

I would like to ask the hon. Minister the rate at which the Government is importing 10 lakh tonnes of wheat. What is the total amount involved?...*(Interruptions)* ... I was asking about the rate at which 10 lakh tonnes of wheat would be imported?...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. You can ask if sufficient item is left. Shri Tirkey, please ask the question.

...*(Interruptions)*...

[*English*]

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: I have asked what is the price we are going to give for 10 lakhs tonnes of wheat which is coming to India.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has made very tall claims that we can export wheat and we can import wheat. The hon. Member is asking what as the import rate and what is the export rate? Is it true that you have exported wheat much cheaper and importing it on much higher prices? The Minister should answer this question.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: This does not concern my Department, but I can still answer the hon. Member that this is something which was decided earlier. We have even curtailed the import. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government seems to be in the habit of taking shelter on the plea that it was decided earlier. I shall like to know from the Government at what stage this agreement had been arrived at by whom and at what time. Personally, do not see any rationale for importing wheat in this country. If any decision had been taken by the Government when I was heading, he should cancel that or he should put the record where we are for the import of wheat. This type of total distortion of facts should not be the habit of this Government. They should not indulge in this type of gossip and distortion.

(Interruptions) Sir, I do not want to join issue, but Minister after Minister get up and say that this was decided earlier. The hon. Minister said that the procurement was less year. My Government went in June; the procurement season last in June. It was his failure; it is not my failure, but he wants to give publicity in the Press because he thinks that a captive Press can create a situation different than what the reality is.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Sir, the Press is absolutely free and not captive all. If the Indian Press is captive then none else can be free. Certainly, whatever is said on the floor of the House, we will prove it here on the floor of the House and secondly, I did not mean that the procurement was less when he was there; procurement was less due to certain other reasons; who so ever in the Government does not matter; procurement depends upon the price or the availability of wheat.

[*English*]

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

HBJ Pipeline Project

- * 132. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI:
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the "Times of India" dated January 23, 1992 regarding sale of the sensitive blueprints of the HBJ pipeline project completed by the Gas Authority of India Limited in 1987 as waste-paper;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). GAIL has reported that, one enquiry, it has been found that no sensitive blueprints or documents of the HBJ Pipeline Project have been sold as waste paper.

[*Translation*]

Import of Petroleum Products

*133. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of various petroleum products imported during 1991-92;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) the quantity of these products proposed to be imported during 1992-93 and the cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Approximately 18.81 million tonnes of crude oil and 7.59 million tonnes of petroleum products at a cost of about Rs. 10429 crores was imported during April, 1991 January, 1992.

(c) imports will be in accordance with the Oil Economy Budget (OEB) for the year 1992-93 which is being finalised.

[*English*]

Projects/Schemes for Upliftment of SCs/STs

*134. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the projects/schemes propose to be taken up for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the Centenary celebrations of Baba Sahib Dr. B.R. Ambedkar;

(b) the projects/schemes which have already been taken up; and

(c) the progress made in clearing the backlog of reserved quota?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). A list of the schemes/projects/programmes taken up and proposed to be taken up by various States/UT Government and Union Ministries is attached as Statements.

(c) In the Special Recruitment Drives conducted during the year 1989 and 1990 to fill-up the backlog vacancies for SCs and STs, offers of appointments were made for 31, 243 and 19,172 posts respectively. Another Recruitment Drives has been launched from 1st week of December, 1991 to 31st March, 1992 which is in progress.

STATEMENT

Action Plan of Sate Government for the Centenary Celebrations of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Programmes implemented during 1990-91

- 1) Orders have been issued for special drive for limited recruitment to fill up the backlog vacancies reserved for SCs & STs.
- 2) Instructions have been issued for naming some prominent streets in the towns as Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Marg/Roads.
- 3) Orders have been issued to