

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, November 17, 1986/Kartika 26,
1908 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM AUSTRALIA

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to make an announcement.

On my own and on behalf of the hon. Members of the House, I have great pleasure in extending our warm welcome to hon. Mrs. Elaine Elizabeth Darling, M.P., Leader of the Australian Parliamentary Delegation and the hon. Members of the Australian Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests. The other hon. Members of the delegation are :

- (1) Hon. Mr. J.D.M. Dobie, M.P.
- (2) Mr. P. S. Fisher, M.P.
- (3) Senator the Hon. Richard K.R. Alston.
- (4) Hon. Mr. P. Duncan, M.P.
- (5) Mr. L.R.S. Price, M.P.

The delegation arrived here on Friday, 14 Novemer, 1986 morning. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them

a happy and fruitful stay in our country. We also convey our warm greetings and very best wishes through them to His Excellency the Governor General, the Parliament, the Government and the friendly people of Australia.

(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : There is no confirmation yet.

AN HON. MEMBER : Yes; that is right, no confirmation is there.

MR. SPEAKER : Without confirmation we should not say because it is disputable.

Whatever has been said will not go on record.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Rural Organic Compost Potential

*184. SHRI MANIK REDDY† :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated rural organic compost potential and its actual use;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to boost the use of the organic compost; and

(c) to what extent full use of compost would reduce the use and import of chemical fertilisers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) It is estimated that the country has a potential of about 650 million tonnes of rural compost under favourable conditions. On the basis of available information, about 235 million tonnes of rural compost were actually used as manure during 1985-86.

(b) The State Governments have been advised from time to time to launch comprehensive programme for larger and better utilisation of rural organic wastes as manures.

(c) Compost, being bulky and low in nutrient content, is not a substitute for chemical fertilisers, which are essential for higher productivity through high yielding varieties and intensive cropping. Therefore, the question of reducing the import of chemical fertilisers does not arise.

SHRI MANIK REDDY: What steps is the Government going to take for the increase of rural compost and green manures? What are the ingredients in it?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: There are schemes for the increase of the compost in the country and earlier it was with the Central Government. But now it has been transferred to the State Government and the Department of Non-Conventional Energy. These schemes are meant for the increase of the compost in the country. So far as nutrient content is concerned, there are a number of compost. In rural compost the nutrient value is 0.75N, 0.5P and 0.5K. There is a long list. I shall lay it on the Table of the House so that the hon. Member can know it.

SHRI MANIK REDDY: How much quantity is used for biogas and how much is burnt away as domestic fuel? Have the

Government any plan to stop this being burnt away?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: At present production and utilisation of this compost is 241.7 million tonnes, 235 million tonnes from rural and 6.7 million tonnes from the urban areas.

PROF. N.G. RANGA: It is approximate.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: It is approximate. This is being used. It is assessed on the population of cattle in the country, buffalo, etc. in the country. This is the potential which is used. It is the actual production end use. Potential is much more.

Losses of Hindustan Copper Limited, Calcutta

*185. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the losses of the Hindustan Copper Limited, Calcutta have been continuously rising over the years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps contemplated to improve the working of the HCL?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K.C. PANT): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) to (c). The details of losses incurred by Hindustan Copper Limited during the last 4 years are as under:

(Rs. in Crores)	
Year	Losses
1982-83	29.63
1983-84	6.78*
1984-85	3.27*
1985-86	27.71*

*Excluding interest on Government loan as the Company has been granted interest holiday for these years.