

[*Translation*]

- (II) **Need to take steps to improve the financial position of handloom weavers**

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government has been taking steps from time to time to improve the condition of crores of weavers in the whole country. Under the New Textile policy, a decision has been taken to provide various facilities to improve their financial position. Despite all this, the problems of the weavers are becoming more complicated instead of being solved. Lakhs of weavers in Basti and Gorakhpur districts of Uttar Pradesh are facing starvation. A feeling of discontentment has been developing in their minds against the administration. The main problems of the weavers include non-availability of yarn in time, at reasonable price and in required quantity. As a result of this they are unable to weave cloth. Payment of the cloth purchased is delayed by months, due to which they are unable to weave cloth again and earn their livelihood. In this manner their condition goes on deteriorating day by day which should be remedied at the earliest.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Textiles to arrange to provide yarn in required quantity to them at reasonable rates and stipulate a period within which payment for the sold goods should be made. If the payment is not made within the stipulated period, provision should be made to pay them interest at the bank rate for the days exceeding the stipulated period. At the same time officers and staff found guilty of delaying the payment should be awarded deterrent punishment so that payment is not withheld unnecessarily in future.

- (III) **Need to declare the birthday of Maharishi Valmiki as a national holiday**

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Maharishi Valmiki has been an apostle in the history of India. He not

only wrote the heroic deeds of a great man in his epic Ramayana but also his epic has been inspiring the people to follow the various norms and ethics propounded by that great men.

The life of Maharishi Valmiki is a source of inspiration to us. It instils confidence in the minds of lakhs of down-trodden people. In view of this his birth day should be declared a national holiday.

- (IV) **Need to modernise Sindri Fertiliser Factory and to set up a big industry in that area**

SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH (Dhanbad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Sindri fertiliser Factory is one of the oldest factories in the country and a large number of workers are working there. But today, it is on the verge of closure. It has upset the minds of the workers and their families. I request the Government to sanction adequate funds for the modernisation of this factory and start the work of modernisation immediately. Besides, keeping in view the importance of Sindri, some big industry should be set up in or around Sindri so that the persons who become unemployed there could be provided employment.

- (V) **Need to review the implementation of Urban Land Ceiling Act and to make suitable amendments in the Act**

[*English*]

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool): Sir, the implementation of the Urban Land Ceiling Act has created innumerable problems and hampered the growth of planned housing in cities where the Act has been made applicable. The granting exemption under the Urban Land Ceiling Act has not been uniform. In many cases serious allegations of corruption and nepotism are alleged in granting exemption under the Act. Moreover, the tribunals functioning under the Act have not been able to cope up with the cases and dispose them of expeditiously. There is

an urgent need to make an assessment of the results of the implementation of the Urban Land Ceiling Act and to undertake suitable amendments to the said Act, so that the purpose and object of the Act is not defeated.

[Translation]

- (vi) **Need to Issue directions to sugar mills in Bihar to start crushing cane immediately in the interest of workers and cane growers**

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY (Gopalganj): Sugar industry is a major industry in North Bihar but now-a-days it is facing financial crisis. The State Government has itself admitted that the sugar mills have reached this situation owing to managerial in-efficiency. The livelihood of about 7 lakh farmer families and 40,000 workers of this area depends on this industry. 15 mills in the public sector and 13 mills in the private sector in Bihar have already suffered losses to the tune of about 16.8 crores. The mills in the public sector have to pay an arrear of about Rs. 10.5 crores to the cane growers. In most of the mills wages of workers have not been paid since February 1988. It is feared that the farmers as well as the workers will be facing undue difficulties and the Sugar Corporation will be suffering losses worth several crores of rupees if any delay is caused in crushing cane this year also. It is also learnt that the Sugar mills functioning in the public sector in Hathua, Loria, Sugoli and Motipur are being modernised. Due to this it does not appear that crushing of cane in these mills would start before 15th of December. They are finding it difficult to mobilise Rs. 30 crores required for repairing the mills. It is learnt that 4 mills in the private sector may start crushing in the first week of November. If the crushing does not take place in the mill located at Hathua, it may cause loss to the tune of crores of rupees. The General Manager said that not a single paice is available with the Hathua unit for repairing and maintenance. Despite requests made to Government, no funds have been made available so far. It is a matter of

great regret. I, therefore, request the Central Government to intervene in the matter immediately, take effective steps and get the crushing of cane started.

- (vii) **Need to take measures to check population growth in the country**

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi): The United Nations Organisation has expressed its astonishment at the rising trend of population in India. Though large sums of money is being spent on family planning, its outcome is very negligible. It is because the figures showing number of persons undergone sterilisation and vasectomy operations are not genuine. The population growth would have been only 2 per cent on the basis of figures of sterilisation and vasectomy operations but the population is growing at the rate of 5 per cent. In densely populated States like Uttar Pradesh, fake sterilisation and tubectomy operation certificates are issued. Besides, people having more than 40-45 years age are being sterilised and made to undergo vasectomy operation. In a number of cases on person is being shown to have undergone sterilisation operation for a number of times. Now a stage has come when huge amounts are being spent on showing fictitious figures. Actual cases of sterilisation or vasectomy is negligible. The growth of population is stalling all development processes. The Government should take steps to punish people giving fictitious figures and showing sterilisation or vasectomy operations for the second time. It may also be ensured to keep the population growth at zero level and to implement schemes providing both punishment as well as incentives as the case may be.

12.24 hrs.

SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND PENSION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-