

(viii) NEED TO WITHDRAW THE ORDER REGARDING CURTAILMENT IN PRODUCTION OF SMALL PACKAGES OF VANASPATI.

SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE (BOMBAY NORTH CENTRAL) : The Vanaspati Directorate, Ministry of Civil Supplies, Delhi, has issued a notice to the Vanaspati Manufacturers ordering them not to exceed 90% of the production of small packaged Vanaspati achieved during the period November 1981 to October 1982. This order is to come into force from 1-9-1983, just prior to the festival season when the demand for small packed Vanaspati goes up by 40%.

As a result of this order, Vanaspati packed in packages will be 800 tonnes less than that produced last year and create artificial scarcity resulting in black marketing. This package was the only protection against adulteration price manipulation.

Government has admitted on the floor of the House that unscrupulous elements and mischief mongers have been either adulterating Vanaspati with beef tallow and other Unhygienic oils or beef tallow is being sold as loose Vanaspati. Though the Government has restricted import of beef tallow, it has not been able to totally confiscate the stocks of beef tallow which have found their way in various markets.

A number of consumer organisations are demanding withdrawal of this order which is detrimental to consumer interests.

I would, therefore, request the Government on behalf of the housewives of this country to immediately withdraw the order and save consumers from black marketeers, hoarders and adulterators.

SHRI KRISHAN CHANDRA PANDEY (KHALILABAD) : Mr. Chairman, Sir\*\*

MR. CHAIRMAN ; Whatever you have said is not to be put on record.

Kindly listen; this can be taken up separately, not like this. You have to go according to the rules that exist. This will be taken separately, not now.

(ix) NEED FOR REVERTING TO THE ARRANGEMENT FOR THE SUPPLY OF L.P.G. TO PATNA FROM BARAUNI OIL REFINERY.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) : सभापति महोदय, इंडियन आयल कारपोरेशन की गलत नीति के कारण पटना नगर में गैस की वितरण व्यवस्था अस्त-व्यस्त हो गई है। पटना नगर, दानापुर और पटना सिटी के 35 हजार से अधिक गैस उपभोक्ताओं के सामने भीषण गैस संकट उपस्थित हो गया है।

पटना शहर में पिछले महीने तक गैस की सप्लाई बरौनी तेल शोधक कारखाने से होती थी परन्तु अब राजधानी के सात गैस बितरकों को बोंगाई गांव तेल शोधक कारखाने से गैस की सप्लाई का आदेश दिया गया है। फलस्वरूप पटने में बोंगाई गांव से गैस आने में एक सप्ताह का समय लग जाता है। जुलाई माह से पूर्व बरौनी तेल शोधक कारखाने से पटने के गैस उपभोक्ताओं को गैस की आपूर्ति होती थी।

भारतीय तेल निगम की नई व्यवस्था के कारण राजधानी के गैस उपभोक्ताओं को गैस की आपूर्ति गत एक महीने से नहीं की जा सकी है। इससे लोगों में घोर असंतोष व्याप्त है।

गैस संकट का लाभ बंडर एवं अधिकारी उठ रहे हैं। जब तक गैस की होने वाली सप्लाई के लिए वे उपभोक्ताओं से मूल्य से अधिक पैसे वसूल कर रहे हैं। कम से कम दस रुपये और किसी-किसी मामले में इससे अधिक रकम वसूली जा रही है।

ऊर्जा मंत्री से मेरा अनुरोध होगा कि वह पटने की जनता को गैस सिकट से उबारने के लिए गैस की सप्लाई पहले की तरह बरौनी तेल शोधक कारखाने से ही करवाने की व्यवस्था करें तथा भ्रष्टाचार पर अंकुश लगावें।

The provision of the Act have since been reviewed afresh in the light of the 1972 Amendment Bill, the recommendations of the Joint Committee and the suggestions made by the Committee on Safety in Coal Mines set up by the Ministry of Energy (Department of Coal).

Sir, the main objectives of the Amendment Bill are:—

14.23 hrs.

### MINES (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : Mr. Chairman, I beg to move\* :

“That the Bill further to amend the Mines Act, 1952, be taken into consideration.”

The Mines (Amendment) Bill, 1983 is before this august House. The Bill seeks to further amend the Mines Act, 1952. The Mines Act consolidates the law relating to the regulation of labour and safety in mines. The Act provides for safe as well as proper working conditions in mines and certain amenities to workers employed therein.

The coal industry occupies an important role in the economic life of your country and would continue to do so in view of the estimated energy needs for the development of the country. In order to ensure that safety and health considerations of mine workers are not lost sight of, the Mines (Amendment) Bill, 1972 was introduced in this House in May, 1972. The Bill was referred to the Joint Committee, which submitted its report in August, 1973. It took some time for Government to consider the recommendations of the Joint Committee, but unfortunately, with the dissolution of the 5th Lok Sabha, the Bill lapsed.

- (i) the removal of certain practical difficulties experienced in its enforcement;
- (ii) provision for additional safety regulations;
- (iii) closer association of workers with safety measures;
- (iv) provision for minimum penalty in case of gross negligence or recklessness;
- (v) increase in the levy of the cess for the administration of rescue service in the coal mines;
- (vi) redefining clearly the duties and responsibilities of the owner, agent and manager of the mine;
- (vii) prohibiting employment in dangerous mines; and
- (viii) prohibiting employment of persons below 18 years of age.

In view of the health hazards to which the mine workers are exposed and with a view to safeguard the health and safety of workers and for promoting their welfare, it is proposed to introduce a new provision which would enable the chief Inspector of Mines to undertake safety and occupational health surveys in mines. The time spent by a worker in such survey would be counted as duty and he would also be entitled to the payment of overtime if survey