

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): On a point of order. Under rule 53, yesterday I have given notice of an adjournment motion.

MR. SPEAKER: It does not arise. A point of order is on a subject which is under discussion. Now, there is no subject.

PETITION RE. WORKING OF LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

SHRI R. K. MHALGI (Thana): I beg to present a petition signed by Shri Sudhir Anant Barwe and others regarding working of Life Insurance Corporation of India.

12.52 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) NEED FOR A COMMON POLICY FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF BOUNDARY DISPUTES AMONG VARIOUS STATES

MR. SPEAKER: Matters under rule 377.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mor-mugao): Several inter-State boundary disputes have remained unsettled for the last several years. The Assam-Nagaland dispute, the Maharashtra-Karnataka dispute and the Punjab-Haryana dispute offer some examples of these border tiffs where no solution has been reached. These issues have caused much trouble and agitation from time to time. It is unfortunate that the Government of India have generally chosen not to interfere and as a result no peaceful and lasting solution has been found for these disputes. I therefore request the Government to evolve immediately a common policy for the settlement of these boundary disputes so that they may be decided once and for all. I also request Government to make a statement in this regard?

(ii) REPORTED STEEP FALL IN PRICES OF COTTON AND DIFFICULTIES OF COTTON GROWERS OF PUNJAB, HARYANA AND RAJASTHAN.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Faridkot): With your permission, Sir, I make the following statement under rule 377 on a matter of urgent public importance.

The cotton growers of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan have been economically ruined due to steep fall in the prices of cotton which are less by Rs. 1500 to Rs. 200 per quintal compared to the previous years. A further fall of Rs. 50 is expected this week as the markets of these States are being glutted with cotton. The farmers of these northern States are distrusted and disappointed. The Cotton Corporation of India's attitude towards the kisans is criminally indifferent. The CCI is planning more in favour of textile owners at the cost of poor primary producers of cotton. The price of kapas (cotton) is Rs. 300 only whereas the price of rui (cotton for fibre) is Rs. 1500. The poor farmers' domestic budget, such as, to purchase rabi seeds, diesel, necessities of life, clothes and other requirements have been totally disturbed.

The Government of India should come to the rescue of these farmers. The CCI who is importing cotton bales at the rate of Rs. 3500 from Russia and Rs. 4000 from Egypt compared to Rs. 1700 per bale in India should stop import of cotton. A special subsidy fund be granted to help the cotton growers immediately. The A.P.C. should reconsider its recommendations about cotton price. The price of cotton must be linked with the price index of fabric and cloth prices. The CCI should be attached with the Ministry of Agriculture. Two cloth mills should be established at Bhatinda and Malout in Punjab.

I would request the Government to make a statement on that.
