

and regularly. Therefore, the states are not able to implement the works in favourable seasons.

The FCI is not supplying the foodgrains in the nearest places. At times, they want the B.D.Os to go out of the District to take foodgrains by which they have to incur much expenditure above that which is allowed for transport.

The FCI is not supplying good foodgrains at times. These foodgrains are being refused by the workers and the sponsors or contractors are put to a great loss.

The FCI is supplying foodgrains not to weight. There is much pilferages and the FCI authorities, though they take money from Department of Agriculture correctly, they are not delivering foodgrains to the correct weight. These defects in supply of foodgrains by FCI are causing many difficulties in implementing food for work schemes.

I, therefore, request the Government to rectify these defects and help the States in the implementation of the above schemes.

(v) REPORTED DECISION OF BOMBAY DOORDARSHAN TO DISCONTINUE CERTAIN POPULAR PROGRAMMES.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh): The sudden decision of Bombay Doordarshan to drop the popular series "Looking back, looking forward" run by the World famous sportsman and celebrity has caused great resentment to the T.V. audience. Recently, it has been observed that Bombay Doordarshan has been recruiting and discarding popular artists without any valid reason. Even if the Doordarshan authorities wish to close a popular series, there should be some decency and decorum about it, particularly, when reputed persons run that series. A sudden unceremonious closure of any T.V. item is bound to cause remorse and bitterness in the minds of many T.V. fans. This was amply

proved when the Bombay Doordarshan closed a popular series like "Phool Khile Gulshan". The Government should set some norms and pattern for such decisions pertaining to closure of a popular series.

Any clash of personalities should not be allowed to be reflected on the T.V. viewers. The Government owes some valid explanation to the public why they have discontinued a serious run by celebrities and there should be some decent method to honour the artist before discontinuance of his series. The random behaviour of Bombay Doordarshan needs some curbs from the Government to prevent occurrence of such incidents in future.

(vi) REPORTED PROBLEMS OF INDIAN DOCTORS IN ALGERIA AND IRAN.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Eluru): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government and the House the problems faced by our Indian Doctors in Algeria and Iran.

I have received a number of letters from these Doctors who have complained about their inability to repatriate even the agreed amount of 75 per cent of their salary to their dependents in India. In the same context, their parents have also written to me about the inconvenience caused by the unhelpful attitude of the Governments of these countries. I received complaints that even the officials of the Indian Embassies in these countries do not, however, extend their cooperation when approached by these helpless doctors. The Embassy authorities are said to be giving excuses of inadequate staff for not attending to the Indian Nationals.

Apart from these, the doctors had to cross many other obstacles. They had to go through some middlemen for their employment in the above