

Seminar', on 20th October, 1994, and meant; for school students, for encouraging and inculcating in them scientific temper as part of its regular activity.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Catalytic Converter

2136 B. SHRI P. KUMARASAMAY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the emission levels from petrol driven vehicles contribute a major share in environmental pollution in the country;

(b) whether a Catalytic Converter capable of turning exhaust fumes into friendly gases has been developed;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to encourage the use of Catalytic Converter in vehicles;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In many advanced countries such as USA, Germany, etc., catalytic converters using unleaded petrol and capable of converting exhaust fumes into less noxious gases have been developed. The catalytic converters developed in advanced countries use noble metals such as Palladium, Phodium and Platinum as catalyst and can be used only with unleaded petrol. There are two types of catalytic converters—oxidation catalyst which can convert only hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide to harmless by products and the three-way catalytic converter which can convert oxides of nitrogen, also. In India, two organisations, namely the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) at Nagpur and the National Chemical Laboratory at Pune are involved in the development of catalytic converters based on non-noble metal technology. The Technologies of both are under trial.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Government has decided that only cars fitted with catalytic converters would be sold in the four metros of Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta, wherein unleaded petrol is to be made available in selected retail outlets, which effect from April 1, 1995.

(f) Does not arise.

12.00 hrs.

[Translation].....(Interruptions)

SHRI SHARAD YADAV(Madhapura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of providing educational and other facilities to the backward class youth has been continuously raised during every session in this House and the Government has repeatedly assured the House that the OBC students will be given relaxation in age and in the number of attempts for an examination. Presently, there are various types of reservation facilities for the blinds, the physically

handicapped, the ex-servicemen or for the SC and ST students. It was only for OBC students that repeated demands for providing them facilities were made and despite the Government's assurance everytime, nothing was done in this direction.

The UPSC exams commenced from 16th of December but despite your assurance you have not implemented it so far. The Assurance Committee also made recommendations in this regard and the Committee's Chairman Shri Acharia is also present here. He also made his sincere efforts in this matter. Even today, thousands of youth raise this voice outside the House. The Government has given them one facility. In the recently conducted UPSC exams not a single student was covered under 27 per cent reservation. UPSC has for the first time in its history revised its list.

In this exam, the youth generally get a period of four months for preparation but unfortunately, they will now get only two month's time. In this regard, too, the Government did not give any relaxation.

Through you, I would like to tell the Government that their exams commenced from 16th December and in view of this examination, the Government's attitude of keeping its promise and resolving this issue was not positive. It, instead, made it more complicated. It is a petty facility in comparison to other facilities granted. Through you, I would like to tell the Government that despite your intervention in favour of this issue which you termed as justified and wanted it to be implemented, the Government has taken no action in this regard whereas the examinations have commenced from 16th.

Yesterday, I raised the issue of electoral reforms in your presence. I am not raising it again. Be it the electoral reforms or any other issue, the Government does not intend to resolve these with a firm decision but, instead, wants to complicate the issues. Therefore, through you, I would like to ask the Government what does it intend to do in this regard; If they want to resolve it, they should expedite the matter. With these words, I conclude.

[Interruptions]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): I have a point of order on this.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order because there is nothing in order now.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Well, then please listen to me because with regard to assurance, I want to say....[Interruptions]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Speaker, Sir, these exams commenced from 16th of the month. The Hon'ble Minister had assured that it has been enforced since 1990, so, this much relaxation will definitely be given. Some days ago, the Hon'ble Minister in a meeting told me that the relaxation has not been given.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, admission forms for attempting at

engineering exams are being filled now, A.R.S. scientists are to be appointed in Agricultural sector. No arrangements for reservation have been made. The Government's attitude is not dependable. I would like that the Hon'ble minister pay attention to it. The Minister of Agriculture is present here. He is aware of the non-availability of reservation in the appointment of A.R.S. scientists. Exams for Civil Engineering are going to be held in 1995. There is not reservation in I.I.T. I urge you to pay attention to it and immediately issue orders in this regard.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I would like to thank you for giving us opportunities at several occasions to speak our mind on this issue in this House. In this regard, we met you many times and you were sympathetic and also expressed your helplessness with the promise that you will convey our sentiments to the concerned quarters. In this connection, we also met the hon. Prime Minister. No Minister of this Government is related to this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Now I shall have to say whether it is true or not?

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: The leader of the Opposition, Shri Atalji is present here. Last week, he himself endorsed this demand of the students with his signatures. The Chairman, Assurance Committee, Shri Acharya is sitting beside me. His committee, in its recommendations on behalf of the Parliament also revealed that the Government should approve and implement it. Despite all this, no action is being taken. In this regard, we want your help. The Government disapproved of the Supreme Court verdict, the unanimous opinion of all the parties and above all its own decision. What a big irony and injustice it is that after ignoring its own assurance, the Committee has to ask the Government to fulfil its own assurance. This is the question of 52 per cent backward class youth of this country. 12 out of 15 classes entitled for reservation have been given five years' age relaxation. Then, why are the rest being discriminated against? I allege that the Government is prevaricating because it does not want to give reservation to the backward classes. The Government had to yield before the pressure of the public opinion, the Parliament and the Supreme Court judgement but the Government is reluctant to enforce it. 27 per cent reservation has not been granted even in the Preliminary test. Dr. Kanaujia is present here. I would like to congratulate him. He personally met the Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission and it was then that 27 per cent reservation was implemented in the Preliminary test. No direction was issued thereafter.....[Interruptions] The department of Personnel had opposed its implementation in it. I would like to congratulate the UPSC Chairman for acceding to its implementation. The Government should give 5 years' age relaxation to the backward class applicant. In order to do justice to them, a decision should be taken by extending the date of present exams and merging them with this one.\*

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the cause of age relaxation as advanced by Sharadji and Yasdavji just now. I urge upon the Government to implement it forthwith because it has many a times made announcements to this effect in this House. They would be denied 5 years age relaxation if a notification to this effect is not issued by 24 December, 1994. This will create difficulties for these applicants. Therefore, I demand that the notification be issued forthwith so that they get their rights.

[English]

SHRI R. ANBARASU (Madras Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the problem raised by many hon. Members is really a burning problem, especially, among the students who are appearing in the Civil Services Examination.

Sir, in Delhi, I find that students from Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and other States are camping here in the biting cold and they are going from pillar to post, collecting signatures from the Members of Parliament of this hon. House. If the Minister in-charge is alert and if the Minister is able to do something for these students, it would be nice. Why should they suffer like this? So, this is the state of affairs.

I urge upon the hon. Minister who is in-charge of Personnel Department to take serious view of the problem for providing 27 per cent reservation for OBC's for providing relaxation in age and also for providing relaxation in the number of attempts for them in the said examination. I understand that if the Notification is not published before 24th of this month, the students will be deprived of a chance. So, before 24th, the Government and particularly the Minister in-charge must come forward and publish the same for giving reservation, for giving relaxation in age, for giving relaxation in the number of attempts, and also for giving relaxation in marks for those students.

Sir, I am very much concerned about the problem of OBCs. I am sure this Government will come to the rescue of those students.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA (Machhli Shahar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, Shiv Sharan Verma, Member of Parliament, Parliamentary constituency, Machhli Shahar, Jaunpur, come from Uttar Pradesh. A 33 k.w. power house was cleared for my area and the Poorvanchal Development Fund allocated a sum of Rs. 50 lakh for the purpose with my efforts. The area's workers and the population decided in a rally on 31st August that as the area's M.P. has put in his best efforts to get its clearance, he alone should lay the foundation stone. 2nd September was the day fixed for this purpose. Accordingly, I proceeded for laying the foundation alongwith 15 thousands to 20 thousands workers on that day. As soon as we covered a distance of 100 metres there, the District Magistrate.. and the Superintendent of Police..\* Shri Ram Singh Meena. Both were present there..

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That is not going on record.

[Translation]

[Interruptions]\*

SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: These officers

\* Not recorded.