

(vi) Need to maintain 1981 ISI norms for finished leather

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichetti-palayam) : Leather export policy changes affect large number of small tanneries in India. It is alleged that these changes favour monopoly and large houses only. Government of Tamil Nadu have represented for immediate restoration of ISI norm for finished leather to 1981 revision.

The small tanneries are pressurised by the policy, to sell their products to major houses, at throw-away prices. The present policy requires investment upto Rs.20 lakhs in each unit, much beyond their project capacity.

Government of Tamil Nadu backs the overall policy of Government of India, but have suggested a time-bound programme say, upto five years. In the absence of a decision, tanneries are forced to resort to various measures to maintain exports.

It is suggested that the 1981 norm may be maintained, and Government of India may order a fourth revision.

[*Translation*]

(vii) Need to provide grants to the farmers for purchasing diesel, tractors and other equipments

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir three fourth of the people of the country even now depend on agriculture for their livelihood. Undoubtedly, after independence the agriculture sector has progressed much and it is only because of this that we are now self-sufficient in the matter of foodgrains. Even then the farmers are not getting fair price for their produce. The prices of the agricultural produce have not increased in that proportion in which the prices of agricultural implements and inputs like tractors, pumping sets, fertilisers, diesel, seeds, rates of irrigation and power, increase in the wages of the labourers have gone up. It is worth mentioning that when the Government farms where all the facilities are available are running in losses, in spite of the wheat there

being sold at the rate of Rs. 300 per quintal in the name of high yielding variety seeds, how then a poor farmer without having any facility and ignorant of sophisticated agricultural scientific techniques, tilling with his blood, can earn profit by selling wheat at the rate of Rs.155 per quintal?

I, therefore, demand from the Hon. Agriculture Minister that the way industrialists are provided with different concessions and grants by the Government to set up industries the Indian Farmers too should be provided with grants for diesel, tractors and other agricultural implements and inputs which is necessary to check the deteriorating economic condition and to raise the morale of the farmers.

(viii) Need to declare Bhubaneswar Airport as customs Airport and Bhubaneswar city as customs Warehousing Station

[*English*]

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar) : In Orissa, by now several large and medium scale industries have come up, and they are exporting various articles which these units are manufacturing.

As there is no facility of Customs clearance of imported goods at Bhubaneswar Airport, these industrial units have no option but to airlift requirements through other Customs airports like Calcutta; and as such, are experiencing a great deal of difficulties in quick clearance of their consignments, due to elaborate procedure to follow at Airport Cargo Complex, and at the Import departments at Custom House, since these are not under one roof.

This matter was discussed in the Orissa State Board on Export Promotion held at Bhubaneswar on 11.10.1985, and the Orissa Government has already requested the Chairman, Central Board of Excise and Customs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, for declaring Bhubaneswar Airport as Customs airport, and Bhubaneswar City and Customs Warehousing Station for overcoming the above-noted difficulties. However, It may be mentioned that Bhuba-