

SHRIVIDYACHARANSHUKLA: I would request the hon. Speaker to fix an early date for discussion of this matter in the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The matter should not go for gazetting. That is their fear.

SHRI VIDYACHARN SHUKLA: You might kindly act according to whatever is permissible under the Rules and if early discussion is allowed, I think that will be a good idea.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you for your cooperation on this sensational subject. The hon. Minister has agreed that a date should be fixed. The matter will come up before the Business Advisory Committee and a date will be fixed for discussions on Cauvery waters. Thank you very much. Shri K.H. Muniyappa, kindly have your seat.

Now we shall go for Matters Under Rule 377.

14.41 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (1) **Need to diagnose Causes of Falling Oil Production in the Country and take Remedial Measures to Step up its Production.**

[English]

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Berrampur): According to studies made by a task force, more than 700 oil wells in Gujarat and Bombay High off-shore have fallen sick. The production in several other oil wells has declined due to the major constraint of reservoir, defective operational process and inadequate surface facilities.

Oil and Natural Gas Commission have made huge investments in these offshore oil wells. Unless immediate steps are taken to plug the loopholes and revamp the existing management system, several other oil wells

will fall sick. ONGC will not be able to achieve their production target set for Eighth Plan period.

All problems in the Bombay High and Gujarat oil-fields should be identified and necessary steps must be taken to overcome these problems. The planning exercise should be made more scientific and must have inbuilt provision to account for the slippage. Planning and monitoring cells for each project and region should be established with participation of grass-root workers and production planning must be reviewed and updated, depending upon the reservoir performance and input availability.

I, therefore, urge the Government to analyse and diagnose the cause of falling oil production and take remedial measures to increase production.

- (ii) **Need to review the decision of Government to deduct Income tax at source on interest of Rs.2500 and above**

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): The recent decision of the Ministry of Finance to deduct income-tax at source on interest on Rs.2,500/- and above has created real hardship both to the Banking Sector and the middle-class people in view of the following:-

- (1) A large amount of deposits have already been withdrawn from the Nationalised Banks.
- (2) This has created additional work-load in the Banks and the Bank Staff are unable to cope up with the increased work and thereby effecting their performance.
- (3) In many cases, the comparatively small fixed deposits of the

middle-class,, especially the retired persons, have been hard hit and their only one source of livelihood is affected. It is, therefore, requested that this may kindly be reconsidered and the status quo restored.

- (iii) **Need to ensure adequate and timely supply of LPG in hill areas of Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI. BALRAJ PASSI (Nainital): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under Rule 377, I would like to bring it to the notice of the august House that more than 40,000 persons are on the waiting list for gas-connections in the whole Kumaun region. For more than last 3 years there is a ban on grant of gas connection in that area. It is causing a great loss of Forest Wealth worth crores of rupees. Besides, smoke discharged from hearths is telling upon women's health of the hill areas. They fall victims of T.B. and asthma. Gas-depots have been set up in a few places. Even those places, prove useless as they are far from the reach of general public. Several depots are in the waiting-list for last many years.

I would, therefore, like to request the hon. Minister of Petroleum to take effective steps for supply of LPG in Nainital, Almorah, Pithoragarh etc. in view of the fact that these are absolutely hill areas.

- (iv) **Need for dragging of Vatrak and Shedhi Rivers of Kaira District of Gujarat to Avoid Flood situation Created by these Rivers.**

[English]

DR. K.D. JESWANI (Khedra): Sir, the Vatrak and Shedhi rivers have been creating flood situation in Kaira District of Gujarat

State practically every year. The Shedhi river has gone very shallow because of the deposition of silt, particularly between Dakor and Umreth towns. Even with the rainfall of about 10 to 15 cms. at a stretch, it overflows, blocks roads and causes heavy damages to agriculture. It has gone shallow in also many other parts of its course. As a result of deposition of silt, it changes its stream every year causing damage to a number of villages situated on the river bank.

River Vatrak has also gone very shallow near Kheda town and changes its stream every two years because of the deposition of silt. It has washed away a protection wall, built up for the protection of Rabariwad and Bhoiwad of Kheda town.

I therefore urge upon the Government to undertake dredging of both these rivers (which is not done so far) and build some spurs at selected points to divert the stream of the rivers.

[Translation]

- (v) **Need for early Construction of Proposed Bridge on River Yamuna in Allahabad**

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Under Rule 377, I would like to draw your attention to a very important and busy bridge on river Yamuna in my constituency, Allahabad, located at the confluence of Ganga and Yamuna, has always been an important city from political, social and literary point of view. A bridge constructed on Yamuna river during the British days, connects Uttar Pradesh with Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal. That bridge is on the verge of collapse as it has outlived its utility.

In the post-independence era, Naini a trans Yamuna area has developed into an important industrial area. Several industries are running there and there are plans to set