

3. The Cotton Transport Repeal Bill, 1995
4. The National Highways (Amendment) Bill, 1995
5. The National Environment Tribunal Bill, 1995
6. The Constitution (Seventy-seventh Amendment) Bill, 1995

14.09 hrs.

[English]

Election To Committee

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : Sir, I beg to move :-

"That in pursuance of Section 7(2) (f) of the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two female members from among themselves, to serve as members of the central Supervisory Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That in pursuance of Section 7(2) (f) of the Pre-Natal Diagnoses Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two female members from among themselves, to serve as members of the Central Supervisory Board, subject to other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted.

14.10 hrs.

[Translation]

Calling Attention To Matter Of Urgent Public Importance

SITUATION ARISING OUT OF DROUGHT AND FLOOD IN SEVERAL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (AZAMGARH) : Sir, I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and urge him to make a statement in this regard :-

"Situation arising out of drought and floods in different parts of the country and the steps taken by the Government in this regard."

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) :- Sir, the South-West Monsoon advanced into Gangetic West Bengal on 7th June, 1995 and reached Kerala on 8th June, 1995. Since the normal date for onset of the monsoon over Kerala is 1st June, the arrival of the monsoon this year has been about one week late. The delayed start of the monsoon resulted in late commencement of the rains over some parts of the country. The onset of monsoon was delayed over Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, parts of West Uttar Pradesh, east Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana by about seven to thirteen days. However, by 13th July, 1995 the South-West Monsoon had covered the entire country, two days in advance of the normal date of 15th July for coverage of the western-most districts of Rajasthan.

Information available regarding rainfall in the 35 meteorological sub-divisions of the country for the week ending 26th July, 1995 shows that the rainfall situation is now quite satisfactory. Out of 35 meteorological sub-divisions as many as 26 have excess or normal rainfall and only 9 sub-divisions are in the category of deficient rainfall. There is no sub-division where the rainfall is scanty. However, many of the Sub-divisions which have deficient rainfall have only marginal deficiency, slightly more than -19% which is considered within the normal range such as Konkan & Goa (-20%), Orissa (-22%), east Uttar Pradesh (-24%), Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi (-20%) and Punjab (-24%). However, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura sub-division has a deficiency of -29%, Bihar Plains -28%, plains of west Uttar Pradesh -32% and Saurashtra, Kutch and Diu -34%. As on 26th July, 1995 as many as 185 districts in the country had normal rainfall and another 66 districts had excess rainfall. There were 133 districts with deficient rainfall and 17 districts with scanty rainfall. However, I am happy to inform the House that there has been good rainfall over the country in the last few days and the situation is progressively improving.

Since the South-West Monsoon has completed about two months of its four months span and most parts of the country have received good rainfall by now, it would be too early to make a by assessment about drought conditions in several parts of the country. Even though the rainfall commenced late over some areas of the country, the rains have been sufficient for sowing of crops in most parts of the country.

It is reported that transplanting of rice is continuing over large areas. The standing crops of transplanted rice and upland broadcast rice is