

increase of population, it is estimated that the demand for foodgrains may increase to 240 million tonnes by the turn of the century. But due to large scale erosion and conversion of agricultural lands into uncultivable lands, due to saline inundations, which are increasing year by year, the agricultural produces are bound to be reduced. To protect such destruction of agricultural lands and to bring more and more areas under cultivation, the following measures should be taken up in right earnest:—

- (a) A well thought plan of the specialists in the subjects, is to be deployed for checking further erosion and to reduce salinity from the lands.
- (b) A central tubewell Corporation may be constituted which may set up chains of Tube-wells, to exploit underground water.
- (c) Easy and timely availability of inputs like improved and high yielding seeds, fertilizers, pesticides etc. through cooperatives, which should be located within a radius of 2 km.
- (d) Remunerative prices, should be ensured for the farm produce.
- (e) Government should provide chains of small warehouses through co-operatives so that the farmers may store their products on a very nominal charge to get off-season high prices.
- (f) Institutional credit facilities for farmers need to be liberalised and the rate of interest should not exceed more than 5% and the penal as well as compound interest should not be charged on defaulters and their lands should in no case be auctioned.
- (g) Easy availability of loans for purchase of agricultural imple-

ments need to be ensured and that too, not more than 5 KM from their native places.

[*Translation*]

- (vi) **Need to allow export of garlic and issue licences for manufacture of garlic powder or capsules to ensure remunerative price to the farmers of Chittorgarh**

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh): Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government towards an important problem faced by the farmers of Chittorgarh. Garlic and onion are two important ingredients of the Indian recipes. The farmers who produced garlic by taking loans have been put to great loss as its prices have crashed in the market and it is being sold at throw away prices as its export has been stopped. Once the farmers got very good prices of garlic and onion and they made much profit. Taking incentive from this, they grew garlic by taking loans on a large scale in preference to other crops. In my constituency Chittorgarh, almost all big and small farmers have stored garlic in the hope that its price will go up. But it is most regrettable that the farmers purchased garlic seeds at the rate of Rs. 40 per kilogram, but today garlic is being sold even below Rs. 2 per kg. As a result of it, the farmers are being put to great loss. I demand from the hon. Minister of Commerce that the Central Government should allow the export of garlic, so that foreign exchange could be earned and the farmers can get the financial benefits.

Licences should be issued for manufacturing garlic powder and garlic capsules. They should be given subsidy liberally so that the farmers can get the utmost benefit of this Indian produce.

- (vii) **Need to set up an oil refinery in Damoh District (Madhya Pradesh)**

SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN (Damoh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Bundelkhand area, particularly Damoh and Panna districts, where about 45 per cent population consists