

House towards the following matter of public importance.

LAMPS purchases the produce of the nationalised forest in the tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh. This practice has been in vogue for the last ten years with the main objective of saving the tribal people from the exploitation by middlemen. The economic condition of LAMPS in the whole of the State is pitiable. The mismanagement has cropped there due to lack of co-ordination between the Forest Department and Co-operative Department. This year the purchase of 'Harara' and 'Mahua' was not conducted in a proper way and due to it the tribals had to face many difficulties. In the coming season this year, a good produce of *Tendu* leaves and *Sal* seeds is expected. But if some reforms are not made in the system, the tribals would face great inconvenience.

Often it is observed that due to shortage of money, LAMPS is not able to make the payment for many days together and even they refuse to purchase the commodities at some places. As the entire produce is from the nationalised forests, there no marketing alternative and as such the solution of the problem is imminent.

I would like to request the Central Government to make improvements in the marketing system in the tribal areas. A single agency should be set up by establishing co-ordination between the Forest Department and the Co-operative Department. There should be an increase in the number of purchase-centres and enough money should be made available. Vigilance committees consisting of Government and non-government representatives should be constituted at Block, District and State levels so as to bring about necessary improvements after examining the working of the system from time to time.

- (iv) Need to fill up the reservation quota for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates in Government service in group 'D' posts.

SHRIMATI SUNDERWATI NAWAL PRABHAKAR (Karol Bagh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, under Rule 377, I want to draw your attention to the following matter of public importance;

There is a special provision in our Constitution for the preservice of old traditions of our country. The economic and social development of the people of backward classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is a special feature of our Constitution. Under the provisions of the Constitution, Government is committed to provide reservation in Government jobs to persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. This is the only way to ensure the social and economic development of these people. Though these constitutional provisions in this regard are well-known, yet these are not implemented completely in some Ministries and Departments. For example, according to my information in many Ministries and Departments of the Government, the number of the Scheduled Caste employees of category 'D' is very less than the prescribed quota. The Ministry of Home Affairs should take immediate steps in this connection. I request the Minister to present a paper to the House giving details of the number of actual Scheduled Caste employees in 'D' Category and of the prescribed quota for these persons. If this quota is not completed, then the reasons must be stated.

[English]

- (v) Demand for settling claims of refugees from Pakistan occupied areas of J and K and Conferring citizenship rights on refugees who migrated to J and K at the time of partition.

SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA (Jammu) : There are a large number of refugees from the J & K State whose areas have been occupied by the Pakistan Government during 1947 as they are settled in other parts of the State of J & K. But their claims for resettlement have not been finalised by the Ministry of Rehabilitation, Government of India so far. There are other refugees, who migrated from West Pakistan at the time of partition of the country and settled in J & K State. But they have not been given the citizenship rights there in the State so far.

It is requested that the claims of the refugees from Pakistan occupied areas of J & K State be settled at the earliest and