

(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 scarty 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 deeper 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-ojects. 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):

Sir, more than two thousand kilometers long holy river Ganga has now become highly polluted by the wanton discharge of waste which plays havoc with health, agriculture and marine life. The big public sector industries like BHEL and IDPL at Hardwar along with almost all industries at Varanasi and more than 70% industries in and around Calcutta, Patna and other cities and towns located on the banks of river Ganga are discharging their untreated effluents into this river which damage the crops, poison the fish and spread epidemic to the millions of users. Besides, half burnt dead bodies and carcasses of animals are thrown into this river in thousands everyday. Lakhs of cows, buffaloes and other cattle take their bath in this river which is another factor for pollution of the holy Ganga water. The industries both small and big are using this holy river as a sewer line.

The entire nation is very grateful on the decision of the present Government under the stewardship of the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi for the taking timely action for making this river free from pollution.

I would, therefore, request the Ministry for Environment to take expeditious steps for providing required funds for the purpose to complete it by end of 7th Five Year Plan and save millions and millions of users from various diseases. Crops over millions of hectares will also be saved from ruin every year.

- (vi) Need for sanctioning the project by the Centre for construction of a road from Itchapuram to Thada (A.P.)

SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH (Nellore): Along the east coast there is only the grand trunk road passing through the Southern region. During the monsoons, a series of cyclones hit this road and make it very accident prone. Since this happens to be the only road in this entire region, it is very much congested. Many accidents take place round the year. Since the Buckingham Canal is sand casted because of the frequent cyclones, the entire transportation which was being carried on through the canal is now being diverted to this road making it still more congested.

To ease the pressure on this trunk road, a new link road from Itchapuram in Srikakulam district to Thada in Nellore district in Andhra Pradesh was suggested. Proposals were submitted during 1981-82 by Government of Andhra Pradesh to Government of India to take up the construction work of this important link road.

This issue was raised in Parliament several times. But so far no decision has been taken by the Government for constructing this vital link road.

Itchapuram Thada Road is important not only because it eases the unbearable congestion of traffic, both passengers and goods, it is important also because it serves the needs of our Defence for purposes of supervision by Coast Guard.

Therefore, I request the Ministry of Shipping and Transport for sanctioning and taking up of the construction work of Itchapuram-Thada Road in Andhra Pradesh.

- (vii) Threatened token strike by R.M.S. and M.M.S. Employees' Union on 6th June 1985

SHRI ANANDA PATHA (Darjeeling): Posts and Telegraphs Administration has decided to abolish the Rail Mail Service which had an age old reputation for efficiency in quickest and safest delivery of postal articles. As a first step, it has abolished the Sorting Sections and introduced bulk consignments of accountable articles causing insecurity in safe delivery of such articles besides creating surplus in staff strength blocking absorption of RTPs in permanent establishment and future recruitment. The Department is also doing away with checking work by abolishing SROs and thus reducing promotional prospects of the employees and also reducing the posts of checkers in disregard of the recommendation of the Third Pay Commission. The department is also contemplating to enforce a greater outturn of work setting aside the findings of Bewder Tarapada and Marathe Time Test.

In protest against this policy, the All India RMS and MMS Employees Union have decided to organise one day's token strike all over India on 6th June 1985.