

[Dr. Vasant Kumar Pandit]

decision has to be in line with the Dharma-Shastri findings and should not be confused with the system of Astral calculations which has rightly or wrongly no following in general public and not backed by the astrologers, Shankaracharyas and Dharma Shastries. An early statement in Parliament on the Government's decision is very necessary on this issue.

(vii) NEED FOR REORGANISATION OF DAIRY BOARD AND CORPORATION

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR (Gokharpur): There have been serious disclosures over the last three years in respect of lop-sided development and implementation of Dairy Development Projects. Large-scale diversion of funds have been reported affecting seriously milk production in the country and leading to dependence on imports. There has also been large-scale imports of dairy equipment. Under Operation Flood-I, one State of Gujarat has been given Rs. 21/- crores as against about Rs. 20/- crores for four important States of U.P., Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab put together. Despite all this, there is a complete failure of milk production only in the State of Gujarat. Under Operation Flood-II, these disparities are being further aggravated due to failure of the Government to check these activities. This calls for thorough reorganisation of Dairy Board and Dairy Corporation. This is a very important issue. Therefore, the Government should take immediate steps to improve the situation.

(viii) NEED FOR EXEMPTION IN EXCISE DUTY ON DIESEL FOR SMALL FISHING TRAWLERS OPERATING IN MAHARASHTRA, GUJARAT AND GOA

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): The fishermen from Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa have come to Delhi to place their grievances before the Government. The Prime Minister has agreed to meet them and accept their memorandum. The fishermen

have earlier communicated their grievances to the Minister for Agriculture.

They have drawn the attention of the Government to the hardships caused to their fishing operations due to increase in the prices of diesel oil on account of excise duty. They have reminded the Government that though there was total exemption of excise duty on diesel in the case of big trawlers, equipped with marine engines of more than 150 HP capacity on the basis of Central Government notification, such exemption was not available for poor fishermen owning mechanised boats of smaller horse power. The fishermen have demanded that exemption on excise duty should be given to those poor fishermen as well and adequate subsidies should be given to them.

I request that the Government should make a statement on the legitimate demands of the fishermen.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA (Bombay North): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I crave your indulgence to make a submission about this matter which is raised under rule 377. Government generally takes considerable time to make its response.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No. You write to the Government and convey it to them.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: But since this is a matter of urgent importance which affects the life, work and incomes of poor fishermen, your good officer may be used to request Government to give an early and sympathetic response.

(ix) NEED FOR ENSURING REMUNERATIVE PRICES OF GUR TO FARMERS

श्री बी० डी० सिंह (फूलपुर) : पाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं एतद् द्वारा माननीय कृषि मंत्री जी का ध्यान एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण कृषि उत्पादन 'गुड़' की कीमतों की ओर आकर्षित