

[English]

SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA (Keonjhar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very sorry to draw the attention of this august House about an incident in the recent elections in my State. There was some religious propaganda which was taking place in my parliamentary constituency. I am very sorry to inform this august House about this sort of religious propaganda which is going on in India. Sir, India is a democratic country where we shall have to fight with each other, that is, there must be only two parties in India to fight with each other. For example, in the British empire there are two parties only. That is called democracy. In India there are several parties. They are distributing money and exploiting the *Adivasi* people who are there in my parliamentary constituency. They are exploiting these *Adivasi* people and are capturing the booths and they are also threatening our *Adivasi* people and capturing the booths and getting the votes.

In my parliamentary constituency, Keonjhar, I have only five M.L.As. In one of the seats, the headquarters town of my parliamentary constituency, Keonjhar, my son, Shri Lingraj Munda was to win the seat by 6,000 votes. But these religious parties, whom I cannot name in this House, have done religious propaganda and he lost the seat by 4,000 votes. I would like to draw the attention of this House to the point that this sort of religious propaganda should not be propagated. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, some companies claim to make LPG easily available to the common people. They also claim to have been granted permission by the Central Government and issued licences. But according to my information, they possess no infrastructure, no bottling plants and no transport facilities. These companies are earning lakhs of rupees only by appointing distributors or by granting dealerships.

LPG has been made available to none by these. I would like to know the names of the companies which have been issued licences or authorised for promising to make LPG available to the people and accumulating wealth that way. Like the Gagan company and the chit fund companies of many other banks, the Peerless, Laxmi Chand Bagga etc. gulped down public's crores of rupees. Does not there exist such a possibility? Hence, in order to allay such apprehensions the Government should give the names of such companies and also affirm whether these are authorised companies?

SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA (Hazaribagh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government to Hazaribagh district. One year ago the electronic machine got burnt in Hazaribagh which has not been replaced so far. There is no communication facility available there. In this connection, I also met Shri Sukh Ram and wrote dozens of letters to him but all in vain. I also met and wrote letters to the Chief General Manager of Patna. The deplorable part of it is that even he did not take any action in this regard. My telephone at Hazaribagh is out of order for the past one year and, thus, I am not able to talk to

anybody. The office-bearers there burnt the machines worth 7 crores of rupees because their channel of income was blocked. These officials are earning Rs. 20-25 thousand due to machine being out of order. Such machine was also burnt at Dhanbad. An inquiry should be conducted into this matter and an electronic machine re-installed at Hazaribagh as soon as possible.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay-South Central): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Directorate of Handicrafts under the Central Textile Ministry has issued orders for shifting the office of Regional Design and Technical Development Centre for Handicrafts situated in Bombay to Bhopal. Jawahar Lal ji through his letter had informed hon. Venkat Swamyji that 99 percent export of handicraft items is done from Bombay. Therefore, this office should be situated in Bombay itself. The workers are working there for the past 38 years. They have not got their wages of last three months. Venkat Swamyji is present here. I request him not to shift this office to Bhopal. The 250 odd people who were being imparted training there can also be paid their wages. Wages may be paid to them and a decision in this connection taken forthright.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there has been a sudden death of LPG in Rajasthan including Kota. The Gas Authority of India had set up an LPG refilling plant in Sawai Madhopur but some days back the supply of LPG in Rajasthan was disrupted due to work to rule and the strike. LPG has not been available there for more than three months.

On the one hand LPG is not available and on the other the Central Government has not supplied full quota of kerosene oil for the last 6 months. Thus, neither LPG nor kerosene is available to the people there. Kerosene is sold at the rate of Rs. 12-15 per litre in the markets of Rajasthan. My submission is that the Central Government should immediately issue orders of installing a rebottling plant in Sawai-Madhupur and ensure the proper supply of LPG cylinders in Rajasthan at war footing because the common consumer is in great trouble there. Today morning, I received a phone call from the District Magistrate of Kota and he said that people are really facing hardships there. I hope that the hon. Minister will definitely take steps in this direction...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Jaipur is also facing the problem of non-availability of LPG as well as kerosene. I urge that both the items be made available in Jaipur...*(Interruptions)* The condition in Jaipur is worse than Kota...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JANARDAN MISRA (Sitapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the 40 per cent increase in the prices of paper. In 1991, hon. Narasimha Rao ji and the hon. Finance Minister enforced the new industrial policy due to which the prices of paper increased by Rs. 17.50 per kg in that very year. In January 1994, there was another increase of Rs. 20-30 per kg and in early 1995, the prices of paper increased to Rs. 35-40 per kg. On this, 7.50 per cent sales tax is levied and the freight charges have also increased. As a result of this India's book trade will not