

and processing units, the Corporation can streamline the conversion of crop residues into nutrient-rich fodder, reducing the reliance on environmentally harmful practices like stubble burning.

Moreover, the Fodder Corporation can act as a catalyst for rural development by creating employment opportunities and promoting the use of eco-friendly technologies. By integrating modern farming techniques and providing training to farmers, the Corporation can enhance agricultural productivity while mitigating the environmental impact of traditional practices. In essence, the establishment of a Fodder corporation of India is not just a necessity but a strategic imperative for fostering sustainable agriculture, preserving the environment, and safeguarding the well-being of future generations. It represents a forward-thinking approach to balance agricultural needs with environmental conservation, ensuring a harmonious coexistence between farming practices and ecological integrity.

I urge the Government to establish Fodder Corporation of India.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

### **Demand for Mega Food Storage Plan**

SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the World's Largest Grain Storage Plan in cooperative sector seeks to address crucial objectives of

strengthening market infrastructure and ensuring better prices for farmers. However, the scheme has faced conflicts with Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) and inefficiencies in agriculture cooperatives. India's track record in maintaining infrastructure compounds the issue, and the storage capacity for perishable produce remains insufficient. Managing food quality has been problematic as the PDS have been known to distribute poor quality grains due to outdated storage infrastructure. There has been a lack of proactive measures and investment in addressing post-harvest losses, causing farmers to bear the brunt of these issues.

Post-harvest losses in India are due to insufficient infrastructure, including suboptimal storage capacity. Inadequate handling and packaging, along with deficient transportation infrastructure lead to physical injury and contamination. Price fluctuations increase losses for farmers, while insufficient pest and disease management practices further spoil crops. Financial constraints, coupled with limited access to credit, hinder investment in improved facilities and technologies. I would request the hon. Minister of Food and Public Distribution to modernize the existing storage, include a separate capacity for horticultural crops and introduce more schemes focusing on processing perishable items. Thank you.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Niranjan Bishi, 'Demand for a broad based and inclusive National Tourism Policy'. Not present. Shri Tiruchi Siva, 'Concern over high vacancies in Central universities'.