

(vii) Need to take necessary steps to save Rajasthan, particularly Kota from the dangers of environmental pollution

14.15 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE : NEW TEXTILE POLICY

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to non-implementation of the law relating to the prevention of environmental pollution fully the menace of industrial pollution in the industrial town Kota of Rajasthan is assuming alarming proportions. The rivers, rivulets, underground water sources and also the atmosphere have become extremely polluted. Thousands of persons had died due to the gas leakage from the Union Carbide Factory in Bhopal. In the same way, several poisonous gases are released from the Shri Ram Fertilisers and Chemicals in the Kota City, as a result which many persons become unconscious everyday. Due to release of ammonia, chlorine, sulphuride oxide and acetylene and other poisonous gases, the atmosphere around the factory becomes hazy in the morning and evening and when these gases are inhaled they cause a number of diseases. The continuous leakage of chlorine from the caustic soda plant has damaged the plant machines and also resulted in the death of workers quite often.

[English]

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : Sir, I am glad the House has been given this opportunity of discussing this very important matter raised by my friend Prof. Madhu Dandavate. I also admire the vigorous way in which he has analysed the whole position and examined each aspect of it. But unfortunately, as I have told him, I am unable to agree with his conclusions.

MR. SPEAKER : Appreciating is one thing and agreement is another.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : It is not for the first time the textile policy is placed before this House. As far back as in 1978, when his colleague and my friend....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You agree with the defence counsel and give the judgment against him.

MR. SPEAKER : That is what I said.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : When Mr. George Fernandes presented their textile policy at that time and he presented it in his characteristic, racy and vigorous manner about handloom weavers, I congratulated him then.

I find now that this textile policy is only another aspect of the same approach that these people have been making. All the Members whether they are the constituents of the then Janata party, whether they are on this side or on that side, are anxious to say that they are in love with the handloom weavers.

Similarly, water mixed with chemicals, released from other factories and multimetals Nagpal factories, is spreading in residential localities unchecked. As a result thereof, the people living in Sur Sagar Konсуwa colonies are leading a wretched life. The innocent children play in the chemical-mixed water. During the tour of my constituency, I have found that Kota city is becoming hell for the poor people due to the effect of slow poisoning of chemicals. I would like to urge the Government that laws relating to prevention of Pollution should be made more effective. All the factories should instal treatment plants, so that the effects of the chemicals and the gases may not result in the recurrence of the Bhopal tragedy in the Kota city of Rajasthan.

On finding so much love on the part of each and every Member in the House towards the handloom weavers, one begins to wonder whether it is due to the fact that the handloom weavers constitute a large majority of voters and they are a factor to be reckoned in the elections? Therefore, they want to cater to them. Everybody says, 'Yes, we are going to look after them'. But what is the effect of it all?

Therefore, the Central Government should intervene and save the city from the impending disaster.

[Prof. N. G Ranga]

I wish to remind the House of two or three points which were then made. They then said, less organized and decentralised sector of handloom, khadi and sericulture, difficulties regarding availability of yarn at reasonable prices, marketing problems and competition from the powerlooms had been some of the reasons for this. They said so then. And we say it now. They wanted to protect the handloom weavers. We also want to protect them. Where is the difference? The only thing is that they then promised to place certain restrictions on the organized textile industry, that is, the millowners. Had they implemented that? Have we implemented it? Is it not a fact that, till now, the millowners have been able to go their own way without accounting for all the production that they have been achieving? Only one difference has taken place, and that is, the textile millowners-how they did, we do not know; how they blindfolded the Governmental machinery, we do not know-let more than a hundred mills go sick. They say that the workers were being exploited. The same workers were a witness to what was happening. They did not complain. They did not raise any hue and cry. They did not warn the country. All those hundred and odd mills went sick. Some people have made money. Yet, the vigilant eyes of the Opposition or the protective eyes of the ruling Party, at that time and now, all their eyes were blind. The handloom weavers were left to their own resources and allowed to go the way of so many of the other helpless sectors of our social life. They said then that they were going to have an integrated textile policy; they did say that. We are saying it too. "Both at that time as well as now, they have not given much thought to the cotton-growers. They are also a part of it. It starts from the cotton-growers. They have been exploited, and they are being exploited. The handloom weavers are being exploited". Now the only three groups of people who have been protected are the so-called unorganized powerlooms behind whom the bigger powerloom owners must be there, then the big powerlooms, and then the industrial workers. These people have been protected. My hon. friend, Shri Indrajit Gupta, was, as usual, in his eloquent way, pleading for the industrial

workers. Where the any the worse for this change? They have been protected, and they are going to be protected hereafter also. There need be no fears about it. It is because of their pressure on the Government, the then Government and the present, Government, that the sick mills have been taken over by the Government. Hundreds of crores of rupees have gone down the drain in order to protect the industrial workers. The millowners have already protected themselves and have fattened their pockets. The industrial workers were protected because they were being unemployed. The only people who have been suffering throughout are the handloom weavers on the one side and the cotton-growers on the other..... (Interruptions) That is big miss, my dear friends. Both of you, Prof. Madhu Dandavate and Shri Indrajit Gupta, are the doyens of the opposition here. In your expositions, excellent as they were, you did not give pay sufficient attention to the cotton-growers, and you could only shed, like all of us, crocodile tears so far as the handloom weavers are concerned. Now, how do the handloom weavers look at it? When a friend of mine who had been devoted to this cause for the last thirty-five years approached me, I told him that I was present at the All India Handloom Weavers Conference in Madras, I inaugurated the special Andhra State Handloom Weavers Conference at Vijayawada, and in neither of these places were they bothered about what was going to be done about mill owners and the powerlooms. Not so much. Why? Because it is a continuing complaint of ours that for the sake of this organised mill industry and the unorganised or disorganised powerlooms, the handlooms weavers have been sacrificed or are being sacrificed. There is only one ray of hope now. I don't know how far it is going to continue to shed any light into the family life of the handloom weavers. The production of janata cloth which was placed as a kind of a burden and the responsibility on the mill industry is now being shifted to the handloom weavers. Now what do the handloom weavers say? They say, all right, we are prepared to accept this responsibility; but will you make sure that the cotton supplies are assured. First of all cotton growers are paid remunerative price, then yarn supplies would be assured and thereafter a reasonable price would be

fixed for the yarn in such a manner that a decent enough wage-I am allergic to the word "wage" in the case of self-employed people - it is an earning, this earning should be decent enough. It should cover their expenses. In a few States. Acts have been passed to assure that a minimum wage will be given. In Madras it is there. In Andhra it is there. But the complaint in Andhra is even through the Handloom Weavers Apex Societies this minimum wage is not being implemented. It is not being paid to them and the weavers are obliged to hand over their weaves to the cooperative at a price which is far below the minimum wage, because they want employment. If the industrial workers are thrown out of employment, they want to get their regular wages. I have no objection. I am in favour of it. But what about the handloom weavers. Why is it that even the minimum wage, not speak of decent wage, is not being paid to them. What about other States. In U.P., Bihar, were there are a sizeable number of handloom weavers, it is not being implemented. Therefore, they say that let the Government take over the responsibility of giving reasonable margin of profit to the weavers. Not even profit, the margin of price to cover the working expenses of the cooperatives of the weavers. Thereafter you take over all the cloth. I do not know whether the Government is going to take over all the Janata cloth, after meeting all these responsibilities. Weavers would be made responsible only for producing the cloth and for nothing else. They would be projected everywhere. Sir, words are words, too many words sometimes can be a burden. This is how these textile policies are working. Three statements have been made on textile policy, but it is a burden on the handloom weavers. Therefore they are not worried. These unorganised powerlooms are now going to be registered. Why is my Hon'ble Friend Dandavateji so much worried that they are not registered hitherto. They are going to be registered now. They are going to be legitimised now. It is much better to legitimise an illegitimate child rather than making the illegitimate child suffer all the disadvantages of the society.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : There are no illegitimate children. There are only illegitimate parents.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Sir, this is all there. All of them would be in the Powerlooms sector, organised and hither to unorganised. Organised looms cannot go on making profits in this way and throw the burden of their own artificial sickness upon the Government and the nation. Hereafter they have to look after themselves. They have got to pay the taxes in a manner in which they were expected but which they were not paying hitherto. Therefore, why should we be bothered about them? Let us be bothered specially about the handloom weavers and the cottongrowers. What is going to happen to the cotton-growers? Handloom weavers are also concerned about them. They share, Dandavateji also shares the anxiety, that is, that if this artificial yarn is to be imported in a limitless manner, than the demand or cotton might go down. I am not afraid. There are several things to be thought of.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : We agree with you.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : I do not want to go into too many details. Sir, in our own country, a queer thing is happening, a thing generally not noticed. Our poor people, not the very poor people, but the poor people and also the poor lower middle class people are going more and more for those shirts, the kind of shirts in which some of you look rather nice because they are tailored very nicely.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Thank you.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : because they last longer. They do not give so much trouble to their women or for themselves in getting them dried. They are using them. Now those sections would be served. They will have to be served and these shirts, though their cost is high and capital investment is heavy in the beginning, but they last longer. So they prefer it. On the other hand, what is happening in other countries the rich countries? The demand for our handloom goods is going up because in spite of the higher and higher costs they can afford it and they love the beauty of it. They do not mind if they do not last so long. Therefore, we have got to exploit that market. I would like the Government to pay a special attention to that. In our

[Prof. N. G. Ranga]

own country also in spite of all this talk of so many, 30 or 40 per cent of the people being obliged to live below the poverty line if you take it into mere figures of people, the number of people who are now going for costly clothes has increased. Therefore, the demand for handloom cloth is not going to be reduced. The demand for cotton is not going to be reduced. On the other hand, it is likely to be enhanced. That is how I feel because the middle classes are indulging in the same kind of luxurious way of life as the westerners do so fabulously. So why do we fear ?

The real fear is whether the Government is capable of implementing its policies, is determined about it and is really sincere about it. I take it for granted. At that time when Janata was also here, because a large number of them were also Gandhians like myself and our people to-day Gandhians—we all believe in handloom weaving.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Only our Gandhi was different.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : But the bureaucracy comes in the way and it does not co-operate with us and that is where yesterday—I think it was day before yesterday, one suggestion was made by my friend, Dandavateji and I agree with him. The Textile Commissioner's office, if it is possible, should be shifted here to Delhi. In addition to that, there should be an equally powerful Handloom Commissioner at the Centre with their opposite numbers in all the States also.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLIES AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH) : We have a Development Commissioner for Handlooms.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : But he should not be placed under the Textile Commissioner.

SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH : He is independent. He is located at Delhi.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : If he is independent and the other man is independent, the person who has got to control them should be the Minister.

The Textile Commissioner has been known and it has been said throughout India that the Textile Commissioner being situated in Bombay and also because of the nature of the dealings that he has got to carry on, is more amenable to the influence of the textile bosses and being influenced by them. Therefore, he should also be brought here and these people have to be commanded by an effective Minister. All the time we had been asking for a separate Ministry. Thank God, we have got now. Fortunate for us here is my friend—you all know—he was here with us, he was the Chief Minister, a very strong man. He believes in Handloom industry and its future prospects. Therefore, I would like my hon. friend the Textile Minister.....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Are you asking for a separate handloom Minister?

PROF. N. G. RANGA : I would like it some day and not just now because we must see how this works. We have seen for seven years the earlier policy which I applauded my self of George Fernandes and Morarjibhai how it worked for the handloom weavers. Therefore, let us give them some time. There is nothing very different in this statement also if you compare one with the other. Excepting for a few details it is all the same of doing nothing. Therefore, I request my hon. friend the Minister to see that adequate credit is placed at the disposal of the handloom weavers' cooperatives. There must be an all India re-financing handloom cooperative bank just as we have got the Agricultural Development Bank. There should be a separate bank for them and adequate funds should be placed at its disposal.

Secondly, sale arrangements have got to be taken over by the Government and they must ensure further progress in that direction both by exporting abroad and spreading in our own country. Thirdly, training through the training centres in the modern techniques of printing, sizing and weaving should be given on a large scale. In these directions and many other directions also special attention has got to be paid. This special attention I demand not only from the Textile Minister but also from the Prime Minister. Both of them should work hand in glove with each other and the Prime Minister

should be able to pay special attention. We should not allow the handloom weavers fate to be decided or monitored by the Planning Commission. I do not think Planning Commission has got any heart all so far as the handloom weavers or self-employed people are concerned.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : (Kurnool) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not make a speech but only seek clarifications from the hon. Minister.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Speaker should not show the symbol of the Congress party.

MR. SPEAKER : This is God's symbol. That is why I wrote to you.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Hand is prominent in handloom.

MR. SPEAKER : Without 'hand' there is no 'loom'.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Sir, at the time of the passing of the Handloom (Reservation of articles) Production Act, 1985—unfortunately, the present Textile Minister was not in the House but his predecessor who piled the Bill was present—there was a demand from most of the Members that Government ought to have come forward with a Schedule containing the list of articles reserved for production in the handloom sector. But then the Minister who was in charge of the Bill replied that the Textile Policy was under consideration and it was still to be finalised and at the time of finalisation they will mark out and select the articles which are to be produced in the handloom sector. Now, the textile policy has been finalised. May I ask whether you have selected the items which are reserved under this Act for being produced by the handloom industry? That is my first question.

Then, Sir, you have merely stated in the Policy Statement that controlled cloth would be transferred to the handloom sector.

SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH : A Committee has been constituted and it is meeting very soon to prepare the schedule.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : That is for the articles which have to be reserved for production under them. Then, what he has stated is that the controlled cloth is going to be taken over by the handloom sector by the end of the present Plan. May I know methodology by which you want this controlled cloth to be manufactured by the handlooms sector? Are you going to give quotas or are you going to allot them State-wise or cooperative-wise or kind-wise or statutory-wise? What is the method you are going to adopt?

SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH : State-wise.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Then, Sir, when the Bill came up for discussion, we requested that a Committee must be constituted. A Committee or a Board has to be constituted. In fact, I remember, Prof. Ranga gave an amendment for the composition of the Board itself. But then the amendment was not accepted. But we requested that it must be provided at least in the rules. Now, have the rules been framed? Or when are the rules going to be framed and finalised? When are you going to put this Act into effect? When are you going to give blood and bone to the Act and bring it to force?

Then, with regard to the controlled cloth, the subsidy is at the rate of Rs. 2 per metre. Now, this subsidy will not be enough to give even minimum-wages or living wages for the handloom workers. Are you going to increase the subsidy for the handloom sector? Now, what is the subsidy which you are now paying per metre for the controlled cloth to the mills or to the other sector to which you have transferred it? Are you going to continue the same subsidy or are you going to increase the subsidy when you are transferring it to the handloom sector? My own State Government's assessment is that this amount of Rs. 2 per metre is going to cut into the wages of the handloom workers and that the subsidy has to be increased substantially if the controlled cloth has to be transferred to the handloom sector.

Then, you have stated that the handloom workers will be provided work-shed and housing facility. Have the details of the scheme worked out? Who is going to fund

[Shri E. Ayyapu Reddy]

it? Who is going to subsidise this scheme? Is it partly by the Union Government and partly by the State Government?

SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SINGH : We have not already circulated this to the State Governments.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : we wanted a more detailed data with regard to the work-shed-cum housing scheme for the benefit of the handloom weavers.

With regard to the marketing of the handloom cloth, you have said very generously that a lot of help will be given to the handloom sector. If the handloom cloth is not sold within two years after its production, practically its value is lost. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken upon itself the duty of purchasing the entire stock of handloom and selling it to the consumer at a very subsidised rate. Every year we are giving about Rs. 30 crores or so by way of subsidy. This is benefiting two sectors, one the handloom weavers and the other, the consumers who are below the poverty line. Will you adopt this policy and also ask the other States to adopt the same policy and see that all the handloom stock is purchased wholesale at the end of the year or at the end of at least two years?

With regard to marketing, I would also like to know, whether the hon. Minister will give concessions to the handloom sector in the matter of advertising. Now the marketing is inseparable from advertising. Now-a-days, advertisement is very important and advertisement in the Doordarshan and All India Radio is very very important. Will you give at least fifty per cent concession to the handloom sector for advertising their goods in the Doordarshan and in the Radio?

Coming to the powerloom sector, nobody knows the methodology by which the new powerlooms have to be registered. What is the infrastructure and where have these to be registered? Who is the person, who is the officer and with whom have the new powerlooms to be registered? Are you going to give any quota, or is there any quota at all? Is there any ceiling for registering these powerlooms?

PROF. N. G. RANGA : We do not want any more.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Now, they say it is free for all. Are you going to have any ceiling, district-wise or State-wise, or is there no ceiling so far as powerlooms are concerned? Of it is unlimited?

So far as woollen textiles are concerned, we are importing five varieties of wool from Australia, New Zealand etc. The general complaint is that first, it is subject to customs duty. The finished products, the woollen textiles are being sold outside and it is also earning foreign exchange. Immediately after production, excise duty is also imposed. It is specially so in the case of fine variety of wool imported from Australia. Will you kindly consider combining this double taxation and taxing at one point, so that the incidence of double taxation is avoided.

In the Digest of News and Views on public undertakings which is supplied to us by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, the National Textile Corporation has been shown to have done very well and it appears to have secured a Rs. 73 lakh order for uniforms of school children in Haryana, as also an expert order from Hungary etc. A very bright picture has been given to us in this Digest of News and Views on Public Undertakings.

So far as the mill sector is concerned, I do agree that it has to be modernised, so that it can stand international competition. There is no use of saying that we should not import. This is what you have stated in your policy statement on page 51 :

“A national level standing advisory committee on modernisation of the textile industry shall be set up, which would include representatives of management and labour as also suitable technical experts and representatives of financial institutions”.

I am very happy that labour will be represented with a view to safeguard their interests. I hope Dr. Datta Samant will be there.

MR. SPEAKER : Will there be peace then?

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Then, further it has been stated in the Policy :

"The indigenous textile machinery manufacturing industry shall be given encouragement to reduce costs, upgrade technology and improve the quality of machinery."

Which is this indigenous textile machinery manufacturing industry which you have identified? Will the National Textile Corporation take it over as a long term policy?

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : (Bombay North Central) : Sir, the textile policy which was announced on 6th June, 1985 is in a way new. It has a new approach. Upto now, the approach has been that the textile policy was viewed in a compartmentalised manner; the powerloom and handloom were considered separately, and the fibre use, namely cotton textile, woollen textile and silk textile etc. were considered separately. For the first time, in this policy, we are evolving a more integrated view of the textile industry itself. Now, there are several good and salient features in this policy. But many of them mostly depend upon the availability of funds and the successful implementation of that policy. There is of course, one point, where the Government has taken a complete roundabout turn, i. e. with respect to the non-viable units of the organised mills and modernisation. Now, I said that many things depend upon the availability of the funds and implementation. For example, take the handloom industry. The policy suggests modernisation and secondly a workshed-cum-housing scheme has also been suggested. The Seventh Five Year Plan mentions about it and the package of development measures for handloom industry includes a programme of 50,000 residence-cum-worksheds for the handloom weavers. This is, no doubt, a very meagre provision and if this is to be implemented, further funds will have to be provided.

As far as the responsibility to produce controlled cloth and also janata cloth is concerned, I would submit that this will also depend upon the full implementation of this policy. No doubt, it will give more employment to the handloom weavers, but unless it is properly and successfully implemented, it will not have the desired effect. A recent

study by Arti Kaul, a researcher in May 85, states that even this policy is not known to the project director of the Handloom Intensive Development Projects or the District Industrial Centres. They do not know as to what is this policy regarding product reservation. So, if that is the position, it is difficult to implement this policy.

Then you have stated about modernisation. For this also, unless sufficient funds are provided, we will not be able to modernise the handloom industry. Here, we should also not forget the skilled artisans who are specially skilled in preparing certain types of very high quality of handloom cloths. They should not be ignored while modernising these things.

When we come to the powerlooms, the main salient feature on which I would like to comment is the compulsory registration. Upto now, in this industry, there is anarchy and by this compulsory registration, we can control some of these things. Here I would like to suggest that when we are making compulsory registration, the service conditions of those workers will have to be looked into. You have also stated that improving workers' welfare is one of the objectives of this policy. But I would suggest that some legislation will have to be brought in to improve the welfare of the workers and to improve their service conditions. Some Act on the lines of the Maharashtra Mathadi, Hamal, and other Manual Workers (Regulation of Employment and Welfare) Act, has to be brought forward, so that a Board may be set up to control the wage structure and to supply the labour to the owners of the weavers. Then the welfare activity and welfare measures as far as these weavers are concerned, can be controlled through such an Act. So, such Boards may be instituted as far as the Powerloom industry is concerned.

Coming to the mill sector, I have great reservations as far as the policy with respect to mills are concerned. Here you have divided these units practically into three parts. You have stated that those units which are potentially viable, will be dealt with in a particular manner. For example, a rehabilitation package comprising several things is proposed for such units. Now here also, unless sufficient funds are provided in

[Shri Sharad Dighe]

the Five Year Plan, I do not think it would be possible to implement this in a successful manner. Here also, we have suggested that for rationalisation of Labour the Unions will be consulted. Now in consultation there should be consent on behalf of the unions. When we are rationalising certain parts as far as this industry is concerned, merely consultation means discussion. Therefore, the union should be taken into confidence when we are rationalising certain parts of this industry. Then you have also suggested that compensation funds would be provided for retrenched workers. Now, easy loans would be provided but this also depends upon the availability of the funds with the Government. Now as far as those units which are potentially viable, but which becomes sick by inapt management or mismanagement are concerned a very serious view is to be taken and existing management may be changed. I welcome this suggestion but here also a proper machinery should be there. For this purpose, I think another legislation will have to be framed by which the Government should be able to take over such units. Ultimately, I think for transferring the management, serious steps will have to be taken by having a separate legislation. Now, the very serious matter is with respect to the units which have no expectation of becoming viable. Here, as I said, the policy has taken a complete round-about turn because so far we used to take over such units and we used to further nationalise them also. I feel that the same policy should have been continued because such signal is given to the owners that when they say that it is not viable at all, they would be allowed to be closed down, then, I think there will be temptation to show that these units are not viable, allow us to close down and that will result in a lot of unemployment as far as the big cities are concerned. Who will decide that they are not viable? If it is also in the hands of the bureaucrats, the bureaucrats will be hand in glove with the owners of these mills and they will merrily show that certain units are not viable and should be allowed to be closed down. So such things will have to be taken into account and great care will have to be taken in this respect. My submission is that the correct policy should be to nationalise all these units and to take them over because we have got some social

responsibility. We cannot look upon it from the commercial point of view, there is loss therefore, we cannot invest further moneys in these things. Of course the employment problem is there. So, if there is lot of unemployment what is the use of producing all these clothes which you are producing for the sake of consumers? There will be no purchasing power for these people and if there is lot of unemployment in the urban cities, it will create lot of economic problems for this country and therefore I think, the policy should be reviewed as it is fraught with disastrous consequence. These are my submissions.

14.58 hrs.

DISCUSSION : RE : STEEP RISE
IN PRICES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Now we shall take up the discussion under Rule 193 regarding price rise ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Mr. Speaker, when I rise to raise discussion under Rule 193 on the rising prices in the country.....

MR. SPEAKER : By rising yourself !

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I rise alongwith the price ; when prices fall, I will also fall.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : He is catching on the high tide.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The credit goes to you Mr. Minister. Sir, at the very outset, let me make one point clear, that in our country rising prices thereatons to be a continuing phenomenon. But even then why is that some of us insisted on raising discussion on this particular issue? It is precisely because of the fact that, I would not like to consider the entire continuing phenomenon of the rising prices, but specifically I would like to concentrate on the impact of 1985-86 Budget and the consequent economic policy, as far as the