

[English]

### Amendments to Consumer Protection Act

3244. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Inter-State Working Group under the Chairmanship of West Bengal Government has since submitted its report to further amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986;

(b) if so, the main objectives of this Committee;

(c) whether the recommendations made by the Committee in its report have been examined; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The main objective of the Working Group is to examine the need to bring about changes in the Consumer Protection Act and the Rules in the light of experience gained so far and the difficulties which have arisen in many cases as a result of judicial pronouncements.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

[Translation]

### Train from Nanded to Amritsar

3245. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for introduction of any direct train from Nanded (Maharashtra) to Amritsar (Punjab);

(b) if so, the action being taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Some representations have been received in this regard.

(b) and (c). The proposal is under examination.

[English]

### Gauge Conversion

3246. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far regarding the gauge conversion of Nuapada-Gunpur Railway line in Orissa; and

(b) the total expenditure involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b). A survey has been taken up and is still in progress. Amount spent on the survey till 31.3.95 is Rs. 7.86 lakhs.

[Translation]

### Price of Molasses

3247. SHRI JANARDAN MISRA :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether sale prices of molasses have increased after its decontrol;

(b) if so, the extent thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Sugar Mills are converting a large portion of profits earned through sale of molasses into the sugarcane price 'head';

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check this practice; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rates of molasses, as stipulated in the Molasses Control Order, 1961, before it was rescinded on 10.6.93, are given statement-I. As per information furnished by the sugar factories, Statement showing the levy sugar zonewise average realisation from sale of molasses by them after decontrol, during the sugar year 1993-94 is at Statement-II.

(c) to (f). No information in this regard is available with the Government.

### STATEMENT-I

*The Rates of Molasses, as Stipulated in the Molasses Control Order, 1961, before it was Rescinded on 10.6.1993, were as Follows*

Grade-I	Rs. 14.40 per quintal
Grade-II	Rs. 1.50 per quintal
Grade-III	Rs. 08.90 per quintal
Below Grade-III	Rs. 08.60 per quintal.

### STATEMENT-II

*Statement Showing the Levy Sugar Zone Wise Average Realisation from Sale of Molasses by the Sugar Factories During the Sugar Year 1993-94*

STATE		RATE PER QUINTAL
1	2	3
1.	Punjab	98.97
2.	Haryana	90.93
3.	Rajasthan	80.56

1	2	3
4.	Uttar Pradesh	
	(a) West	40.56
	(b) Central	75.30
	(c) East	88.26
	All U.P.	60.68
5.	Madhya Pradesh	83.34
6.	Gujarat	
	(a) South	159.06
	(b) Saurashtra	191.92
	All Gujarat	160.06
7.	Maharashtra	
	(a) South	151.54
	(b) North	123.21
	(c) Central	150.91
	All Maharashtra	143.54
8.	Bihar	92.09
9.	Orissa, Nagaland, Assam and West Bengal	281.13
10.	Andhra Pradesh	139.52
11.	Karnataka	115.72
12.	Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry	133.80
13.	Kerala Goa and Coastal Karnataka	150.00

[English]

#### Pollution by Hindalco and HTCI

3248. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Aluminium Company (HINDALCO) and High Tech Carbon Industry (HTCI) of Renukoot, Sonbhadra (U.P.) could not yet be able to establish E.T.Ps. to control water pollution;

(b) whether both these industries are also discharging poisonous gas during preparation/processing of Aluminium and Carbon; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not taking action against these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c). The High Tech Carbon Industry has provided adequate effluent and emission control measures in their unit.

Several complaints have been made with respect to pollution caused by HINDALCO. A central team had also inspected the industry. The Government had directed this unit to comply with the prescribed standards and also to provide necessary pollution control devices over its aluminium smelting pots.

As per information provided by the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, out of the 1088 melting pots in HINDALCO, 922 pots are having dry scrubbing system in operation. In the remaining 166 pots, the installation of the dry scrubbing system has now been completed

and these are under trial operations. However, the unit has so far not provided adequate facilities for proper disposal of red mud, cathode carbon, spent pot lining and other solid wastes. The Government has directed the unit to take necessary steps in this regard and to utilise red mud to the maximum possible extent.

#### Cultural Organisations

3249. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals for financial assistance received from the cultural organisations of Andhra Pradesh during the last one year;

(b) the number of such proposals sanctioned or are under consideration; and

(c) the amount sanctioned so far and the amount actually paid during the above period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

#### Action Plan for Children

3250. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Governments of Maharashtra and Gujarat have prepared any action plan for children in pursuance of the National Plan of action for children; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action plan prepared by other States, State-wise, indicating therein the area covered under this action plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The State Government of Gujarat has prepared the Action Plan for Children in pursuance of the National Plan of Action for Children. The State Plan of Action for Children in Maharashtra is under preparation.

(b) The other State Government and Union Territories Administrations which have prepared Action Plan for children are Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Goa, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and National Capital Territory of Delhi. The Plans of Action