

[Shri C.P. Narayanan]

amendments that have been made by the Central Government should be withdrawn or amended in order to allow these Cooperative banks to function. Now, these co-operative banks are helping millions of ordinary people in Kerala and thousands of employees are there. Their future is at risk. So, I request the Central Government to amend those conditions which are against the co-operative banks. Thank you.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri C.P. Narayanan.

DR. T.N. SEEMA (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri C.P. Narayanan.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri C.P. Narayanan.

SHRI JOY ABRAHAM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri C.P. Narayanan.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri C.P. Narayanan.

Precarious financial condition of sugar industry in the country

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL (Maharashtra): Sir, the Indian sugar industry is passing through one of its worst financial conditions ever. The sugar mills have lost money continuously in the last few years. The result has been that the sugarcane farmers could not be paid their cane prices on time leading to over ₹13,000 crore of cane arrears last year in March, 2014, which has already crossed ₹ 12,500 crore in this current season. The main reason has been the surplus sugar production and highly depressed sugar prices, which are at their lowest in the last three years.

Sir, central to the present crisis of the sugar industry is the cane pricing policy of both, the Union and the State Governments. Theoretically, after discussions with the farmer bodies, industry associations, consumer forums and State Governments, the Committee on Agricultural Cost and Prices submits its recommendation for a fair and remunerative price (FRP) for sugarcane after taking into consideration the cost of production of sugarcane; the return to the grower from alternative crops and general trend of prices of agricultural commodities; the availability of sugar to the consumer at a fair price; the price at which sugar produced from sugarcane is sold by producers of sugar; the

recovery of sugar from sugarcane; the realization made from sale of by-products namely molasses, press mud and bagasse or their imputed value; and, reasonable margins for the growers of sugarcane on account of risk and profits.

Sir, we need to have a permanent national policy for the sugar factories and sugarcane growers. Through you, Sir, I would submit that the FRP (fair remunerative price) is always a problem for all the sugar industries in the country, and especially in Maharashtra. So, we need to have a national policy for that. The Government does not have a consistent international market policy for sugar.

Therefore, there is an urgent need to address some of the problems that the industry and the cane farmers are facing today and to take immediate corrective policy decisions, which can revive the situation both in the short and in the long term.

श्री पी.एल. पुनिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं इस विषय के साथ एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश): सर, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

श्री के.सी. त्यागी (बिहार): सर, मैं भी इस विषय के साथ एसोसिएट करता हूँ।

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shrimati Rajani Patil.

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shrimati Rajani Patil.

SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shrimati Rajani Patil.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shrimati Rajani Patil.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shrimati Rajani Patil.

DR. CHANDRAPAL SINGH YADAV (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shrimati Rajani Patil.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Names of all those who associate may be added. Now, Shri Rajkumar Dhoot - not present. Shri Dilip Kumar Tirkey.