fixed income group is in difficulty due to rising prices. The poorer strata of society is in distressing situation. The middlemen and unscrupulous traders are taking full advantage of the situation and are instrumental for rising prices.

The Government, therefore, are urged upon to tighten up the public distribution system and taken up appropriate measures in this regard.

- (vi) Need to provide immediate relief and financial assistance to the drought affected people in Karnataka

SHRI S. M. GURADDI (Bijapur) : The entire constituency of Chika Ballapur and Bijapur are reeling under severe drought. The most affected places are entire Bijapur, Bagepally, Madhugiri, Nelamangala, Chikkaballapura, Shidlaghatta, Gowribidanur and Koratagere. The drinking water is not at all available in the above mentioned places. The girls have to walk several miles to fetch drinking water. The fodder for cattle is so scarce that the cattle are dying. The Agricultural labourers are on the streets, as they do not have any job. About 70% of the borewells have become dry. The rest of the borewells are not working properly. All the wells have dried up. Under these most trying conditions, it is imperative for the Central Government to come forward immediately with a master plan to be implemented on war footing to save the people of my constituency from extermination.

Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to look into this serious problem of drinking water and take up immediate measures to provide the same.

- (vii) Need to take steps or solve the problems of teachers at I.I.T. Kharagpur

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : A serious situation has developed at Kharagpur I.I.T. due to total stoppage of work by all the teachers of the I.I.T. in protest against the order of the Chairman of the Board of Governors terminating services of an Assistant Professor in the Department of rubber technology without assigning any reason. The induction of labour-owner relation culture of the Tatas in I.I.T. which has led to the present situation will cause immense harm to the finalisation of the process of the J.E.E. for fresh enrolment of students. I request the Government to take immediate steps to settle the matter and order cancellation of the notice of termination of services of the Assistant Professor forthwith.

- (viii) Need to take over the textile mills of Modinagar

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : I would like to draw the immediate attention of the Minister of Commerce to the plight of the Textile workers of Modinagar. Three Mills 'B', 'C' and 'D' Silk remained closed for about a year and a half. Other two mills 'A' and 'D' were partially closed. Recently a sangharah samity has been formed which includes the unions and political parties. The sangharah samity has given a call for continuous strike in the partially run 'A' and 'D' mills from 13th May, 1985 with the demand for running all the Textile mills at Modinagar. There was a complete bunch in Modinagar and Ghaziabad in support of the workers' demand. The workers are restive. In the circumstances, I request the Government to intervene immediately and take over the mills in the interest of the starving workers as well as production.

- (ix) Need for the Central Government to take measures to purchase surplus paddy from peasants in Andhra Pradesh and to put moratorium on payment of debts

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the House the sad plight of the kisans all over Andhra Pradesh who have produced Paddy during 1984-85 caused by the accumulation of unsold paddy due to the