

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (S. BUTA SINGH) : I have a basic objection to the practice that you have very generously allowed in this House. It is very serious and dangerous for the functioning of this house. I maintain the position which I stated yesterday. The office of the Speaker and his administration is beyond the discussion of this House.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes; we cannot.

(Interruptions)**

S. BUTA SINGH : Let me complete.

MR. SPEAKER : I will not allow any discussion now. You come to my Chamber at two O'clock. You are welcome at two O'clock, all of you.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I would like this thing to be over. I welcome the members of the Ruiling Party as well as Opposition at two O'clock to my Chamber.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : This is not appointment. This is the general practice which I have been following. Please sit down. There is nothing wrong about it.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : No, no, there is nothing wrong about it.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : This is the general practice which I have been following. I have been calling all the members of the groups when there is anything to be sorted out.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is Question Hour. I will not allow any discussion on it.

(Interruptions)

S. BUTA SINGH : The hon. members must know that the budget of the Speaker's Office is not discussed in the House. (Interruptions) When files pertaining to the office of the Speaker cannot be questioned by any discussion in the House (Interruptions) Therefore, I maintain that you kindly discuss these things in your Chamber and not in the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Basudevji, it is you who has got this work done from me and even now you are going.

(Interruptions)

All of you may please sit down. I shall ask only you to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. K. Ramamurthy.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Amendment to AIR (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981

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*326. SHRI S.M. GURADDI :
SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any legal provision for a citizen to vent his grievances

against the industrial units violating the norms for checking pollution;

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal to enact a suitable amendment to the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, there is no provision for an individual to launch any prosecution.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details are being worked out.

SHRI S.M. GURADDI : In cement industry the dust is a health hazard, as you know. The Committee on occupational health hazards had laid down certain norms. These are not being followed by the industry and workers working in such industries are many a time suffering from T.B., Cancer and Asthma. Has the government taken any action against these manufacturing units that emit poisonous gases and effluents there ?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Under the Act which is available today, the Board is empowered to take action, and wherever it is found that the cement factories are exceeding the limit which is fixed, action can be taken against them, the State Board as well as the Central Board. If a cement factory is in the jurisdiction of the Central Board, action can be taken by Central Board.

SHRI S.M. GURADDI : In ARC Cement Factory has been in production against the order of the U.P. State pollution Central Board. The Prime Minister himself had written in April 1985 to the then Chief Minister of U.P. asking him to

take appropriate action. Whether the necessary action has been taken by the U.P. Government against them ?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : As far as action taken by the U.P. Government is concerned, I shall have to collect the information and give it to the hon. Member. But the hon. Minister of Environment has made a statement on the Floor of the House that some teeth is given to the Act and the Board so that some effective action can be taken. Also, it was mentioned in the House when the statement was made, that the individual may have the *locus standi* to prosecute the industries which are committing the offences.

SHRI S.M. GURADDI : You have not answered the second part of my question, whether any changes are likely to be made in the Technical specifications in the licence issued by the Pollution Control Board. That is not answered.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : I have also stated in the House that we are looking at the Act itself and we want to make that Act more effective. Now, whether the specifications have to be changed or not, that also can be seen. But the Boards are empowered to fix the specifications and the standards and if those standards are not followed, action can be taken.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Thampan Thomas. Absent, Shri Raju.

SHRI ANAND GAJAPATHI RAJU : I would like to know whether air pollution and water pollution would be regulated under an act; if so what type of act would it be, and who would be the regulating authority. Will it be a tribunal? If one goes to a court, it will be further delayed. Are you thinking of a tribunal or something which can regulate it? Otherwise it becomes a big problem. There is a lot of effluence in rivers and there is lot of air pollution also. Will the hon. Minister take it seriously and do something in the matter ?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : That is what exactly I have mentioned in the

House. There are two Acts available to us. Under these two Acts powers are there and the Boards are empowered to fix the standards and if those standards are not followed action can be taken to make them follow the standards. To make the action which can be taken by the Board more deterrent, more effective, some amendments are suggested and amendments would be made in the law. The Boards will be made more effective and private persons also may have some right to proceed against the industries which are not following the standards.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Mool Chand Daga.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act came into force in 1981. Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of industries prosecuted after this Act came into force and if none has been prosecuted, the reasons therefor? Do you think there is need to make some amendments in this Act to make it more effective and if so, when such a need was felt? Pollution is continuously increasing and even after 5 years, you say that we shall consider it but no step has been taken by the government during the last four years. May I know who is responsible for it?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, action has been taken against 515 industries so far. The penal provision in this Act provides that either imprisonment or fine can be imposed. But we propose to enhance the fine and imprisonment both. We are also considering whether both the penalties can be imposed together and what would be its implication. Keeping in view the action being taken by us in this regard, we are also taking other steps to make this Act more effective.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsii—Absent.

Shri B.V. Desai—Absent.

Shri T. Basheer.

Industrial Schemes for Kerala

*329. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of the industrial schemes including expansion of existing units, submitted by Government of Kerala for inclusion in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) and (b) A statement is given below.

Statement

The draft Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90) of the State of Kerala envisaged a total outlay of Rs. 3,300 crores. Out of this, the share of Industry and Minerals Sector was proposed at Rs. 325 crores. During the discussions between the Deputy Chairman Planning Commission and the Chief Minister of Kerala, the overall size of the Seventh Plan of the State of Kerala was finalised at Rs. 2100 crores taking into account the resources available. The share of Industry and Minerals sector out of the total 7th Plan (1985-90) outlay was agreed at Rs. 207 crores as detailed below :

	(Rs. crores)
1. Medium and Large Industries	126
2. Mining	4
3. Village and Small Industries	77
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Total :	207
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Appendix I to this statement gives the schemes included and outlays proposed in the draft Seventh Plan submitted by the Government of Kerala. Keeping the *inter-se* priorities, the Government of