

इस के लिये आप ने क्या कोई व्यवस्था की है ?

श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह : मैं इस राय से सहमत हूँ कि गांवों में भी फेयर प्राइस शास्त्र होना चाहिये और प्रसर गल्ले की मांग नहीं है तो दूसरी चीजें उन्हें सस्ती दर पर मिलनी चाहिये। इस के लिए वास्तव में जिम्मेवार सिविल सप्लाइज मंत्रालय है और मुझे जहाँ तक मालूम है वह इस का प्रबन्ध भी कर रहा है।

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Sir, may I draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that his assessment of poor off-take of foodgrains in the rural areas is not based on the correct assessment? When the distribution system itself is defective and it cannot reach the rural areas, he cannot say that the off-take is poor. I would say that the fair price shops which are only distributing foodgrains are not viable by themselves with the result that the dealers are selling their stocks at the taluk headquarter itself and if that is the case, may I know whether the hon. Minister proposes to advise the State Governments to entrust the distribution system to the local panchayats where they can take care of this distribution in a perfect manner. Secondly, I would like to know whether he is including other essential commodities, as has been stated in his statement, like kerosene, pulses and other commodities so that the poor may get them at a cheaper price and also whether he will be able to see that the food for work programmes are taken up by various departments so that it may reach the workers and they may be able to take advantage of the rural distribution system.

SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: The first suggestion has already been carried out. I have written to the State Governments to think of making these fair price shops viable. His suggestion is that panchayats should be handed over this work. That I have

already suggested to the State Governments. In fact, I wrote a letter to them on September 18, 1978, and as far as food for work is concerned, I have no doubt that food is reaching those for whom it is meant.

Conference on Prostitution

+

*310. SHRI K. MALLANNA:
SHRI VIJAYA KUMAR N.
PATIL:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference was recently held in New Delhi on The Woman in Prostitution—Victim versus Offender; and

(b) if so, the details regarding recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) Yes, Sir. The Association for Social Health in India, a voluntary organisation, had organised the Conference on the occasion of its Golden Jubilee, from 8—11 November, 1978.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Conference made certain recommendation in the form of Resolutions, namely:—

- (i) Prostitution should be treated as a national problem;
- (ii) Programme to combat sexually transmitted diseases should be strengthened.
- (iii) Socio-Economic programmes for the rehabilitation of women given to prostitution should be organised;
- (iv) The working of the rescue Homes and Correction Centres should be reviewed;
- (v) Family Life education should be included in the curricula of

the educational institutions at all levels. The subjects promoting social health of the community be included in the national Adult Education Programme;

- (vi) Audio-visual material should be brought out for promoting the overall social health in the country; and
- (vii) In the amendment to the S.I.T. Act, 1956, necessary provisions for the punishment of the customer may be included.

SHRI K. MALLANNA: Sir, this is a very important question. My question has not been answered by the hon. Minister properly. The question is whether a Conference was recently held in New Delhi

MR. SPEAKER: He said: "Yes".

SHRI K. MALLANNA: ... on the Women in Prostitution—Victim *versus* Offender. What I intended in putting this question is that women should be treated as victims and the procurer or the customer should be treated as offender. This, as per the answer, is not answered. But this is the main question. Coming to the supplementary this Conference had not gone deep in to the matter about the problem of prostitution.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: He is not aware of the problem.

SHRI K. MALLANNA: Prevention is better than cure. We must know the cause of these things. This institution of prostitution in the ancient days was for the pleasure of the monarch and the rich. Now it is confined to socio-economic problems, due to poverty and unemployment....

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question?

SHRI K. MALLANNA: Women and girls succumb to prostitution due to socio-economic problems. I would like

to know whether the Government has initiated any socio-economic measures to cure this disease, if so, what are they and to what extent they are implemented.

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: This problem was very amply debated in this House in connection with the amendment to Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act. Only recently, the House passed the Amendment Act and it is provided therein that a special provision should be made for correction homes and protective homes. There the erstwhile prostitutes will be trained in various fields so that they can earn their living in a better way.

SHRI K. MALLANNA: He has not answered my question. There are two kinds of prostitution. I read in the paper and this is from the study of Dr. Pramila Kapur of Delhi. One kind is those who resort to it due to socio-economic problems and the other is those who take recourse to it due to physical and psychological problems. These girls are called call-girls. Many of these call-girls do come from families which are not oppressed by finance and which are well-off and they take recourse to it for pleasure. I would like to know whether the Government is thinking of declaring any area as prohibited area and giving licences to run brothel houses for these call-girls. This is a menace to the society (*Interruptions*) What is the measure contemplated by the Government to stop this menace of call-girls?

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: Under the Amendment Act, which was passed by this House and also passed unanimously by the other House, it is provided that the State Government will have the power to declare certain areas to be free from prostitution. So, if these problems come within that area, then these will be prohibited. There is no question of giving any licence to anybody.

SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR N. PAHL: In view of the wide-spread call-girl racket in the affluent society, I would

like to know whether the Government proposes to stop the mushroom growth of cabaret culture.

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: of cabaret culture.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: This whole problem is an extremely serious one and unless and until the socio-economic problems are solved, we will continue to be plagued by it. May I know from the hon. Minister what the Government is doing about taking steps to rehabilitate the women who are misled and who fall victims to this totally immoral and anti-social traffic? What does Government purpose to do about seeing that such rehabilitated people are absorbed into the employment force and into the society in our country?

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: I fully agree with the Hon. Member that the bulk of the problem depends on the socio-economic matter and unless there is general socio-economic improvement in the country, it is almost impossible to tackle this serious problem. However, as I have pointed out, in the new provisions of the amended Act we have mentioned about protective homes and corrective institutions. There, these people will be rehabilitated and there will also be probation for them as the Probation of Offenders Act has been made applicable to these cases. Apart from these, some of the unfortunately girls may volunteer to take advantage of the new provisions, so that they may be taken away from the brothels and may see better life.

श्री श्रीम. प्रवेशा ल्योनी : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सच है कि जब किसी वेश्यालय में कोई प्रोस्टीच्यूट और ऑफेंडर पकड़े जाते हैं तो बेचारी लड़की को ही दण्डनीय माना जाता है और जो ऑफेंडर होता है, उसको दण्डनीय नहीं माना जाता है? क्या मंत्री महोदय इस प्रकार का कोई संशोधन संविधान में करेंगे कि जो व्यक्ति वेश्यालय में जाता है वह भी दण्डनीय हो?

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: The Act does not prohibit prostitution, but it applies to control commercialised prostitution, so that they may not live on prostitution.

The Law Commission has advised that it will not be proper to punish the man because the initial offence is not a criminal offence. Therefore, there is no question of abetment in this offence.

राजस्थान में कीड़ों से फसल को
नुकसान

+

* 311. श्री ज्योत्सु राम सारन :
श्री जगदीश प्रसाद साधु :

क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या राजस्थान में पिछले दो तीन वर्षों से कातरा, एक प्रकार का श्वेत कीड़ा, तथा चेपा से खरीफ की फसल खराब हो रही है; जिस के कारण किसानों को भारी हानि हो रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या फसल को बचाने के लिये कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की गई है और यदि नहीं, तो इस के क्या कारण हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b). Pests like white grub, katra (red-hairy caterpillar) and chepa (aphids) have been affecting the Kharif crops in Rajasthan for the last two, three years in varying degrees. However, as a result of measures like chemical treatment of the affected area, use of light traps, mechanical control, etc., it has been possible to avert serious damage to the crops.

श्री ज्योत्सु राम सारन : मैंने उपचार ले लिए हैं, लेकिन मैंने पूछा था कि क्या वहाँ यह उपचार क्रिये नहीं या उपलब्ध नहीं हुए?