

मध्यक्ष महोदय : कुछ हो रहे हैं। इनका काम नहीं है। He cannot say about it.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : There is no such proposal before the Government.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : This question of thefts in Five Star hotels is not only in Delhi but outside Delhi too. The Minister may have seen a week ago a press item which said that Nirmal Setya who is alleged to be a smuggler lost his diamond studded watch in Bombay. I would like to know from the Minister, has any thought crossed his mind that such thefts might be a convenient way of avoiding paying customs duty on these valuable items and then declare them as lost? In this connection I would like to know in this particular case that it was, in fact, a theft case. Before allowing the countess to leave the country did Government make adequate preliminary investigation?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : Before the countess left, adequate steps have been taken and the people whom we suspected have been interrogated. This lady has given the statement on her own. She has created a sort of controversy by going to the press, inviting the press and holding Press Conference. We have taken sufficient care in this matter. As I said investigation is still going on.

The suggestion made by Dr. Subramaniam Swamy with regard to Nirmal Setya who is said to have lost his wrist watch is for consideration.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr. Speaker Sir, every day we are appreciating that science is progressing. But there are disadvantages also. Even thefts are committed in a scientific way. May I know from the

Hon. Minister whether he is aware that some recommendations have been made by the School for Research on Crime. Recently, I had attended a lecture at the School. They have made some recommendations to the Ministry. Have they been fully implemented or fully ignored?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : I want a Notice for that.

Development of Power Engine based on BIO-GAS

*800. **SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA :** Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has developed a power engine based on 100 per cent use of bio-gas as fuel ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what is its programme for commercial production in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS AND ENVIRONMENT AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH) : (a) to (c). Engines based on 100% use of biogas as fuel have been developed in India at different R & D institutions such as BHEL (R & D Centre), Mafatlal Polytechnic, Bombay, Indian Institutes of Technology, Delhi & Madras, etc. Testing and evaluation is presently being carried out on such engines to determine their long term performance. They will be available for commercial production subsequently.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Sir, it is a very important question. Bio-gas is a future

source of energy, especially in our country where about 30 to 40 crore tonnes of animal dung is available as based for bio-gas production and if it is utilised properly, about 7,000 crore cubic metres of methane gas could be produced. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether our Government have any plan to produce these bio-gas engines based on bio-gas on a large scale in any public sector undertaking.

May I know whether our Government have given any financial and technical assistance to those organisations which are doing research and development work to develop such type of power engines? If so, the details thereof be given.

What is the maximum B.H.P. developed by these engines, so far?

SHRI C. P. N. SINGH : The Hon. Member has very correctly pointed out that bio-gas can and should be taken up as a priority because in India, as this august House is aware, we have got lot of bio-mass and animal dung. Fortunately under the commission on the additional source of energy, we have now taken up this programme with a major thrust.

I would like to clarify the Member's question on the points. At this stage, we have got one pump which uses 80% bio-gas and 20% diesel. As far as 100% bio-gas engine goes, we are, at present, in a state where trials have been made for a particular engine which is being made by BHEL. This has been under trial runs. But as the Member is aware, unless the cost viability and the performance is perfected, it would not be right to put it out for commercial use.

The other part of the question, namely bio-gas funding, engines are run on bio-gas, IIT, and many

private sector industries have also been taking it up, i.e. Mafatlal, Kirloskar and Sterling Engines, Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Sir, I am fully satisfied with the answer. But I have got one more supplementary. Under the new 20-point programme the Hon. Prime Minister has given priority for bio-gas technology by launching a national bio-gas technological project. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, what is the progress made by this new agency in the field during the last two years as we have already fixed the target to develop 10 lakhs family size bio-gas units and..... (Interruptions). No buttering. It is an important question. You should know the importance of the question.

MR. SPEAKER : Order, please.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : We have already fixed the target of 1100 community bio-gas plants during the Sixth Plan. How much we have achieved uptil now?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Can they get butter from cow dung?

SHRI C.P. N. SINGH : Dr. Swamy, I am sure, is looking into that technology himself.

The Hon. Member did raise a point which has been looked into. Our Hon. Prime Minister has given importance to it in our 20-point programme which is for the upliftment of the poorer sections of society. I am sure my Hon. friends on the opposite side would appreciate that this programme is for the weaker sections as 76 per cent of our population live in rural India. This is an appreciable fact and not merely a laughing matter.

Regarding the programme of family bio-gas units, this is under the Ministry of Agriculture and they have got a major programme. But after 1980, as the Hon. member pointed out, this programme has been given more impetus.

As regards community bio-gas plants, that is under the aegis of the Commission and, I am sure and I can assure the House that we will certainly put them up during the Sixth Plan.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH :
The experiments are still going on. But in China, almost every commune has these power engines and the power engines are running on-bio-gas. I presume, there is a scientific coordination with the Chinese system and our system as well. My suggestion is as this is an experiment and our farmer is a conservative man, would the Department coordinate with the Cooperative Department so that the cooperative societies give better incentives for the farmers to buy these power engines ?

SHRI C. P. N. SINGH : Regarding the programme in China, this is being repeated in the House a number of times. But I would assure the House and the Hon. Member that our scientists, technologists and engineers are behind China. But fortunately or unfortunately, their system of Government provides a different method of putting up these sort of units. Technically we are not really lagging behind.

As regards the second part of the question, the Hon. Member said that this programme is continuing. It is a programme which has to continue for the simple reason that technology of today may not be relevant tomorrow. An updating of this technology in coordination with the farmer is necessary, not only at the laboratory stage.

The other part of the question is about closer coordination with the cooperatives. Fortunately, in Maharashtra, because the cooperative movement is much stronger, we have been very successful. Now, this is a programme to be carried out by various State Governments. We are liaising with the various State Governments. Some have been actively cooperative and some have not been so. But we are still pursuing the matter with the State Governments that have not been pushing up this programme as it should be.

Assessment of Tin Reserves in Koraput District of Orissa

*801. **SHRI K. PRADHANI :**
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Geological Survey has made any investigation to assess the tin reserves in Koraput district of Orissa;

(b) if so, which areas of Koraput have be surveyed; and

(c) the details about the assessment and steps taken for the exploration of tin from those areas of Koraput district ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI-MATI RAM DULARI SINHA) (a) :
Yes, Sir.

(b) The areas surveyed so far in Koraput district are around the villages of Dammoguda, Tentuliguma, Tondapalle, Dumripodoro, Podapodoro and Bandabada.

(c) Several zones have been demarcated in these areas which show tin values. Tin-bearing rocks varying in length from 20 to 60 metres have been identified. Tin ore