

मुद्रा का अर्जन इस उद्योग से होता है। जर्मनी कालोन का मुख्य बाजार है। जर्मन मुद्रा के अवमूल्यन के कारण कालोन के छोटे निर्यातकर्ताओं तथा कालोन निर्माताओं के कालोन की बिक्री रुक गई है। कामत नहीं मिल रही है। कालोन उद्योग संकट में है। इस संकट से उबारने के लिए सरकार छोटे निर्यातकर्ताओं तथा कालोन निर्माताओं का माल खरीदने की व्यवस्था करे और बूनकरों का साधे-साधन की व्यवस्था करके उनसे कालोन का निर्माण कराकर उन का माल स्वयं खरीदने के केन्द्र स्थापित करे।

(iv) Need to increase the range of Radio Statement Ratnagiri.

**SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR** (Ratnagiri): The Radio Station installed at Ratnagiri has been broadcasting for the past few years. At the time of the installation of this Radio Station it was meant for the entire Konkan region comprising of Ratnagiri, Thane and Sindhudurg. The present range of the Station is so limited that the programmes do not cover areas beyond 30 Kms. The purpose for which this Station was installed has been defeated. Repeated demands have been made by the Radio Licence holders from Thane, Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri to increase the range.

I, therefore, request the Minister to look into this inadequacy of the Radio Station at Ratnagiri and increase the range to enable the Radio Listeners to take advantage and thus fulfil the demand of the Konkan region.

(v) Central Assistance of West Bengal Government for Compensating cultivators for loss of their crops due to pest and drought.

**SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA** (Tanjore): A large number of aman cultivators of Midnapore, Purulia, Bankura, Howrah, Bidhhum, 24 Parganas, Hoogly and other districts in the State

of West Bengal are facing tremendous hardship due to the loss of crops caused by current spell of drought and attacks of 'tungro virus'. The wide-spread viral pest attack and drought conditions have destroyed aman crop in more than 700,000 hectares in West Bengal.

More than 4.2 million hectares had been brought under aman cultivation this year, in West Bengal, of which crop on 200,000 hectares had been destroyed by virus attack and 500,000 hectares by drought. The damage caused by drought might be more than what had been initially estimated by the Agricultural Department of the Government of West Bengal.

The State Government of West Bengal has decided to provide input loans of Rs. 5.5 crores to the cultivators affected during the aman season. A special cell under the State Government had been set up to launch a campaign in rural areas to educate farmers on how to fight the 'tungro virus' attack during the next Kharif season. The State Government had also decided to reduce water cess for minor irrigation by 50 per cent during the rabi season.

But this is not enough, efforts on the part of the State Government are not sufficient. Efforts on an emergency footing are necessary to compensate the peasants for their loss of production.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to come forward with an open mind and political will to give all possible help to the State Government to save the situation. I demand immediate release of sufficient food-grains and money to introduce massive programmes of 'Food for Work' and 'National Rural Employment Programme'.

(vi) Need for Central intervention to enable workers to take over management of Binny Government Factory, Bangalore.

**SHRI, GEORGE FERNANDES** (Muzaffarpur): There one hundred years old Binny Ltd. had set up an export oriented Binny Garment factory in

Bangalore about fifteen years ago, but closed it in July 1975 and then re-opened it after three months by imposing a 35 per cent wage cut and higher work norms on the workers. Since reopening, its Marketing was done first by M/s. Shaw Wallace, and then by M/s. Madura Coats.

While the Binny management could not renew the contract with M/s. Madura Coats because of differences on the formula for costing it decided to close down the unit employing about 400 workers, mostly women, belonging to the economically weaker sections. The ostensible reasons advanced were 'high wages' and low productivity. But actually the consolidated monthly wages ranged from Rs. 115 for a beginner (rising upto Rs. 190 in the fourth year) to Rs. 294 for a skilled employee with twelve years of service, and all this after an upward wage revising in 1979. The Management has covered up its deficiencies and failures in regard to production efficiency, etc.

The Binny Garment Workers' Union while demanding the reopening of the factory, offered to form a labour co-operative for carrying out production work only. When management failed to respond, the workers decided to form Women's Multi-purpose Co-operative Society and asked the factory to be leased out to them for a couple of years. The management preferred to keep the factory idle but refused to lease it out to the retrenched workers.

Thereafter the workers asked for the entire factory, viz., machinery, buildings and land, to be sold to the Co-operative Society. When the management negative even this, despite the fact that it was seeking permission of the State Government to dispose of many properties, the workers asked that a plot of vacant, unused land adjoining the Garment Factory be sold to the Society to enable it to erect a new shed and relocate the factory. The management is not prepared even for this move.

The workers have deposited all the money they got by way of retrenchment compensation and gratuity etc. in the bank as initial share capital in spite of their poverty and non-earning of wages since June 4, 1981 when the factory was closed down.

The union representatives have met the Central Minister of Commerce, State Chief Minister and Labour Minister the State Labour Department officials, as also the Chairman of the IDBI which is financing Binny Ltd., and the Government-nominated Chairman of Binny Ltd. The women employees have staged a dharna before the Vidhan Soudha, the Chief Minister's residence, and before the company's head office, besides undertaking a 10-km long walk to demand that they be given a chance to rehabilitate themselves through the constructive move of setting up a co-operative venture to reopen, relocate and run a closed manufacturing unit.

I would urge the Government to intervene in this matter at once, and enable the workers to take over the closed unit and earn their livelihood.

(vii) SUPPLY OF WHEAT AND RICE TO WEST BENGAL

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): For the last few weeks in the Statutory Rationing (S.R.) areas of West Bengal, including the city of Calcutta, the full quota of three kilos of rice and wheat are not being available from ration shops. Either wheat or rice is in short supply in most of the shops in S.R. areas. In the villages the supply in modified ration (M.R.) shops in some districts has totally stopped. In some other districts, it is extremely sporadic.

The Food Corporation of India is totally failing to supply even the foodgrains that they have in their godowns. Moreover, the Central Government allocation of foodgrains to West Bengal which is theoretically 2 lacs 8500 tonnes per month, never really reach,