

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, December 1, 1998/Agrahayana 10, 1920 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MEMBER SWORN

Shri Mansukhbhai Vasava (Broach)

11.01 Hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of our colleague, Shri Ghasi Ram Yadav.

Shri Ghasi Ram Yadav was a sitting Member of Lok Sabha representing Alwar Parliamentary Constituency of Rajasthan.

Earlier, Shri Yadav was a Member of Rajasthan Legislative Assembly during 1952-67, 1972-77, 1980-85 and 1990-98.

An active social and political worker, Shri Yadav served his State as a Minister in the Government of Rajasthan during 1966 and 1981-85.

Shri Ghasi Ram Yadav passed away at Jaipur on 30th November, 1998 at the age of 74.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolence to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

11.02 hrs.

The Member then stood in silence for a short while.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Royalty on Natural Gas

*21. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the

Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have revised the rate of royalty on Natural Gas for the Block period of 1996-99;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some proposals have been received from Gujarat in this regard; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI VAZHAPADY K. RAMAMURTHY) : (a) to (d) The Government of Gujarat had proposed in January, 1997 that the royalty on Natural Gas be revised upwards from the prevailing level of 10%. Royalty on Natural Gas is paid on advalorem basis. Separately, State Sales Tax is charged on gas by the Government of Gujarat at the rate of 20%, whereas in the case of Crude Oil, the Sales Tax is only 4%. In the context of the overall impact of these separate imposts on the price of gas, there is no proposal to increase the rate of royalty.

Prices of Essential Commodities

*22. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a sharp increase in the prices of various edible oils, vegetables, onion, potato, tomato, pulses, spices, salt and other daily need items in recent past;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and the percentage of increase in comparison to the last two years;

(c) the present selling rates of these items in the market, Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar as compared to the last three preceding years;

(d) the reasons for shortage of these items salt, edible oils, onions and potatoes:

(e) whether the Government propose to ban the export of these items forthwith; and