

(c) Government of Sri Lanka have assured on a number of occasions that the 93,000 stateless persons who did not apply for Indian citizenship before 30th October, 1981, will be soon given Sri Lankan citizenship.

"Pollution in the Country"

4181. PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pollution has moved forward to engulf countryside in India;

(b) whether he is aware that an alarm was raised recently against multiplication of pollutants at a Seminar or men of letters organised by the Sahatiya Academy on Creativity and Environment;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to check pollution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : (a) No documented scientific evidence is available on the extent of pollution specifically in the countryside.

(b) and (c). In a Seminar organised by the Sahitya Academy Shri O.N.V. Kurup presented a paper entitled 'A work of art as a product of the Creative imagination and its Milieu.' The paper makes a reference to pollution in villages of Kerala.

(d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Declaration of Ugadi-Telugu New Year Day as a Public Holiday in Andhra Pradesh

4182. SHRI S. M. BHATTAM :

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government propose to declare Ugadi-Telugu New Year Day as a public holiday for Central Government Offices in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether public holidays were declared in respect of New Year Day of certain other States; and

(d) if so, the reasons why it was not

done in respect of Telugu people in Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b). Within the existing framework of holidays policy and limitations on the number of holidays that can be declared in a year, there is no scope to declare a public holiday on any occasion other than those covered in the policy instructions on the subject given in Annexure I laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1094/85].

(c) and (d). The Central Government Employees Welfare Coordination Committees located in different parts have been given the discretion to choose three holidays from amongst a specified list of 12 occasions and which occasions they choose are for them to decide. This Department as such have not declared New Year Day as a public holiday.

Participation of Government Employees in Political Activities

4183. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether Government have given the right to the Central Government employees to participate in political activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : No, Sir.

Sources of Non-Conventional Energy to Tackle Power Crisis

4184. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the various sources of non-conventional energy which have so far been tapped by the Government to tackle the power crisis; and

(b) the efforts made by Government to make use of the non-conventional sources of energy in running water-pumps for irrigation and other purposes ?