

leader Mr. Shanker Guha Niyogi. Now, the management of Bhilai Steel Plant is not allowing them to resume the work. Many of these workers have started eating leaves and grass. It is regretted that the bureaucratic functioning of the management is creating conditions of starvation before the workers. Police is involved in terrorising the workers. The agreement reached between the labourers and the BSP management is not being honoured. Therefore, the Government of India should intervene in the matter immediately and solve the present crisis so that labourers may not face the situation of starvation.

(ix) NEED FOR PROPER UTILISATION OF WAST LAND NEAR THE MOGA RAILWAY STATION.

SHRIMATI GURBRINDER KAUR BRAR (Faridkot): I wish to bring to the notice of the House the case of the railway station of Moga in Faridkot district, Punjab. This is a large piece of land which has been lying unused for years as a result of which it has turned into an uncared for jungle with bushes and shrubs all over. This not only presents an ugly look to the Railway Station and the nearby areas of the Town, but also, provides a kind of shelter to decoits and anti-social elements for their unlawful activities. It also serves as a hide-out for robbers and facilitates their operations in the hours of darkness.

Sir, the Municipal Committee of Moga is willing to develop this area into parks and establish Community Welfare Centres etc. provided they are given possession of the land. Several representations and proposals have been made to the Government in the past for a purposeful development of this land but the Government has not responded favourably so far.

I urge upon the Government to give serious thought to this problem. The Ministry of Railways should either

develop the waste-land and put it to proper use, or lease it to the Municipal Committee for proper development. In this way, the environment around Moga will also present a pleasant appearance.

(x) ADVERSE EFFECT OF RECENT IMPORT POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT ON FARMERS IN KERALA PRODUCING CERTAIN COMMERCIAL CROPS.

*SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): I wish to draw the attention of the House to a matter which will effect adversely the economy of Kerala. The recent import policy Statement made by the hon. Minister for Commerce has created a situation which will result in steep decline in the prices of the commercial crops like cocoa and rubber and the spices like cinnamon, cloves, etc. I do not really understand on what basis the decision to import cocoa, for example, has been taken. The Central Government itself had admitted that Kerala is producing more than enough of cocoa. Not only that, the Government of Kerala, the representatives of the cocoa growers and the Members of Parliament had urged upon the Government that cocoa should not be imported. Similarly, it was also brought to the attention of the Central Government that the import of copra, rubber, and cocount oil should not be resorted to as it would inflict a heavy blow on Kerala's economy. But, all the requests and pleadings have turned out to be a cry in the wilderness. Now, the Kerala State Cooperative Marketing Federation has stopped procuring cocoa. The reason is said to be that the Federation has incurred a loss of Rs. 75 lakhs. When the Federation has withdrawn from the field there is virtually none to purchase the cocoa in Kerala. If the Cadbury's which was purchasing it previously do not enter the field again,

*The original speech was made in Malayalam.

the cocoa growers will find themselves in a very pitiable plight.

Therefore, I earnestly request the Government to reconsider the import policy in regard to cocoa, rubber, coconut oil, copra, etc. and save the farmers of Kerala from difficulties.

13.19 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1981-82—Contd.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTRY OF RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we go to the next item.

We will take up items Nos. 12 and 13. Discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Agriculture; and Discussion and voting on the Demand for Grant under the control of the Ministry of Rural Reconstruction.

The House will not take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 1 to 9 relating to the Ministry of Agriculture and Demand No. 75 relating to the Ministry of Rural Reconstruction for which 10 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants have been circulated, may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly. In

case any Member finds any discrepancy in the list, he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

Motions moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1982, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against demand Nos. 1 to 9 relating to the Ministry of Agriculture."

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1982, in respect of head of demand entered in the second column thereof against Demand No. 75 relating to the Ministry of Rural Reconstruction."

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.