

**अस्पृश्यता**

4343. श्री श्री० प्र० त्यागी : क्या समाज कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अस्पृश्यता और जातपात समाज कल्याण कार्य में दो बड़ी बाधाएं हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो अन्तर्जातीय विवाहों को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिये क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

समाज कल्याण विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती फूलरेणु गुह) : (क) अनेक कारणों में से ये दो कारण हैं। अन्य हैं—लोगों की अभिवृत्ति, जनसंख्या की तीव्र वृद्धि, साधनों की कमी इत्यादि।

(ख) कुछ राज्यों में अन्तर्जातीय समारोह किए जाते हैं तथा ऐसे विवाहों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए वित्तीय प्रलोभन दिए जाते हैं।

**STERLING BALANCES**

4345. SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the position of the sterling balances of India at the end of June, 1966; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to improve this position ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) and (b). India's foreign exchange reserves (excluding gold) amounted to Rs. 398.65 crores as at the end of June, 1966. Steps are being taken continuously to improve the foreign exchange position by increasing export earnings, reducing dependance on imports and securing aid from friendly countries.

**बम्बई में सोने और चांदी का पकड़ा जाना**

4346. श्री निहाल सिंह : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नवम्बर, 1967 में बम्बई में कितनी कीमत का सोना और चांदी पकड़ा गया;

(ख) पकड़े गये सोने और चांदी पर किन देशों के चिन्ह थे और उसकी क्या मात्रा थी; और

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

उप-प्रधान मंत्री तथा वित्त मंत्री (श्री मोरारजी देसाई) : (क) और (ख). नवम्बर, 1967 में बम्बई में सीमा शुल्क तथा केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क के अधिकारियों ने लगभग 552 किलोग्राम सोना जिसमें सोने की 2000 गिन्नियां भी शामिल हैं, तथा लगभग 8271 किलोग्राम चांदी पकड़ी।

अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय दर से सोने का मूल्य लगभग 46,43,000 रुपये है तथा चांदी का मूल्य लगभग 39,13,000 रुपये है।

पकड़े गये सोने पर संयुक्त राज्य की तथा फ्रांस की छाप थी। चांदी भारत की ही थी।

(ग) मामलों में अभी भी जांच-पड़ताल जारी है।

**INCIDENCE OF NUTRITIONAL ANAEMIA AND SHORTAGE OF BLOOD BANKS**

4347. SHRI M. L. SONDHI : SHRI MARANDI :

Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has the highest incidence of nutritional anaemia in the world as disclosed by the Asian and Pacific Society of Haematology and in some rural areas about 95 per cent of the population suffered from nutritional anaemia;

(b) whether the problem had assumed seriousness after the Independence because of the rapid increase in population and fall in nutritional standards;

(c) whether it has also been stated that due to the shortage of blood banks, treatment of haemorrhagic disorders was not being done properly; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve availability of cheap nutritious diet to the poor and increase blood banks ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) :** (a) The observation of the Asian and Pacific Society of Haematology (a non-official body) have not come to the notice of the Government.

Nutritional anaemia among young children in the country is estimated at 60% and among expectant mothers at 50%. No evidence is available to show that it is the highest in the world.

(b) The incidence of nutritional anaemia has not shown any serious increase since Independence.

(c) To the maximum extent possible each case of haemorrhage or haemorrhagic disorders is being given blood by the blood banks.

(d) The following measures are being adopted to combat malnutrition in the country :—

(1) Supplementary feeding is provided through the following programmes which are run with the aid of various agencies :

- (a) Feeding under the Applied Nutrition Programme;
- (b) Feeding through Balwadis;
- (c) CARE feeding programme; and
- (d) UNICEF milk feeding programme.

(2) Imparting nutrition education to the mothers to enable them to utilise commonly available cheap food for providing nutritious diet to their children.

(3) Treatment of early cases of malnutrition through Maternity and Child Health Centres.

(4) The Department of Food have taken steps to combat protein mal-nutrition among the children and other vulnerable groups by starting projects for the manufacture of high protein food such as 'BALAHAR', MULTIPURPOSE FOOD; WEANING FOOD, etc.

More blood banks and blood donation centres are proposed to be started in selec-

ted places in a phased manner in the coming years.

#### SCARCITY OF WATER IN DELHI

4348. **SHRI M. L. SONDHI :** Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the residents of Delhi have to face scarcity of water on account of frequent cutting of water supply to the various colonies;

(b) if so, the total number of such cuts resorted to during the last two financial years and for how many hours and the names of the colonies affected;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to avoid such recurrences in future ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) :** (a) to (d). The required information is being collected from the Delhi Municipal Corporation and the New Delhi Municipal Committee and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as received.

#### GENERAL PROVIDENT FUND

4349. **SHRI M. L. SONDHI :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount contributed by the Central Government employees to the General Provident Fund during the period from April, 1965 to March, 1966; and

(b) the total amount withdrawn as loan by the employees during the above period ?

**THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) :** (a) The total amount, credited to the General Provident Fund from April, 1965 to March, 1966 was Rs. 29.54 crores (including interest of Rs. 4.28 crores).

(b) the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as available.