

Cooperation Fund loan, procurement of turbo generating sets for the River Bed Power House of the Sardar Sarovar Project is being delayed;

(b) if so, the alternatives being considered by the Government;

(c) whether the Government are aware that a stalemate is created with regard to import of equipments for Hydro Power unit of Sardar Sarovar Project due to non-availability of Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund Loan (Japan) and non-opening of letter of credit with M/s. Sumitomo Corpo., Japan; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve this stalemate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The alternative of procuring turbo generating sets on 'cash and carry' basis is contemplated.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Several meetings have been held with the participating State Governments and M/s. Sumitomo Corporation to resolve the issue. Wide ranging consultation with all concerned to arrive at some workable solution, however, forms the part of strategy in this connection.

Anti-Alcohol Campaign

2280. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued any directions to the State Governments to conduct an education campaign amongst tribal on the evils of alcohol consumption;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any meeting has been held with Commissioners of Tribal Welfare in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b). As prohibition is a State subject, it is for the State Governments to introduce prohibition. Government of India has, however, issued a Minimum Programme for Prohibition in 1975 and guidelines for Implementation of Prohibition in 1978 a copy of which is enclosed as *Statements*. In addition, awareness programme to educate the public against evils of alcoholism has also been launched as shown in *Statement-II*.

Guidelines on the excise policy in tribal areas have been issued by the Government of India to the States from time to time. The latest guidelines in this regard were issued vide this Ministry's letter No. 12022/2/92 TDP dated 24th March, 1993. The three basic points which are to be adopted according to guidelines are as follows :

(i) Commercial vending of alcoholic beverage should be discontinued in tribal areas.

(ii) Scheduled Tribes may be permitted to brew their traditional beverages for consumption at home on religious and social occasions.

(iii) Attempts may be made to wean the Scheduled Tribes away from the habit of drinking alcoholic beverages and for this purpose, official and non-official voluntary organisations may be encouraged to take up work in the tribal areas.

Besides, grants-in-aid are sanctioned to NGOs on recommendation of the State Governments for programmes of local level campaigns against evils of alcohol consumption. The campaigns include march/rallies, cultural show, seminars, street plays, group discussions, painting and debate competitions in local schools and colleges. The campaigns are not area specific but cover all, rural urban and tribal areas.

(c) and (d). In the Conference of Ministers and Secretaries of States/UTs in charge of Tribal Welfare held on February, 1995 at Guwahati, the following recommendation was made in respect of education campaign amongst tribal on the evils of alcohol consumption :

"The guidelines issued by the Ministry of Welfare on excise policy for tribal areas should be scrupulously followed by all States/UT Administrations".

STATEMENT-I

Guidelines for the implementation of prohibition (1978)

Immediate steps

(1) Introduction of dry days :

(a) Starting with two days in a week in 1978, the number of dry days should be increased to 4 in 1979, 6 in 1980 and all days in 1981.

(b) Dry days should be declared in consultation with neighbouring States, so as to have maximum success.

(c) Invariably 'pay day' should be a dry day.

(d) Martyr's Day and Gandhi Jayanti and all important religious festivals should be dry days.

(2) Immediate stoppage of drinking in public places like hotels, hostels, restaurants, clubs and at public receptions.

(3) Discontinuance of advertisements.

(4) No new licences to be given for distilleries, breweries, retail liquor shops etc. anywhere.

(5) Non-renewal of licences which will expire within the next one year—notice to be given now itself.

(6) Withdrawal within the next 12 months of licences to shops :

(a) near industrial irrigation and other projects;

(b) on highways, residential areas, educational