

Forests Act came into being in 1980. Five years have already elapsed. Denudation of forests is still continuing. In fact it has become much faster now. The Government have failed to take action against the people who are destroying our forests.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Rao, you can continue after lunch. The House now stands adjourned, and will re-assemble at 2 p.m.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for
Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.*

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*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after
Lunch four minutes past Fourteen
of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

—Contd.

**Reported Destruction of Forests and
Pollution of Air, Water and
Atmosphere—Contd.**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now Shri Srihari Rao may continue.

[Translation]

*SHRI SRIHARI RAO (Rajamundry) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Central Government have appropriated all the rights of State Governments by enacting the Conservation of Forests Act. The State Governments have been relegated to a secondary position. The State Governments have no resources to implement the afforestation programmes. The Central Government are not providing money to the State Governments to grow more forests. There has not been any appreciable growth in our forests just because of these reasons.

Sir, social forestry programme is being implemented throughout the country in a casual manner by individuals. Certain individuals get the money from the Government for growing eucalyptus and other trees under this programme. But after 4 or 5

*The speech was originally delivered in Telugu.

years they cut all the trees they grew. As a result only these individuals are deriving the benefits. There is no improvement in the environment. This programme has not contributed at all for the growth of social forests in the country. It shows how defective the policy of the Government is.

Sir, it appears that the entire forest policy is defective. The Government declares a place as a reserve forest area where there is not even a shrub. No animal not even a dog is found in these areas. I will give you an example. An area of more than 2000 acres in the heart of Rajamundry is a reserve forest area. It was declared to be a reserved forest when Rajamundry was a small town with a population of 40,000. Not even a single tree can be seen now, in this reserved forest. Now the population of the town has swelled to 4 lakhs now. The town has become very congested. No effort has been made to develop this town. The town cannot develop, for, there is river Godavari on one side and this reserved forest on two sides. The boundaries of this town was fixed long ago. There is need to change the boundaries as the place available to accommodate 4 lakhs of population is not sufficient. This reserve forest which is no forest at all is obstructing the growth of the town. The Government has not done any thing to convert this area into a beautiful park so that at least it adds beauty to the town. This example is sufficient enough to show how defective the present policy is. Sir, waste lands should be developed into forests and not the useful lands in the heart of the cities. The policy needs to be amended that way. In fact, I ask for a thorough revision of the forest policy of the Government.

I want to give another example to show how defective the policy of the Government is. Telugu Ganga Project which will help in supplying drinking water to our Tamilian brothers in Madras and in irrigating millions of acres of land in Rayalaseema and other districts of Andhra Pradesh, has not yet been cleared by the Centre on the plea that the canal passes through reserved forest area. It is a silly argument. Though the area through which Telugu Ganga passes happens to be a reserved forest, hardly there are any trees. This canal does not destroy forest and on the other hand helps in the growth of forest around it. This project helps in providing drinking water to the people in

Madras. It irrigates lakhs of acres of land in Rayalaseema and other Andhra regions. More food grains can be produced. The entire country stands benefitted. Yet, such an important project has not been cleared by the Centre on the excuse that it passes through reserved forest and hence destroys that forest. This example points out the glaring defect in the policy of the Government. Hence I want to ask the Hon. Minister whether the Government is going to revamp the entire policy thoroughly.

Sir, the Government is spending crores of rupees for the development of forests. The money is not being spent properly. So the Act must change. Of course, the mere change in the Act won't do. A social awareness will have to be created. A revolutionary change in the attitude and in the thinking of the people has to be created. The people should feel by themselves about the harm caused by the felling of trees. I want to know whether Government are working in this direction.

Sir, the Chipko movement started by Shri Sunderlal Bahuguna has become very popular throughout the world and especially in Europe and Australia. It is a pity that we, in this country know only to ape others and imitate other. We know not how to respect our people who do pioneering work. Shri Sunderlal Bahuguna's Chipko has escaped the attention of our people. Government should try to encourage such movements. I want to know how far the Government is going to help such movements. There should be an awareness among the people to grow more trees. Then only our forests will develop.

The water in our rivers is being polluted by the effluents. Of various factories situated on their banks. Many industries are polluting the river waters in the country. I want to know whether the Government have taken any action in this regard. I want to know how many industrialists were punished so far? How many people have been tried so far for polluting the water? The Hon. Minister did not say even a single word in this regard. Now the Government is issuing licences to the new industries only if they have arrangement to check pollution. But what about the industries which were established long back? They continue to pollute the air and I want to know whether

Government is thinking of asking the industrialists to install electro-static precipitators to check pollution. There are many ways of checking the pollution. There may be Acts. But the Government should implement them vigorously.

Sir, the Government have decided to clean the river Ganga. I welcome this decision. The entire country is an integral body. While cleaning the rivers in North, the Government should not forget the rivers in South. There are major rivers like Krishna and Godavari. Godavari is a very big river and as holy as the mother Ganges. The Godavari waters also are being polluted by the industries situated nearby. Have the Government taken a decision to clean Godavari also. The talk of integration will be really meaningful only when all parts of the country and all the rivers are treated equally. I want to know whether they will establish a board on the lines of Ganga pollution control board for this purpose. I request the Hon. Minister to reply to this question?

Sir, the Buckingham canal in Madras and Musi canal in Hyderabad are proving to be very dangerous to the people in these cities. They not only emit foul smell, but also are becoming the sources of many diseases. These canals should be cleaned immediately if the residents there are to be saved. Not only major rivers like Ganga, but also these canals which are a disgrace to these cities must have to be cleaned immediately. I want to know whether Government are considering this matter also.

Speaking about air pollution, Sir, I must say that it is too much in Delhi and in the surrounding areas. The chimneys of Thermal plants emit smoke day and night. Taj Mahal, which is not very far off from Delhi is one among the seven wonders of the world. But this precious heritage of ours has not escaped the cruel hands of pollution. This structure has been affected by the Mathura refineries. A Committee was appointed to look into this matter. What are the finds of that Committee and whether the Government have implemented its recommendations? Sir, air pollution has become a menace. Have the Government asked all the industrialists to install anti-pollution apparatus like electrostatic precipi-

tators in their units. Have the Government directed them to do so ?

Sir, requesting the Hon. Minister to answer my questions and thanking you for giving me this opportunity, I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI VIR SEN : The whole House is of the opinion that forests have to be protected and I see Mr. Rao has a discordant note. Well, we have to protect the forests. That is the primary function that the Government intends to perform.

He has criticised the Conservation of Forests Act. He has said that because of this Act development of some cities particularly Rajamundry has been stalled. This Act is meant for protection of forests. Some projects are being taken up by the State Governments like construction of dams where reservoirs are to be constructed and transmission lines are to be laid. These projects are coming to the Central Government and this Act authorises the Central Government to give approval or not to give approval after taking into consideration the environmental aspect and the aspect of forestry our primary duty towards mankind is to protect forests so that the mankind may be protected and it may survive. So, wherever there is need for development we take into consideration whether it is in consonance with the environmental requirements or not. At the same time, we take into consideration whether the forests can be saved by procuring alternative land. Only when it is essential that forests have to be sacrificed for the sake of development, we do it and we give the approval, otherwise if we feel that the project could be set up at some other place, we ask for the information.

The Hon. Member has said about the delay in clearing the projects. We are clearing the projects but the main difficulty with us is that sometimes the information is not complete, and when we call for the information, it sometimes takes years together. Ordinarily it is expected that within three weeks they should supply the information sought for but sometimes even after repeated reminders, we don't get the information. That is why the projects are held up at the Centre. Particularly I may say that we do

not hold up the clearance of the projects, it is the State Governments that are themselves responsible for this.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO : What about the Telugu Ganga ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You want deforestation or afforestation ?

SHRI VIR SEN : In this case also we had sought for some additional information from the Tamil Nadu Government and this information has only recently been supplied on 23rd July. We will be examining this information and I think we would be clearing or rejecting, whatever it may be, after some time. As a matter of fact, the delay is not from our side, we try to dispose of the projects as early as possible but we have to wait for the information from the State Government.

AN HON. MEMBER : How early is early ?

SHRI VIR SEN : As a matter of fact, if every information is available with us, generally we clear the project within three months, but our hands are tight (*Interruption*).

SHRI C.MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad): What type of information you want ?

SHRI VIR SEN : As a matter of fact, I have no data with me, but the present position is that there are only 13 projects which are three months old and are lying with us. So, there is not so much bulk with us. We have almost cleared many of them. Whenever they are coming to us, we are taking action very expeditiously.

The other question that the Hon. Member has raised is about the social forestry and grants to individuals to grow Eucalyptus. The afforestation programme cannot succeed if the Forest Department alone performs it, the cooperation of the people is essential. What we want is that the movement should be supported by the people in general. That is why we are taking help from the people in general from the villagers, from the women in the villages, from the youth from educational institutions and even from children. We expect that every child should plant at least one tree so that he may have interest in it, he may rear the tree and help in the afforestation programme.

It is true that some people are going in for Eucalyptus because it is a fast growing tree and it gives returns quite early. There are some trees which may take 60 years or more for maturing. But this is a tree which matures in about five years and at the age of 15 years, it gives maximum benefit. If you have to take cooperation of the people in general, you have to show them that there is some economic benefit also by resorting to plantations. If we give some opportunity to the villagers, we will have to think of showing them the benefits also. And I think if in five years they can get some return, that will be an incentive to them and that will rouse their interest in growing trees.

As I have already said, it is necessary to seek the cooperation of the people in general. That is why we desire that nurseries should be raised by individuals in the villages. If the Forest Department raises the nurseries, it is not profitable to distribute them and the transport cost is also very high. So, what we desire is that the nurseries should be raised in the mofussil areas, in the interiors of rural areas. By doing this whereas the planting material will be available easily at a shorter distance, at the same time it will be beneficial to the individuals to raise such nurseries.

The Hon. Member has said that instead of sacrificing the reserve forests, we should try to raise millions of hectares of our waste land. As a matter of fact, I should not agree to the first part of the suggestion but as far as the second part is concerned, I fully agree and that is what we are already doing. The Prime Minister's declaration on 5th January said that five million hectares of waste land will be brought under forestation. This is an approach which I think the Hon. Members on the other side will appreciate and commend.

I am thankful to the Hon. Member that he has talked of overhauling the Act. But which Act is to be overhauled? Of course, not the Conservation Act but the Forest Act, and we are thinking of bringing out certain amendments to the Act so that the preservation and conservation of the forests is more effective. We are thinking of putting in some penal provisions also for those who are held responsible for felling the trees illegally.

Pollution by factories and air pollution are the two things which the Hon. Member has pointed out. In my earlier statement as also in reply to a question by Shrimati Usha Choudhari, I have said that as far as the industrial pollution is concerned, two types of industries are there. One type is of those industries which have come up after the enactment of the Water Pollution Act and the Air Pollution Act, and the other type of industries are those which came up before the enactment of those Acts. For those industries which have come up after the enactment of these Acts, we have made it a necessary condition that they have to include the measures for pollution control in the scheme itself and in the project report itself. It must form part of the project. Their proposal and their equipments have to be verified. The Pollution Board will verify whether the equipment is fit enough to control pollution, and unless a certificate is obtained from the Board, of course the letter of intent will not be converted into a licence. In this way, of course, we are taking precautions in this respect also.

For setting up of the hazardous industry also, we are taking precautions and making provisions. If we think that some industries are harmful or hazardous, then without the approval from the Environment Department this industry will not be allowed to be set up.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : What about the old industries ?

SHRI VIR SEN : As far as the old industries are concerned, first we persuade them. If that persuasion fails, we prosecute them. There are several cases which have been brought to the court also and in some cases prosecutions have resulted. The figure is available with me, but it will take some time for me to find that out from the mass of information. So, if the Hon. Members are interested, I will give complete information to them later on.

Now, I come to the air pollution in Delhi and Agra. I think in Delhi 40 per cent of the air pollution is particularly from the thermal stations. As far as Rajghat Thermal station is concerned, we have asked the units to be closed. The other units, of course, are using electro-static precepitators. Now,

as the Hon. Member has suggested about the electro-static precipitators, we are already insisting upon these and some of the units are already using it. In Delhi some precipitators have become old and are not so efficient. So, we are asking those units to instal new ones. Ordinarily, of course, a new electrostatic precipitator is capable of controlling 99.5 per cent of pollution. So, in that direction we are moving and acting and wherever it is necessary, we move the court and take necessary action.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : What steps are you taking to prevent pollution in Calcutta.

SHRI VIR SEN : Well the steps we are taking in other States, also apply to Calcutta. I would like to say only one point about the pollution effect by the refineries in Agra and Taj. As a matter of fact investigations have been made of the quality of the air there and it has been found that it is not injurious to the Taj.

About saving of the Taj, we have taken another measure. An area has been designated as Trapezium and within that area we do not permit any industry of polluting nature to come up. Of course, some industries have applied for permission. I remember in one case which we received, we have refused permission to set up industry in that area. We are very careful about our cultural heritage of Agra as well as the Taj. We are careful that such industries do not come up there. I think I have made all the points.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO : What about water pollution ?

SHRI VIR SEN : We are cleaning the Ganga. As a matter of fact, I think the Hon. Member was not present when I was replying to the lady Member.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Why don't you take up Godavari along with the Ganga ?

SHRI VIR SEN : All the rivers are being monitored. In some rivers of course it is at advanced stage. But as far as the projects are concereed, we will come forward before you when there is availability of funds. **Thank you.**

[*Translation*]

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK (Sonepat) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Members who have spoken earlier have thrown enough light on this subject and as I am the last to speak on this subject, I would try not to repeat those points.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the most important objective before the Third World is to establish peace in the world and the next most important objective, I feel, is to save the environment from pollution. The Hon. Members have rightly said that most parts of the world are facing the problem of water and air pollution. Various schemes are being formulated to solve this problem. Thousands of human beings die throughout the world due to acute shortage of water or due to water pollution. According to an estimate 70 per cent of diseases are caused due to water pollution and 30 per cent of them due to air pollution. The Ganga passes through eight States in our country. Many cities in these states for instance, 26 cities of Uttar Pradesh, 15 cities of Bihar, and 59 cities of West Bengal are situated on the banks of river Ganga. Similarly, 132 factories are located along the banks of Ganga. This means that 37 per cent of the country's population is located on the banks of the Ganga. The effluents from these factories flow into the Ganga which pollute the water of river Ganga. The water of river Yamuna and other rivers is also polluted in a similar way which causes diseases and results in the death of human beings and animals. This water is not even good to take a bath what to speak of drinking it. People living along the banks of river Ganga fall victim to dreaded diseases like Cholera, Polio, Typhoid, stomach ailments and cancer due to the polluted water of the river. Not only this, the pisciculture as well as agro-industries suffer a great loss due to the polluted water. The Government have formulated a Ganga water cleaning scheme. The Hon. Prime Minister has also laid great emphasis on this in his first public statement, but the Planning Commission has earmarked only Rs. 80 crores in the Seventh Plan for this purpose, whereas our Government had placed a demand for a provision of at least Rs. 250 crores for this purpose. Only Rs. 10 crores have been earmarked for Ganga cleaning scheme in 1985-86.

The second type of pollution is air pollution which is caused by vehicles, factories and industrial waters. Now a days forests are being denuded in a large area but new trees are being planted in less number. Whenever the forests are the only means to combat the problem of floods and drought. The Hon. Membrs have just now said in their speeches that trees and air have close relation. I would add that the water has also very close relation with trees and air. The trees and plants produce their food from carbon-dioxide, solar energy and water and in exchange emit oxygen which is very essential for all living beings. So it is very necessary to plant trees to prevent air pollution. But in our country trees are being felled in a very large number and their number is much more than the number of trees which are being planted. I would like to submit that besides oxygen the trees give us rains, medicines and water for agriculture. Due to felling of trees, the cycle of rains in our country is being disturbed.

Other Hon. Members have expressed their views in detail in this respect. I would also like to place some suggestions and then put questions.

I would like to suggest that the Centre and the State Governments should instruct all those factories which release polluted water and emit smoke that they should instal treatment plants at their premises at the earliest so that polluted water is prevented from flowing into the rivers and the polluted air is prevented from polluting the environment. It will have two benefits—one is that the water of the rivers is saved from being polluted and secondly treated water and the gas can be used for other useful purposes.

Beside this, I would also like to submit that the Government should lay stress on this point that our educational institutions should teach the students of the schools regarding protection of trees and forests and also about planting new trees. This subject should also be included in the syllabus of the students so that the future generations may have full knowledge about it and they may make all efforts to protect the trees.

I would like to say, as is also the opinion of the noted environmentalists, that

the main reason for growing pollution is that there are a number of lacunae in the prevention of Water Pollution Act, 1974. The general view is that this Act is not commensurate with present time and circumstances. There are a number of hurdles in the way of taking action against those factories which release dirty waters and effluents indiscriminately. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether an amendment in the Act will be brought forward in this session or not ?

My second question is, what is the duration of the scheme to eliminate water pollution in the Ganga and other rivers and what action Government is going to take in this matter so that the country may not have to face the problem of water and air pollution arising out of the growing population, large number of factories and growing need for urbanisation among the people ?

Thirdly, what is the number of persons in India who die due to water and air pollution annually and what has been the increase in this figure during the last three years ?

Fourthly, how much total funds have been spent by the Government during the last three years to do away with air and water pollution ?

Fifthly, what are the causes of acid rains and what are the measures to check it ? Can India also be affected by acid rain and what are the possibilities to control it ?

Sixthly, every year, a large number of dead bodies are cremated on the Ghats of Ganga. There is no mention of disposal of dead bodies in the Ganga cleaning scheme. Only it has been mentioned that dead bodies should not be thrown into Ganga. In this connection I would like to know whether the Government after going through the matter propose to incorporate a provision in the Act to prevent people to cremate the dead bodies at the Ganga Ghats ?

Seventhly, what is the number of rivers in India in respect of which survey has been conducted by the Government till now and what is the percentage of polluted water in various rivers in India ?

Eighthly, as the Hon. Members who spoke earlier have also asked, what is the

number of persons against whom action has been taken and prosecution has been launched? I would like to know the number of factory owners against whom action has been taken for causing pollution in water and air in the last three years under Prevention of Air Pollution Act and Prevention of Water Pollution Act? How many such persons have been convicted and whether any factory owner has been sent to jail in this connection? According to my information such persons are let off by imposing a minor penalty of Rs. 10, Rs. 20 or Rs. 50. They are not awarded any stringent punishment. I would like to suggest that there should be such a provision in the Prevention of Water Pollution Act, 1974 and the Prevention of Air Pollution Act, 1974 and the Indian Forests Act that they become more practical and the erring persons are awarded most stringent punishment so that people are prevented from polluting the water and the air.

With these words I would like to urge the Hon. Minister to look into this matter and save this country from air and water pollution.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI VIR SEN) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in his introductory speech the Hon. Member has drawn attention towards forests. There is no need to reply it. Then he has raised many questions. I have already replied to these points earlier. A main question has been raised regarding the Ganga Scheme that the Planning Commission has sanctioned only Rs. 80 crores for it. I think that it is correct that less amount has been sanctioned in the scheme but I believe that funds will not be a problem in implementing the scheme. The Hon. Members might be aware that when the Hon. Prime Minister visited France, the Government of France offered to give help. We are looking into it also. Besides this the World Bank, U.S.A., U.K., Switzerland and Canada and some other countries have made proposal to offer as help. We will consider these proposals. We will accept these condition of these countries which are found suitable and steps will be taken to put the scheme into effect.

Some suggestions have been made that factory owners should be given instructions regarding air pollution etc. We are already implementing it. We challan those persons who do not follow the instructions. I have a detailed list. It is not available with me just now, otherwise I would have intimated the number of persons against whom action has been taken.

[English]

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : You can supply the information and place it on the Table of the House.

SHRI VIR SEN : That I can do. I will place it on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : Pollution is somewhat more on that side. That should be removed.

SHRI VIR SEN : Wherever this pollution is more, efforts will be made to remove it.

(Interruptions)

We have removed pollution on this side. I have just said that in Calcutta .

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do you think that placing some papers on the Table will get polluted ?

[Translation]

SHRI VIR SEN : The Hon. Member has spoken about education also. We are already paying attention towards the field of education and are incorporating it in the syllabus for Primary Schools. We are also trying to incorporate it at higher level. We are also making efforts at this University level that it should be incorporated at the degree stage as well. We are already paying attention in that direction. The Hon. Member has referred to the throwing of dead bodies in the rivers. There is a process which is called "D.O.D.". It helps in preventing the contamination of water. The living beings need chemicals in the water.

If the pollution of water is removed, the living beings will start growing. It will result in the growth of fish and the Tortoise. However, the Nature has her own in built arrangements. Where there is pollution, it is cleaned by Tortoise and fish. However, we think that it is essential to check this pollution. If dead bodies can be cremated in the electric crematorium then this should be done. This is what we think. The Hon. Member has referred to the acid rains also, when the sulphur oxide go upwards and there is reaction in the atmosphere then it is converted into the form of acid and falls down. This does not occur in our country but takes place only in the countries, having cold climate. We need not worry about it and as such there is no need to do something particular about it. I think I have replied to all the questions of the Hon. Member.

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**BUSINESS ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

[English]

Eleventh Report

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we will take up item No. 13.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : I beg to move :

“That this House do agree with the Eleventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 13th August, 1985.”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That this House do agree with the Eleventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 13th August, 1985.”

The motion was adopted

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MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Janak Raj Gupta—not here.

Shri Vishnu Modi...not here.

**(i) Need to declare seven state roads
in Madhya Pradesh as National
Highways**

KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI (Raigarh) : Sir, Madhya Pradesh is lagging far behind in the field of road communication. There are eight National Highways in M.P., whose total length is 2,676 kms. The average length of National Highway in India is 0.92 km. per 100 sq.km. whereas it is only 0.60 km. in M. P. No new National Highway has been added in this State over the last two decades whereas the length of National Highway in other States have increased by 6 to 83 per cent.

It is regrettable that due attention has not been paid for the addition of new National Highway in M. P. Due to the central location of the State of M. P. in the map of India, the traffic from North to South or East to West has to pass through this State. Therefore, the role of High-way assumes greater importance.

The National Transport Policy Committee had recommended to the Government of India to declare seven State roads, namely, (1) Gwalior, Jhansi, Nowgang, Rewa; (2) Nagpur, Ambikapur; (3) Jabalpur, Shahdol, Ambikapur, Gunala; (4) Raipur, Ambikapur, Varanasi; (5) Bhopal, Indore, Jhabua, Ahmedabad; (6) Jagdalpur, Rajamundry; and (7) Nizamabad, Jagdalpur as National Highways. But it is unfortunate that no step has been taken in regard to the recommendations of the National Transport Policy Committee.

Madhya Pradesh is a backward State and predominantly inhabited by tribals. Therefore, I request that the above mentioned seven state Roads should be declared as National Highways by the Central Government, without any further delay.

[Translation]

**(ii) Need to differentiate the colours
of Dye Ammonium Phosphate and
Super Phosphate Crystals**

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise a matter of urgent public importance under rule 377, India is predominantly an agricultural country and even now about 80 per cent of the total popula-