

tor in Sawai Madhopur district of Rajasthan is under active consideration. Sawai Madhopur is a backward district of Rajasthan. The district has a large population and a considerable number of unemployed educated youth. In the absence of any large-scale industrial ventures, the population in that district is deep drowned in poverty and unemployment. Sawai Madhopur has an ideal location with abundance of land, water power and peaceful atmosphere. The people of that area are simple, hard-working and laborious.

Central investment in Rajasthan had remained static for a long time in the past and, therefore, the proposed fertiliser plant in Sawai Madhopur would go a long way in speeding up industrial development and generating employment, in the backward State of Rajasthan. A Central team has already visited several places in this connection and a decision is likely to be reached finally soon.

Rajasthan has vast industrial potential lying untapped and unexplored so far even in the matter of setting up oil, refineries, the claim of Rajasthan was ignored and preference was given to Mathura by the Centre. Sawai Madhopur offers all that is required for a large size fertiliser unit. Sawai Madhopur is situated on the broad-gauge on the Western Railway. I therefore, urge upon the Central Government to make an early announcement of its firm decision to set up the fertiliser unit in the Central Sector at Sawai Madhopur.

(vii) STEPS TO GIVE RELIEF TO FARMERS
EFFECTED BY DROUGHT.

श्री हरिकेश बहादुर (गोरखपुर) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, देश के विभिन्न भागों में भयंकर सूखे की स्थिति उत्पन्न हो गई है। अवनष्ट के कारण किसान खरीफ की फसल की बुआई करने में असमर्थ हैं।

मुख्य रूप से उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, उड़ीसा, मध्य प्रदेश, पश्चिम बंगाल, राजस्थान हरियाणा और पंजाब आदि राज्यों में वर्षा न होने के कारण कृषि कार्य एकदम ठप्प पड़ गये हैं। यदि यह स्थिति बनी रही तो देश के सामने भयंकर दुर्भिक्ष की स्थिति उत्पन्न हो सकती है।

अतः ऐसी किसी भी स्थिति का सामना करने के लिये सरकार को पहले से पूरी तरह तैयार रहना चाहिये तथा वर्तमान समय में किसानों को राहत देने के लिये सभी प्रकार की सरकारी वसूली बन्द कर दी जानी चाहिये और बेरोजगार कृषि मजदूरों को जीविका प्रदान करने के लिये ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रमों को तेजी से आरम्भ किया जाना चाहिये। इस कार्य में किस भी प्रकार का विलम्ब खतरनाक सिद्ध हो सकता है।

(viii) NEED TO PROVIDE SPECIAL REBATE ON
HANDLOOM CLOTH IN TAMIL NADU
DURING DEPAVALI AND PONGAL DAYS.

SHRI M. KANDASWAMY: (Tiruchengode) Every year during Deepavali and Pongal days i.e. for about 20 days, there used to be 20 percent rebate on Handloom cloths manufactured in Tamil Nadu. This 20 per cent rebate will be met by Central and State Governments by sharing 50 per cent each. During Handloom Exhibition i.e., in April—May also, there will be 10 per cent to 20 per cent rebate on handloom cloths. With the result the handloom cloth manufactured had a good clearance throughout the year. In spite of that, it is understood, the Handloom cloth worth Rs. 70 crores—in primary societies Rs. 20 crores, and Co-optex Rs. 50 crores—have got accumulated in Tamil Nadu. Due to this, the poorer sections of the weaving community have been very much adver-

[Shri M. Kandaswamy]

sely affected. Under the circumstances, if the Government consider giving a special rebate of 10 per cent to 20 per cent for a period of one month at least as was done in 1978, there is every possibility of clearing the accumulated handloom cloth in Tamil Nadu. Otherwise, it is feared that if the accumulation of handloom cloth still increased, the entire trade will come to a standstill and ultimately collapse and ruin the industry.

I, therefore, request the Government and the Minister of Industries and Commerce to take immediate steps to provide a 'Special Rebate' on handloom cloth and save the poor handloom cloths and save the poor handloom weavers engaged in the trade.

14.42 hrs.

FOOD CORPORATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Food Corporations Act, 1964, be taken into consideration."

We are seeking to amend Section 12A of the Food Corporations Act which provides for a second opportunity to be given to employees who were transferred from the Food Department of the Government of India to FCI. This Section was inserted in 1968 in the Act because it was provided under the Constitution that this second opportunity for Government employees had to be given. Now we seek to bring the provisions and the terms of conditions of these employees who are transferred from Flood Department to FCI on a par with other employees of the Food Corporation of India. Infact, after the constitution 42nd Amendment Act of 1976, it is no longer necessary to provide this second opportunity

during the disciplinary proceedings to any Government employee.

We also want to amend Section 44 of the Act. This relates to laying of rules before the Parliament.

Section 45 of the Act also is sought to be amended. This is with regard to giving retrospective effect to regulations framed by the FCI with the safeguard that these regulations applying with retrospective effect will not in any way be detrimental and prejudicial to the interests of the persons.

There is a new Section also to be added which is also a very minor amendment of Section 45.

I hope Hon. Members will give their support to this Bill and pass it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved.

"That the Bill further to amend the Food Corporations Act, 1964, be taken into consideration."

Time allotted to this Bill is one hour. Shri Satyasadhan Chakraborty will initiate the discussion.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY (Calcutta South): This Bill, as the Hon. Minister has said, has something to do with the emergency days because during the Emergency, our Constitution was amended not to support the people but to suppress the people.

And all the provisions during the period of Emergency....

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Is he speaking on the Constitution or on the Food Corporation of India Act?

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY: On both because you have mentioned that the Forty-Second Amendment took place in 1976....

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar): On a point of order. Was he in the Assembly or Parliament at that time?