

Rule 377. a matter of urgent public importance in the House.

The Government has decided to set up smoke-free industries in Agra city and its adjoining areas to project and maintain the pollution-affected world famous Taj Mahal. Due to this policy of the Government of India, the industrialisation of Agra has been hampered and iron foundries situated there are lying closed. It is affecting the economic condition of the area adversely. As a result of unemployment, the condition of thousands of people there is going from bad to worse day by day. The condition of the rural areas in Agra district was already miserable. The rural areas of the tehsils of Kheragarh, Fatehabad, Bah, Firozabad and the Shikohabad are very backward areas from the point of view of industry and progress. In the absence of irrigation facilities and also due to the slow pace of development work, the situation there is taking a serious turn. There has been a spurt in crimes. There is no employment opportunities available there and heinous crimes like dacoities etc. are again on the rise. I would, therefore, request the Government of India that a survey team should be sent there which may, keeping in view the environmental pollution, undertake a survey of that area for intensive industrial development and setting up of small and heavy industries.

- (iv) Need to have a uniform pattern of Sales Tax in all States to check its evasion.

SHRIMATI USHA RANI TOMAR : (Aligarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, every year large scale evasion of sales tax takes place in Uttar Pradesh and adjoining States like Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Delhi. Transportation of goods from one State to another takes place clandestinely. The main reason for this is that there is no uniformity in sales tax rates in different States. In Delhi a trader supplies goods to the other only by stamping the papers and in this way the goods disappear from the records as soon as they reach the last bogus trader, thereby depriving the Government of Sales Tax. These very goods reach the

States outside Delhi clandestinely. I would request the Central Government to introduce uniform rate of sales tax in all the States. Alternatively, the sales tax may be levied at the place of manufacturing of goods so as to check the evasion of sales tax. With this approach the businessman will get relief and the revenue of the Government will also increase.

- (v) Need to take steps to check pollution in Kota city of Rajasthan.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Kota city of Rajasthan which is an industrial city of the State is becoming highly pollution prone. Kota Thermal Power Station which is situated at one end of Kota city, generates 220 MW of electricity and consumes 1200 tonnes of coal every day. The thermal power station emits 132.37 tonnes of sulphur dioxide and the treatment plant located therein functions only upto three fourth of its capacity. The Pollution Control Board has declared surrounding area of 25 sq km. of the plant as a danger zone. With the beginning of the second stage, it will emit 460 tonnes of sulphur dioxide daily.

Similarly, four plants of the DCM Group are installed in the Kota city which also pollute in the air as they emit 27.34 tonnes of coal particles in the air daily. Of these factories, calcium carbide plant does not have pollution control plant installed in it. Incidents of leakage of Chlorine gas occur quite often in these plants. Last year the gas leaked four times. The D.C.M. group is installing a cement factory in the campus of these factories which will produce 600 tonnes of cement daily. It will also increase pollution on large scale. The agriculture is suffering a lot because of this.

In the same way a number of factories of J. K. Synthetics and several soap manufacturing factories which use sulphur are also located there. They are affecting the health of the people adversely. I would request the Government to pay

attention to this problem immediately and take action to save Kota city from pollution.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri P. Kolandavelu.

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, let us have an agreement. We will teach him Hindi and in turn will learn Tamil from him.

[English]

I will learn Tamil.

MR. SPEAKER : That agreement will be binding on him. We will both learn from him.

- (vi) Need to ensure that the prime movers of monobloc pumpsets are not classified as electric motor in Coimbatore.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam) : Sir, consequent on the introduction of the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985, the Central Excise Department Coimbatore is issuing show cause notices to the manufacturers of monobloc pump sets to show cause as to why the prime mover i.e. the driving mechanism of the monobloc pumpsets should not be classified as electric motor under heading No. 85.01 and subjected to duty as such. In this connection, I bring to the kind notice of the Minister for Finance that up to 28.2.1986, the monobloc pumpsets being produced at Coimbatore were classified under T. I. 30A which reads as it stood then 'Power Driven Pumps (including motor pumps turbo pumps and monobloc pumpsets) for liquids, whether or not fitted with measuring devices'.

This tariff description has been passed by the Parliament which has held that motor pumps and monobloc pumpsets are different and not the same. I also bring

it to the notice of the Minister that since the introduction of excise duty on electric motors as well as on power-driven pumps, the method of manufacture and the main purpose for which monobloc pumps are produced have not changed and thus no new product is being produced. Hence the classification of the monobloc pumpsets does not require any change in the interpretation with reference to the manufacture of monobloc pumpsets and their component parts due to the introduction of the new Central Excise Tariff. The present trend of the local Central Excise Department to try to hold that electric motor comes into existence in the manufacture of monobloc pumpsets and the same is classifiable under Heading No. 85.01 and is liable to duty as such is not in order. Immediate intervention of the Minister is necessary to this problem.

12.16 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the chair*]

- (vii) Need to look into the methods of diagnosis of AIDs.

DR. A. KALANIDHI (Madras Central) : With reference to an article on AIDs in the Hindu dated 16 September, 1986 written by the eminent Professor Dante Mathuranayagam of the Apollo Hospitals, Madras a few points are worth raising on this floor.

The WHO clinical method of diagnosis of AIDs used in Africa and other Third World countries is loose, wide-ranging and not specific to the disease. Large numbers of cases not having AIDs will be diagnosed as having AIDs thereby artificially inflating the figures for prevalence of AIDs in these countries.

WHO claimed at the II Annual World AIDs Congress at Paris that there are 50,000 cases of AIDs in Africa and the Director General of the WHO has estimated 100,000 cases in the world in a reference to so-called unreported cases.

Following a direct enquiry to the WHO by the author of the article