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Title: Need to take immediate steps to ban the mandatory use of iodised salt.

SHRI C. GOPALAKRISHNAN (NILGIRIS): Hon. Speaker, first of all, I pray to my leader, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. I raise an important issue to ban iodised salt and thereby giving life to thousands of common people indulging in common salt business.

Based on some false reports of some international bodies, the Government has banned usage of common salt in day to day life in India. I urge that this programme should be reviewed with reference to the latest inputs and research data.

The Government had made mandatory consumption of only iodised salt on the ground that iodine deficiency causes a wide spectrum of disorders, ranging from goiter, mental retardation, lower IQ and neuromotor defects.

After imposing a ban on common salt, the price of salt has gone high almost by five times. Earlier it was Re.1 per kg which is now Rs.10 per kg. The corporate companies involved in the business raised the price of salt at least 500 per cent to 800 per cent. Also, they are indulging in unfair trade practices mentioning the diet salt as low iodized salt etc.

When people who do not suffer from iodine deficiency are forced to take iodized salt regularly, there is a risk with many of them developing complications induced by higher intake of iodine and increase in iodine levels. Consumption of iodized salt in larger quantity cause metallic taste, teeth and gums problem, burning in mouth and throat, increased saliva, throat inflammation, stomach upset, diarrhea, wasting, depression, skin problems and many other side effects.

Hence I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to ban the mandatory use of iodized salt which is provided by big corporate companies making unscrupulous benefits and help the common salt producers who are common people. Thank you.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : *m02 श्री शरद त्रिपाठी जी, आपका इश्यू भी सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट से संबंधित नहीं लगता है। आप बताएं।