

(vii) ALLOTMENT OF AGENCY FOR DISTRIBUTION OF LPG IN TAMIL NADU

SHRI A. SENAPATHI GOUNDER (Palani) : Madam Chairman, under Rule 377 I wish to bring the following matter of public importance.

Palani Constituency in Tamilnadu comprises Business Centres like Oddan Chatram, Dharapuram, Vellakkoil, Chennimalai, Kangayam and holy places like Palani, Lord Karthikeya being the presiding deity. Palani is like Tirupathi. Lakhs of pilgrims from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala visit this place and stay mainly in Choultries/lodges. The hoteliers in their efforts to serve food to pilgrims, in the absence of cooking gas, scanty supply of kerosene, have resorted to buying firewood from illegal felling of trees from unscrupulous elements. These forests lie within a distance of ten miles from Palani. This has upset the ecological balance. Local population of more than one lakh people have to do the same to cook their daily food. This, I am afraid, will upset the National Forest Policy of our Government aiming at preserving forests, wild life and green vegetation.

Our Government under the leadership of respected Prime Minister has always endeavoured to improve the standard of living of all. One way is to provide uninterrupted supply of cooking gas, L.P.G. connections, and kerosene.

I understand that there are two L.P.G. Bottling plants at Coimbatore and Salem which are likely to be expanded. I, therefore, insist upon the Government that agencies for distribution of L.P.G. be immediately allotted at the above places, especially, in view of the fact that interviews have been conducted for agencies at Palani at least eight months ago and further provide continuous supply of kerosene.

13.20 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE-DISAPPROVAL OF CENTRAL EXCISE LAWS (AMENDMENT AND VALIDATION) ORDINANCE, 1982 (ORDINANCE NO. 1 OF 1982) AND CENTRAL EXCISE LAWS (AMENDMENT AND VALIDATION) BILL

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the House will take items 10 and 11 together—Statutory Resolution.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani) : Madam, I move the following Resolution :—

“This House disapproves of the Central Excise Laws (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance, 1982 (Ordinance No. 1 of 1982) promulgated by the President on the 24th September, 1982.”

Madam, this Ordinance is based and has arisen because of a judgement of Delhi High Court, as we have been told in the statement of the Finance Minister, on 6th August, 1982. So the judgement of the Delhi High Court was delivered on 6th August, 1982. One fails to understand why the Central Government did not think it fit to go to the Supreme Court itself and seek the remedy because here the matter has been raised by the High Court, as the statement of the Minister states, that if any partial exemption is made to any excise duty then the whole range of such duties even on other enactments would be affected, cannot be collected and would have to be refunded to the parties. The Minister in his statement has very correctly narrated if they refund the amount already collected, the consumers would not be benefited by that. Only those in the higher echelons of business would be benefited who have already collected from the consumer. But the pertinent point is that this House is sitting from 4th October and the notification for it has been issued earlier and the Ordinance by the President has been promulgated on