

[Shri M. Ramanna Rai]

"Kerala Dinesh Beedi Society" from the payment of excise duty on the branded beedi produced by them.

Hence the Government of India is earnestly requested to come forward to save 25,000 beedi workers' families and beedi workers' industrial co-operative societies by exempting from levy of excise duty branded beedi produced by Kerala Dinesh Beedi Society.

(xvi) TRAFFIC DIFFICULTIES DUE TO CLOSURE OF LEVEL CROSSING IN THE EAST AND WEST OF CHEPRA KACHERI STATION.

श्री. लक्ष्मणेश सिंह (छपरा): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नियम 377 के अधीन विव-लम्बनीय लोक महत्व के निम्नलिखित विषय की ओर सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित कर रहा हूँ:-

पूर्वात्तर रेलवे में बरौनी से लखनऊ तक छोटी लाइन को बड़ी लाइन में बदलने के क्रम में छपरा कचहरी स्टेशन के पूरब और पश्चिम दोनों फाटक को सड़क पुल (ओवर ब्रिज) दिए बिना बन्द कर देने से रेलवे लाइन के उत्तर-दक्षिण दो भागों में विभक्त छपरा शहर के नागरिकों का आवागमन अवरोध हो गया है तथा प्रभुनाथनगर, बौरा, मरहौरा, तरैया, बमनौर, इसुआपूर, गिराबाजार, जगदम कालेज, राजपूतस्कूल, दहिआंब, टोड़ी आदि स्थानों पर जाने वाली सड़क बन्द हो गयी है जिससे सम्पूर्ण सारन जिला अप्रत्याशित भीषण संकट का सामना कर रहा है। माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से विनम्र अनुरोध है कि सड़क पुल (ओवर ब्रिज) जब तक नहीं बने तब तक दोनों रेल फाटक को बन्द नहीं होने दें और सम्बद्ध रेल अधिकारियों को कृपया शीघ्र आदेश देकर सर्वसाधारण के इस कष्ट का निवारण करें।

12-44 hrs.

MOTION RE: INCREASE IN THE PRICES OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN JUNE, 1980

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, we will take up Item No. 23 of the List of Business.

Prof. Madhu Dandavate.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): I beg to move:

"That this House do consider the statement made by the Minister of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers in the House on the 10th June, 1980 regarding increase in the prices of petroleum products in June 1980 due to increase in the price of imported crude oil and petroleum products by the OPEC countries."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, before I made my observations on the Statement made by the hon. Minister of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers, at the very outset, let me point out that this House has certain conventions and those conventions were completely and totally violated in the case of rise in the prices of petroleum products.

Just on the eve of the meeting of the Parliament session, the rise in prices of petroleum products was already announced and, on the 10th June, the hon. Minister was kind enough to make a statement on the floor of the House. I would not say that this involves a privilege. But there is a certain propriety that ought to have been observed in the House and the propriety demanded that when we were already meeting within two days of the announcement of rise in prices of petroleum products, the Minister for Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilisers could have shown a little more patience to come before the House and make the announcement of the rise in prices of petroleum products. There is also the convention and the practice of the House that whenever such statement is coming up, the notification should be laid on the Table of the House. Unfortunately, these conventions were violated.

Within a few days of the announcement of the rise in prices of petroleum products, the Budget was presented to the House. The hon. Minister may argue that, strictly according to the