

It may be quite easy to get information relating to Delhi, but about other places, we have to collect the information.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Then tell us about Delhi at least.

SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA: We have asked for the information about value of Government land and property in other places. We have not get the information yet.

MR. SPEAKER: What about the answer to part (a) of the question?

SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA: For that also, we do not have the full information.

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN: Why did they not collect the information up till now? We seek your protection, Sir.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: Sir, this is not an ordinary matter for the House to pass over. We, as Members of this House, ought to be very vigilant over the expenditure of Government. I request you to give them here and now some time within which they must produce the answer, or, the House should censure the concerned Minister for not giving the information to the House.

MR. SPEAKER: I will postpone the question now.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: You may please specify some time-limit for the Minister to supply the answer. (Interruption).

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to allow any more interruptions. I will fix up some time. I will postpone the question. The question is not completely answered. For the same question, I will give some other time and I request the Minister also. I will fix up time.

श्री हुसैन खान कदवाय : मंत्री जी के पास दिल्ली के बारे में जानकारी है तो

दिल्ली के बारे में ही बतलायें।

MR. SPEAKER: May I request the hon. Member to leave it to me. It is not a question of any one party alone. The Congress party is also unhappy about it. Therefore, leave it to me.

श्री गुणानन्द ठाकुर : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा व्यवस्था का सवाल है। जब प्रश्न ऐडमिट हो गया है तो मंत्री महोदय इस तरह से क्यों देरी कर रहे हैं और जवाब को टाल रहे हैं? यह भारत सेवक समाज के मामले में बहुत बड़ा गोलमाल किया गया है। आप मंत्री द्वारा इस प्रश्न का पूरा जवाब देने के लिए निश्चित समय निर्धारित कर दीजिये।

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member may please sit down. I am passing on to the next question.

Parliamentary Committee for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

*128. SHRI SIDDAYYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the assurances given in Parliament in August, 1967 regarding the constitution of a Parliamentary Committee has been fulfilled; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI MUTHYAL RAO): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration.

SHRI SIDDAYYA: The hon. Minister gave a categorical assurance to this House and the other House that a parliamentary committee would be constituted in consultation with the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. May I know whether he has so far consulted the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha with regard to the setting up of this committee?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI ASOKA MEHTA): The hon. member knows that my colleagues and I are discussing this matter with him and other members of this House and the other House. He was present at the meeting only the other day and a number of members suggested that we should have further discussion. We are having another meeting. He knows that.

SHRI SIDDAYYA: In order to get the recommendations of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes implemented, is there any proposal to invest the Commissioner with more powers or is there a proposal to appoint a high-powered committee, so that that committee can get the recommendations implemented?

SHRI ASOKA MEHTA: The hon. member knows that many of his colleagues from this House pointed out that this is a matter which bristles with difficulties and has to be handled very carefully. I do not think I can enlighten him any more than the enlightenment that we got at the meeting last Friday.

श्री श्री० प्र० त्यागी : अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों की सुरक्षा और प्रगति के लिए जो कमिश्नर की नियुक्ति की गई है क्या यह सच है कि उनके पास इतना स्टाफ नहीं है कि वे उनके पास आई हुई शिकायतों की जांच कर सकें ? क्या यह भी सच नहीं है कि वह केवल एक ढोंग मात्र बना कर रह गया है ? यदि सरकार इस बात को अनुभव करती है तो क्या वह उनके लिए पूरे साधन मुहैया करेगी जिससे वह सक्रिय हो सकें और हितकारी सिद्ध हो सकें ?

श्री अशोक मेहता : कमिश्नर के पास जरूरी स्टाफ है। उसके अलावा डायरेक्टर जनरल आफ वेलफेयर और बैंकवर्ड क्लामिस का जो स्टाफ है वह भी उन के काम में पूरा इस्तेमाल किया जात है।

Payment for Food Imports from U.S.A.

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*129. SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH:
SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Government have decided to recover the part of the price of food to be exported to India in dollars;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the additional burden on the balance of payments position specially during the current financial year?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) and (b). Under the PL 480 Agreements signed since June 1967 India pays for about 80 per cent of the food imports in rupees and receives the remaining 20 per cent against a long-term credit repayable in convertible currency. This Credit is repayable in 31 annual instalments beginning ten years after the imports are made.

(c) There will not be any additional burden on the balance of payments position during the current financial year as neither interest payments nor principal repayments are due in the current year.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: So, it appears that there is no new change in what has been going on up till now. He says that 80 per cent is payable in rupees and 20 per cent in convertible currency. I want to know what is the total amount expected to be imported during the current year and what would be the amount of current year's imports to be paid in dollars?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: What will be imported in current year will have to be paid next year and not this year.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: What would be the value of it?

SHRI MORARJI DESAI: The value of imports authorised on 20-2-67 as