

of irritation of throat cough and burning of eyes, due to leakage of chlorine gas from the cylinder in the drinking water well in Railway Colony, Madurai on 5-11-1988.

There was no case of fainting or unconsciousness as reported in news paper. All the affected persons were given first Aid on 5th November, 1988 in Railway Hospital and kept under observation till the morning of 6th November, 1988 when all were discharged.

According to the enquiry conducted by State Government the leakage was due to loose state of the Nut in the cylinder which tightened immediately. No act of negligence on the part of any person has been reported. However the State Government has been advised to take all possible precautionary measures to avoid such recurrence in future.

Representation of Ex-soldier

3076. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Retd. soldier No. 917087, of village Vihra Distt. Bullandshahar U.P., who had served the Indian Army upto 1946 regarding payment of Rs. 2.50 lakhs as reward for capturing enemy property worth Rs. 50 lakhs in 1946; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any action has been taken on the representation; if so, the details thereof;

(c) if no action has been taken the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when Government propose to make payment to the ret'd. soldier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: (a) to (d) No. 917087 Ex W/S/NK Raghuraj Saran has submitted a petition in June 1982 claiming a reward of Rs. 2.5 lakhs for his

purported action in capturing enemy property worth Rs. 50 lakhs in 1944. The case was examined by the Army Headquarters. As no information was available in official records to show that the individual had deposited property worth Rs. 50 lakhs with the British Government during World War II, the petitioner was informed that it was not possible to take any action on his petition. Subsequently, in 1986, a legal notice was received on behalf of the petitioner. The matter was once again examined. As no official records were available, and the individual's claim could not therefore be verified, his advocate was informed that the case could not be proceeded with any further.

High consumption of vegetable oils by Urban population

3077. DR. YELLAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to some of our nutritional authorities the urban population in the country is consuming excess vegetable oils and exposing itself to the hazards of high levels of fat while the rural masses are deprived of sufficient fats on account of high prices of vegetable oils; and

(b) what steps are being taken to rectify this imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHA. PARDE): (a) and (b) The National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau (NNMB) of the ICMR collects data on diet and nutritional status from different segments of the population by using standard methods of survey in 10 States of country namely Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Oriss, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The surveys are conducted in both rural and urban areas to obtain information of food and nutrient consumption and nutritional status of certain specified segments of the population.

According to the National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau (NNMB) reports, ave-