

[Sh. Rajveer Singh]

be restarted immediately so that the nearly farmers get irrigation facility and drinking water may be available to the people. This would also save the amount which had already been spent on this project.

[English]

(viii) **Need to secure release of Indian Prisoners Of War languishing in Pakistan Jails**

SHRI SUDAM DATTATRYA DESHMUKH (Amravati): Some Indian Prisoners of War taken into custody by the Pakistan Army in 1971 are still languishing in Pakistan jails. The relatives of at least 50 Prisoners of War have got information from reliable sources that they are still alive. One such case of Flt. Lt. Vijay Vasant Tambay of Indian Air Force having No. 7662 has appeared in newspapers recently. Since it is a serious matter, the Govt. of India should take it up with the Pakistan Government and get all the Indian Prisoners of War in Pakistan jails released immediately.

(ix) **Need to make available cooking gas in the rural areas of the country**

[Translation]

SHRI RAM LAL RAHI (Miskh): There is an acute shortage of fuel in villages also due to excessive growth in population. The alternative system of Bio gas plant for villages has failed. Perhaps only one per cent of the total Bio gas plants are working. It appears that this system has not been successful despite spending crores of rupees of people and Government in it. The owner of trees cannot cut his own trees as per his needs due to ecological compulsions or restrictions imposed by the Government. The exploitative interference of Administration is very painful to the villagers. The solar energy is so expensive that the villagers would never be in a position to set up the solar energy plants. The facility of L.P.G. which is an alternative source is limited only to the city dwellers. The previous Government had extended the facility of

L.P.G. upto the Tehsil level. But no step has been taken to ensure the facility of alternative fuel to the villagers, despite the announcement of 50% budget allocation for villages made by the present Government and no step has been taken to provide them relief in this regard.

I would like to submit that the Government should make an arrangement to supply the L.P.G. connections to the rural sectors and appoint L.P.G. distributors in these areas. The Government should issue instructions to all the existing distributors or dealers to supply L.P.G. connections to the villages which fall within the radius of 20 kms. of their Centres; and treat them as their regular gas consumers.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we shall take up the discussion.

[Translation]

SHRI J.P. AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): What has happened to Delhi Bill? Will some astrologer fix it date? You are postponing it again and again. No work is being done in Delhi. B.J.P. people have intimidated the officers and put obstacles in their work. .. (Interruptions)...

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): I would like to know as to when the Delhi Bill is being taken up.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please be seated. I am here. (Interruptions)

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): Even in the last session, it was introduced on the very last day.

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi Sadar): The Congress has withheld this Bill for forty years and still they are trying to withhold it. ... (Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It seems that you are all very eager to see that this Bill is introduced.

DR. THAMBI DURAI (Karur): I am not interested ... (Interruptions)