

12.05 hrs.

[English]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to declare 11th November 1988, The birthday of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad as a National Holiday**

✓ KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE

(Jadavpur) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was a man of strong determination, pure heart, majestic in appearance, balanced and dignified in expression. Maulana Sahib was an outstanding figure of great courage, fearlessness, integrity and passionate love for freedom. He was a unique figure in our political life for nearly two generations. Even before he joined the Congress in 1920, he was a revolutionary. His political wisdom, patriotic and sacrificial services were recognised early and he was elected the President of Indian National Congress in 1923, a position which he held for a number of years on different crucial occasions. His services to the country as a sagacious statesman, an ardent patriot and a great intellectual are inestimable. As we are going to celebrate the centenary year of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, I urge the Government to declare National Holiday on 11th November, 1988, which is his birthday to pay tribute to Maulana Sahib.

- (ii) **Need to step up indigenous production of "Copper-T" and other contraceptives**

DR CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) Undoubtedly the entire development in the country is very much related to population growth for which the Government is very much concerned. Adopting various measures on one hand and involving voluntary organisation and general public on the other hand and declaring it as a peoples movement indicate the amount of interest taken by Government. Among different measures for arresting population growth Copper-T plays vital role but until now we

have depended exclusively on its import through UNFPA, direct imports or U.S. Aid.

To save foreign exchange, Ministry had initiated steps for its Indianisation 10 years ago. However, no progress has been done except introduction of Testing infrastructure at IIT, New Delhi, with large recurring expenses and capital investment. Technology available in the country has not been used profitably. Ministry had not implemented the recommendation of Director-General of Inspection (Ministry of Defence) as regards the placement of order on the Indian manufacturer. Although these agencies were asked by the Technical Committee of the Ministry to investigate into the manufacturing capabilities of different units and for their recommendations, the Ministry did not use the expertise of the Department of Supplies or Ministry of Defence in introducing import substitute of Copper —T despite their long experience.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare to encourage the Indian manufacturer for the supply of Copper T, of course with a condition of approval of samples.

- (iii) **Need to allow Commission to authorised agents on the sale of Indira Vikas Patras and to make N.S.C. more attractive**

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central) Mr Speaker Sir mobilisation of resources through different National Savings Schemes is a useful national work as through such schemes, savings of a common man are made available for national reconstruction.

12.10 hrs.

[MR DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

This laudable work is done mostly by small authorised agents who generally come from retired Govt. servants. They earn their livelihood by earning small commission on such sales. However, recently due to the