

considered to be the mother plant was inaugurated by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who described it as a giant leap forward and the first temple of modern India. Over the years, the technology adopted by the Sindri factory has become obsolete and the plant has become outdated. This has affected production. The Government had, some years ago, taken a decision to discontinue production of fertiliser based on pyrites as it had become uneconomical. The Government also appointed a high power Committee headed by Pant Pothan to study the health of Sindri plant and equipment and suggest appropriate measures for their effective and productive utilisation. The Committee also suggested several steps in this direction. The Government has given a go-by to all suggestions to modernisation of the plant and has decided to stop it and go in for retrenchment of thousands of staff.

I urge upon the Government not to resort to such extreme steps but to take steps to modernise the outdated plant as suggested by the various Committees. The plant can be made viable if proper investment is made.

(viii) **Need to fix realistic procurement price for the jute crops by the Jute Corporation of India**

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Despite reduction in jute acreage, the grower of raw jute in all jute growing states is facing a situation of distress sale. In the Purnea district of Bihar, as in other places, the JCI Centres were not operational until the end of September 1986, while raw jute begins to flow into the market by early July. Even when the JCI entered the field, it set up too few centres, not even one in each jute growing block. Even the few set up, were some times unwisely located and did not function throughout the week. In brief, the JCI has not been able to organise itself to be in a position to fulfil the Prime Minister's assurance that all raw jute offered by the jute growers shall be purchased at the statutory price.

The assurance can be fulfilled only if JCI opens at least one procurement centre in every block, either at the block headquarter

or in the traditional *hat* in the block; such centres should be operational by the first week of July; they should function throughout the week and work overtime, if necessary, in order to complete all transactions relating to the raw jute offered by the jute grower at the centre by midday on the same day. For this, the planning must begin now so that the staff required, the physical infrastructure, the transport and ware-housing arrangements and above all the money for purchase are in position at all centres in every block by the first of July.

The Government should set a target that the JCI must purchase at least 90 per cent of the jute crop after it has announced a realistic procurement price which should take into account not only the increasing value of land, the rising cost of agricultural inputs and the minimum wages for agricultural labour, but also a minimum level of profit for the sake of incentive as well as dignified living. This year, if the Government takes stock of the situation block by block it shall find that the JCI and its associates have not purchased even 50 per cent of the estimated jute crop. To that extent its assurance to the jute grower remained a dead letter. This must be avoided in future.

[Translation]

(ix) **Need to provide more railway facilities to the residents of Kanpur**

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kanpur is a big industrial city of north India. Thousands of passengers daily travel by rail from Kanpur to nearby small towns as well as big cities like Delhi, Bombay and Howrah. The various transport facilities available to the passengers at present are insufficient and all the offices at Central Railway Station do not have sufficient accommodation. The number of platforms is also inadequate. I would like to put forward the following suggestions in this regard :

1. If it is not possible in the near future to introduce a new train from Kanpur to New Delhi, then the present 11 UP and 12 Down trains should be terminated at Kanpur Central Station and trains

- should be run from Kanpur Central Station to Delhi and Howrah.
2. Instead of attaching a second class general coach to Ganga Yamuna Express at Kanpur, a three tier sleeper coach should be attached to it.
 3. A bi-weekly train should be run from Kanpur to Bombay and Howrah.
 4. Arrangements should be made to provide a stoppage of Tata Express at Pura Station of Northern Railway which is a thickly populated town and a Central town of two tehsils.
 5. By removing two metre gauge lines at Kanpur Central Railway Station, a new platform should be constructed there.
 6. The sub-way for going from one platform to another at the Central Railway Station should be extended and it should have exit outside the platform so that the passengers could easily go outside the platform.
 7. The old Railway Station building is not in proper use. The office of the Regional Station Superintendent and other offices at Central Station should be shifted to this building.
 8. Gobindpuri Station, where all important trains halt, should be developed immediately so that more facilities could be provided to the passengers.

- (x) Need to make arrangements for rehabilitation of persons whose crops and property have been damaged due to water logging in Indira Gandhi Canal area

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to seepage of water from Indira Gandhi Canal between the first head at Mastiwali to the Suratgarh head, the land remains continually waterlogged. There is waterlogging for the last two to three years continuously. The villages in this area have been affected by waterlogging.

Houses have collapsed due to it and agricultural land has become unsuitable for farming. So, the agricultural produce which is the means of livelihood of the people there has become extinct. Drains should be dug out to channel the water to some lower areas. I suggest that the Government of India should get this whole area surveyed to formulate a plan for installing maximum number of tubewells and this whole region should be declared as rice crop area.

If the Government does not pay immediate attention, then this extremely fertile land will turn into barren land. I request that the people whose houses have collapsed should be provided financial help in the shape of rehabilitation grant and compensation and the land which has become useless for agriculture should again be made cultivable by the use of modern equipments. The recovery of various loans etc. granted by the Government and the banks should be stayed for the time being.

- (xi) Need to make effective arrangements for timely transportation of agricultural produce from Punjab to other States

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Punjab is the leading State in making contribution to the national buffer stock. The farmer of Punjab is engaged improving the economic condition of the country through his hard work and innovative techniques in agriculture, but the Government institutions are trying to render his work ineffective and fruitless.

The stock of foodgrains in Punjab State was 53 lakh tonnes as on 1.10.1986, valued at Rs. 900 crores. The Food Corporation of India has made promises many a time that arrangements will be made to dispatch foodgrains from Punjab on a priority basis to the other States, but be are sorry to say that despite numerous reminders in this connection by the State Government to the Food Corporation of India, no concrete action has been taken so far.

Transportation of foodgrains through railways is very slow and inefficient. The present problem of storage of foodgrains does not seem to be resolved through these arrangements. I request that in Punjab also, the system of quick transportation of food-