

(Interruptions.)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. This is unfair.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : There is acute shortage and scarcity of drinking water in Ganjam district and other districts in Orissa. People are leaving village after village in search of drinking water. I have given a calling-attention notice on this subject. Please accept it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will consider it.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Distressing report has emanated from Orissa that 50 children are already dead on account of dysentery. Sorry, some friends here are not very serious about the matter. It is not only that.

Hundreds of boys and children are suffering from this disease. This is an infectious disease and it may spread to neighbouring States. As a matter of fact, it comes under Entry 29 of the Concurrent List. I would request the Health Minister to make a statement on this.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will consider it.

SHRI AZEEZ SAIT (Dharwad South) : Sir, I have given a Calling Attention in connection with a recent judgment of the Supreme Court. This is a very important matter. I would request you to take up the Calling Attention at an early date.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will consider it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, you kindly listen to me for half a minute. I think, there will be total unanimity, including from yourself on this.

Here is the text-book published by the Maharashtra State Board of Secondary Education on Civics for the X Standard in which they have described Indian Parliament as Department of the Government. When we wrote to them, they said, "You can go to a court of law. But we will not

change the text-book." They have deliberately insulted our institution. If our children read such text-books, it will be a matter of shame for us. I have given a privilege notice.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already referred.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I would like you to examine that. It is under your consideration ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will consider it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Nice of you. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Papers to be laid.

12.12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notifications under Coconut Development Board Act, 1919 Fertilizer (Movement Control) Amendment Order, 1985 Review and Annual Report of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticulture Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited etc. etc.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table.

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 21 of the Coconut Development Board Act, 1979 :—

(i) The Coconut Development Board (Amendment) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. GSR 716 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th October, 1984.

(ii) The Coconut Development Board Recruitment (Amendment) Regulations, 1984 published in Notifications No. GSR 1042 in Gazette of India dated the 6th October, 1984.

- (iii) **The Coconut Development Board Recruitment (Third Amendment) Regulations, 1984** published in Notification No. GSR 10 in Gazette of India dated the 5th January, 1985. [Placed in Library. See No. LT. 797/85].

(2) A copy of the **Fertilizer (Movement Control) Amendment Order, 1985** (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. GSR 351 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th April, 1985 under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the **Essential Commodities Act, 1955**. (10 of 1955).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 798/85].

(3) A copy each of the following **Papers** (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the **Companies Act, 1956** :—

- (i) Review by the Government on the working of the **Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar**, for the years 1978-79 and 1979-80.

- (ii) **Annual Report of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticulture Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar**, for the year 1978-79 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (iii) **Annual Report of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited, Srinagar**, for the year 1979-80 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 799/85].

(5) A copy each of the following **papers** (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the **Companies Act, 1956** :—

- (i) Review by the Government on the working of the **Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation**

Limited, Mangalore, for the year 1981-82.

- (ii) **Annual Report of the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation Limited, Mangalore**, for the year 1981-82 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(6) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 800/85].

- (7) (i) A copy of the **Annual Report** (Hindi and English versions) of the **National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad**, for the year 1983-84.

- (ii) A copy of the **Annual Accounts** (Hindi and English versions) of the **National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad**, for the year 1983-84 together with Audit Report thereon.

- (8) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-801/85]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare, 1985-86

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRA-SEKHAR) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare for 1985-86.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-802/85].

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Labour, 1985-86

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Labour for 1985-86.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-803/85]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Departments of Ocean Development, Electronics and Atomic Energy for 1985-86

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): I beg to lay on the Table.

- (1) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Ocean Development for 1985-86.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-804/85]

- (2) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Electronics for 1985-86.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-805/85].

- (3) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Atomic Energy for 1985-86.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-806/85].

MEMBER SWORN

Shri Kakade Sambhaji Rao Sahebrao
(Baramati)

12.15 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[English]

Situation arising out of the recent rise in price of essential and other commodities

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Food and Civil Supplies to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The situation arising out of the recent rise in prices of essential and other commodities and the steps taken by the Government in that regard."

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, this is a very important matter. You allow a discussion under rule 193 on this...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot allow it now. The Calling Attention is already admitted. Let the Minister reply.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): There was some improvement in the overall price situation in 1984-85. The annual rate of inflation declined to 5.8% in March, 1985 from 9.2% in the same month a year earlier. A notable feature of the price situation during 1984-85 has been subdued prices and easy availability of several essential commodities including cereals, edible oils and vegetables. It is indeed remarkable, Hon'ble Members will agree, that the wholesale price index of cereals moved down by 6.6% in the past two years ending March, 1985. There were, however, a few commodities the prices of which moved up during 1984-85.

2. After the presentation of the General Budget 1985-86, the wholesale price index is available for four weeks ending 13th April, 1985. During these four weeks the wholesale price index has moved up by 2.3%. A large portion of this increase has been due to Budget levies on or increase in administered price of some commodities. In the case of remaining commodities, there has been a mixed trend. The prices of some commodities have gone up while the prices of some other commodities have moved down.

3. Government attaches utmost importance to ensuring availability of essential commodities at reasonable prices. Both the Central and State Governments are monitoring the prices of essential commodities. The main thrust of the Government policy is to increase the production of essential commodities, particularly those in short supply. The export of essential commodities is regulated keeping in view our domestic requirements. Some commodities are imported to augment domestic supply. The Public Distribution System is being expanded and its management is being improved to make essential commodities available at reasonable prices to the people, especially the weaker and vulnerable sections of the society. The