

[Translation]

Cooking gas at Reduced rates to the People of Himalayan region to save forest Based fuel

1171. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry is considering a proposal to provide cooking gas at reduced rate with the cooperation of the Ministry of Petroleum to the people of Himalayan Region to save forest-based fuel and lessen forest destruction;

(b) if so, the time by which this proposal is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the alternative steps proposed to be taken by his Ministry to avoid fuel-based burden on forest ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The measures being undertaken by the Ministry of Environment and Forest for avoiding fuel-based burden on forests include popularisation of social and farm forestry programmes, popularising use of improved stoves/chulhas, utilisation of saw-mills and logging wastes for briquetting, where economically feasible, acceleration and development of bio-conversion devices, etc.

[English]

Name of states where Child Marriage is in Vogue

1172. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
SHRI MOHANLAL PATEL :
Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Child marriages are still in vogue in our country;

(b) if so, names of the States where this system is in force to a larger extent ;

(c) whether any case has come to the notice of Government and if so, the number of such cases alongwith name of the State ; and

(d) what special steps are being taken by Government to curb this bad tradition and educate the innocent people against the evil ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE : (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Information collected with respect to the prosecutions under the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, in respect of the period 1977 to 1979 from the State Governments and Union territory Administrations reveals that there have been prosecutions under the Act during these years in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The details are set out in the statement attached. The remaining States and Union territories have reported that there were no prosecutions during this period. The number of prosecutions in different States under the Act cannot be regarded as necessarily indicative of the extent to which child marriages are in vogue in those States as the question of launching the prosecutions depends on the vigilance of the administration. It would not be fair to single out any particular State as one in which child marriages are in vogue. The practice of child marriage is deeply embedded in the social tradition amongst certain sections of society and it is only through social and economic upliftment of these sections of society that the practice can be eradicated completely.

(b) Apart from intensifying the launching of prosecutions for the violation of the Child Marriage Restraint Act, a number of other steps are being taken by way of educating the people about the consequences of this evil by publicity through mass media, by involving voluntary organisations in the task and by other measures. The publicity includes putting posters in transport buses, radio programmes, exhibiting cinema slides, documentary films, press posters, group discussions with rural women, tin messages (advertisements on tins in which consumer articles are sold) etc.

Statement

Number of cases under the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, during the 3 years namely; 1977, 1978 and 1979 as received from the State Governments/Union territory Administration.

Name of the State/Union territory	Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929.		
	1977	1978	1979
1. Gujarat	112	98	180
2. Haryana	Nil	Nil	2
3. Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	3
4. Madhya Pradesh	8	20	14
5. Maharashtra	8	4	17
6. Rajasthan	Nil	6	12
7. Tamil Nadu	1	1	2
8. Uttar Pradesh	Nil	Nil	1
9. West Bengal	1	1	1
10. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Nil	Nil	3

12.02 hrs.

(Interruptions)

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : I wish to raise a very important question.

SOME HON. MEMBERS *rose*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All of you may please sit down. You don't wait for my permission at all ! You can raise your hands and I will call each one of you. I will not listen to any one of you unless you take your seats first. Please take your seats. Then I will call you.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupathi) : There is a very serious matter.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Everything is serious. Please sit down. Are you going to sit down or not ? First, please take your seats and then I will call you one by one, not all of you together; if all of you get up, how can I hear from every one of you ?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : Sir, there is a statement made by the Prime Minister regarding the Gujarat communal incidents and he has blamed the opposition parties regarding their attitude to communal disturbances in Gujarat. We are in no way concerned with

those incidents. It is the congress-I Government which is creating all the troubles.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Have you given any notice ?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN : I have given.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have not received it. Give me the notice first.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, I have already given you a notice. Let me make it clear. On March 23, Prime Minister visited Ahmedabad. We welcome that. He addressed a press conference. He made a blanket allegation against the entire opposition. He said that the entire opposition—the frustrated opposition—was responsible for the communal troubles in Gujarat. You may recall that on 21st of March, the Union Home Minister, after visiting Gujarat, made an elaborate statement in this House. There was not an incling, not even an iota of an indication, if I may point out, that opposition was in any way responsible for these things. Therefore, Sir we very strongly protest against this allegation. It is our stand that the Government has failed to substantiate that statement. Therefore, I have given an Ajournment Motion and I request that it should be taken up.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Professor, you have given notice.

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE : I would urge upon the House to take up the Adjournment Motion.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have given notice of Adjournment motion. It is not accepted.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is ruled out. Please sit down. There is no scope for any debate on the adjournment motion now.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Regarding this matter, there is no difficulty at all.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY: We protest and we walk out.

(SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY AND SOME OTHER HON. MEMBERS THEN LEFT THE HOUSE.)

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is ruled out. There cannot be any discussion on this now.

SHRI LALIT MAKEN (South Delhi) : Today, there is a news item in the different newspapers to the effect that Shiromani Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee has allocated some funds to train the extremists. There is another news item in the same newspaper that some extremists have entered Delhi. This is a very serious matter and we are deeply concerned about the lives of our Hon. Prime Minister and the President of India. I would request that the Hon. Home Minister should make a statement and enlighten the House as to what arrangements have been made to safeguard the lives of the VIPs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have received a calling attention motion regarding this. We will consider it and let you know.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Sivaganga) : A few days ago, the Hon. Minister of External Affairs was pleased to make a statement on the Sri Lanka situation. After that statement, we have been expecting that

there will be a discussion in this House. After the Parliament commenced, we have not yet discussed the matter except that the statement was made. Now, there are reports from Madras that certain opposition parties are planning a month-long agitation... (*interruptions*)... before the Central Government Offices. All we want is that the Parliament should have an opportunity, where we can express our views on this matter. I would request you to kindly fix up a date.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I would explain the position to you. You came and discussed this matter with me in my chamber also. The situation in Sri Lanka is, no doubt, a serious matter, and everyone is concerned not only the opposition there or here.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : Why are we not discussing it then ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Government is also making certain efforts to see how best this can be solved. They are taking action seriously. You would have seen in the newspapers today that Shri Bhandari, Foreign Secretary, has gone to Colombo and is having discussions there, and certain things are going to come up. I had contacted the State Minister and the Prime Minister also regarding this matter. They are speeding up this matter. As for allowing a debate, I will consider. I know that Members are very anxious to have discussion on this.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, I want to protest against something which Shri Dandavate said. He said that the Prime Minister in Ahmedabad said that the opposition is responsible for the riots. That is not what he said. He said that those who were defeated in the elections had taken to the streets. Does he mean that those who were defeated in Hyderabad have also taken to the streets ? There also the riots are taking place in Andhra. On the same logic, we can say that those who were defeated in Andhra have taken to the streets and are causing riots in Hyderabad.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can also give in writing if you want to raise anything.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I protest against this kind of slandering of the opposition every day. I am also walking out.

(SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA THEN LEFT THE HOUSE)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : Sir, I have given you a calling attention notice also in this regard. One Sub Inspector of Delhi police entrusted with the VIP security arrangement is reported to be missing for the last few days. Recently such things are happening quite frequently in Delhi. Killing of the Soviet official, missing of the Delhi Police Sub Inspector, and the proposal of the SPGC are there. I would request the Home Minister to view these happenings very seriously and make a statement as quickly as possible. This has created unnecessary panic about the security of life of the people.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If you have already given a call attention, we will consider it.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balsor) : A serious problem has been created because the SGPC is ..

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You give it in writing. Then I shall consider it.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Sir, it is a very serious matter. I have given a call attention notice. Kindly admit it. This is a very serious matter which involves national security.

I would like to call the attention of the Minister...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I told you already. Please give it in writing. Then I shall consider it.

Now, we will take up 'Papers laid on the Table'.

12.12. hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notification under Essential Commodities Act 1955 Review and Annual Report of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited, New Delhi for the year 1983-84. Statement showing reasons for delay in laying the papers.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND

FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Drugs (Prices Control) Eleventh Amendment Order, 1984. (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S. O 343(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th April, 1984, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-573/85]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the Year 1983-84 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-574/85]

Review and Annual Report of the Bridge and Roof Company (India) Limited, Calcutta for the year 1982-83. Statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers.

Annual Report and Review of the Petrofils Limited Baroda for the year 1983-84.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM. (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Bridge and Roof Company (India) Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1982-83.