

[Sshri P. Rajagopal Naidu]

other farmers also will be very much disappointed. The loan applications sent to the District Co-operative Central Bank and Agricultural Development Banks will become infructuous and it would be very difficult to prepare the loan applications again.

I have represented this to the State Minister of Agriculture also.

I request the Government once again to see that the licence extended soon.

(IV) PROPOSED STRIKE BY COAL WORKERS FROM 18TH MAY, 1979.

SHRI ROBIN SEN (Asansol): Representatives of the various central trade unions jointly formulated a charter of demands for the coal workers and submitted the demands to the Energy Ministry/Coal authority about a year back.

These charter of demands were submitted after the expiry of the last three years' agreement. The Joint Charter of demands submitted to the management on behalf of the participating workers' group include need-based minimum wage on the basis of recommendations made by the 15th Labour Conference, 100 per cent neutralisation in the cost of living, safety allowance and better fringe benefits and also scrapping of Baveja Committee's recommendations etc. This is most unfortunate that the representatives of the management in the coal industry had been adopting a negative and dilatory tactics towards the most pressing demands of the workers in wage bi-partite negotiation committee. Even the concept of need-based minimum wage is unacceptable to them. Negotiations have become more difficult because of the interference by the Bureau of Public Enterprises. In view of this, representatives of all the central trade Unions gave a call for one days token strike and 6 lakhs workers of

coal industry observed one day token strike on 5th February 1979. Even after this, situation has not improved and a deadlock has been created due to anti-working class attitude of the management and the Government.

Under the circumstances, all the central trade unions decided that the demands of the coal workers should be settled immediately failing which, 6 lakhs workers of coal industry will be left with no other alternative but to go on an indefinite strike with effect from 18th May, 1979. If the bi-partite wage negotiation on coal which is scheduled to be resumed on the 14th and 15th May at Delhi fails and workers are forced to go on an indefinite strike with effect from 18th May, an overall serious crisis will grip all over the country.

I urge upon the Government to avert this confrontation by changing arbitrary and anti-working class attitude of the government and management of Coal India and meet the just demands of the coal workers without any further delay.

(V) NEED FOR FIXING THE PRICE OF CORRIANDER IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF CORRIANDER GROWERS OF RAYALASEEMA, TELANGANA, KARNATAKA AND RAJASTHAN.

SHRI DARUR PULLAIAH (Anantapur): Corriander crop is grown extensively in the backward regions of Rayalaseema, Telangana, Karnataka and Rajasthan in our country. This crop being of short duration requiring less rainfall is most suitable in the arid regions of the country. Since corriander being the only commercial crop that could be grown in these regions, the whole economy of the farmers, particularly, the small and marginal, depends upon the price of corriander, it is most distressing, Sir, the price of this commodity is so fluctuating that the farmers are in great dolldrums.