

long gestation period unlike tea, coffee and rubber and has the additional advantage of two to three crops a year in the rainfed area. Long Ramie fibres are very strong and at the same time the product has the fineness of silk and firmness of plastic fibres through it is a vegetable fibre. It has lustre and tensibility and can take brilliant dyes without the risk of fading in strong sunlight.

Uses of Ramie fibre are manifold — from fine clothes and strong threads for fishing nets to parachute cords to belts, hose-pipes, cigarette paper and even paper for currency notes.

Unfortunately, such a potential national wealth has neither been appreciated nor taken care of by the Central and the State Governments. There is an experimental Research Station at Sorbhog in my constituency under the Jute Agricultural Research Institute, Barrackpore, West Bengal, for which adequate funds for real research and expansion are not being provided.

A special committee of experts should immediately go into the question of popularising this remunerative crop from which Governments can earn as well.

[Translation]

**(viii) Demand for a Navodaya Vidyalaya in Bhargain town in Etah district of Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, district Etah in Uttar Pradesh is one of the backward districts and one of the reason for its backwardness is the absence of good educational institutions in the district. Unemployment has been on a rise there, consequently, the youths are getting inclined to crimes and incidents of dacoity murder etc. are very frequent there. There are no industries there where the youths may get some job.

In my Parliamentary Constituency, there is a town Bhargain, situated in *tehsil*

Patiyali, having a population of 25 thousand. It is a town area and the largest number of the people belonging to minority communities in the districts live here. There is a railway line and railway station at a distance of about one kilometer from this town. There is also a hospital, overhead water tank and electric supply in the town. This town is also connected with District Headquarters through road. But it is a regretting that there is only one school which provides education up to 8th class. There is no school for higher study even at a distance of 5 kms from this town.

The Government is opening Navodaya Vidhyalayas in every district. 30 acres of land which is required for opening such a school has been reserved by the town area near the town and until the school building is complete, the children can study in the existing building. My submission to the Central Government and especially to the Minister of Education is that Navodaya Vidyalayas should be opened in this town keeping the 15 point programme and the number of the people of minority communities here in view. I hope that the Government will consider this matter.

[English]

**(ix) Demand for classifying Ramanathapuram town in Tamil Nadu as 'C' class city.**

SHRI P.KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichetti-palayam): In Ramanathapuram the Department of Post, the Department of Telecom, the Department of Customs and Central Excise, the Department of Railways, the Department of Field Publicity are located. At present, Ramanathapuram is an unclassified city for the purpose of grant of HRA/CCA. Ramanathapuram District was formed on 15.3.1985 with Ramanathapuram as headquarters. With the formation of district, all State Government district offices as well as private enterprises have shifted from Madurai to Ramanathapuram resulting in increased cost of living and scarcity of accommodation. The population in 1986 was