

- (ii) **Need to provide cotton yarn at reasonable rates to the weavers of district Barabanki (U.P.)**

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAVAT (Barabanki): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the number of weavers in the country is very large and all the weavers are dependent on the handloom industry alone. Government have started many good schemes for the uplift of the weavers. I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the pitiable condition of the weavers in District Barabanki of U.P., who are facing starvation at present. There are about 80,000 weavers in the district, but cotton yarn is not available to them even at higher prices. Their condition has worsened due to increase in the price of cotton yarn by Rs. 30/- per bundle. There is no separate bank to extent financial help to the weavers. Local spinning mills are also hesitating in providing cotton yarn to them in retail. I would, therefore, request the Government that cotton yarn should be made available to the weavers in District Barabanki at reasonable prices and a separate bank should be opened to provide loans to them so that the condition of these poor weavers could be improved.

- (iii) **Central Aid to Madhya Pradesh Government for providing drinking water in Tikamgrah, District Chattarpur, M.P.**

SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is acute shortage of drinking water in Teekamgarh, District Chattarpur in Madhya Pradesh. Due to scanty rains, the situation has worsened. Since full requirement of water is not available in villages and towns even at present, the situation is likely to grow even worse in the coming months.

Therefore, the Centre should extend more financial assistance to the State Government in order to provide more tube wells as also to deepen the wells so that the problem of water shortage could be solved at the earliest.

- (iv) **Streamlining the implementation of Self-Employment Guarantee Scheme**

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora):

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, The Self-Employment Guarantee Scheme was initiated by Government to provide help to the unemployed youths in achieving self-employment. This scheme has created a feeling among the employed youth that they would be self-employed with the help of the Government and can make their contribution in the task of nation-building.

Under this scheme, the beneficiaries are selected by a committee at the district level on the basis of the schemes submitted by them. After their selection, the candidates get bank loans of Rs. 25000/- from various banks. Thereafter the beneficiary starts his own business, but under this scheme, generally those candidates are being selected one of the members of whose family already has an industry or big business. The persons having the resources to appease the influential persons or the concerned authorities are getting the benefit at the cost of the needy candidates. Moreover, adequate loans are not being made available for the selected p-objects. It has come to notice that the candidates selected by the Bank Committee are deprived of loans on one pretext or the other. In my constituency, the target of providing loans to the youths has not been achieved despite the recommendations of the Selection Committee. I would, therefore, like to give the following suggestions :

- (1) Under this scheme at least one thousand youths should be provided with bank loans in each district. It should be a statutory obligation on the part of the Banks to the amount of loan recommended by the Committee to selected candidates.
- (2) The maximum limit of loan should be raised from Rs. 25,000/- to 50,000/-.
- (3) There should be no condition of guarantor for loans. A direction to this effect should be issued to the banks.

[English]

- (v) **Pollution of Ganga at Hardwar due to discharge by BHEL and IDPL etc. and need for effective remedial steps.**

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore):