

All the three smugglers, who have been identified as Subodh Mishra, Abhimanyu Singh and Md. Safai were arrested. The uranium was valued at Rs. 50 lakhs."

Only day-before-yesterday we had discussed the Atomic Energy (Amendment) Bill, 1986 in this House and I wanted very much to participate in the discussion, but could not do so due to some unavoidable circumstances. I wanted to put on record my fears that we have a very large deposits of radio-active minerals not only in Bihar but also in Kerala and there is a great danger of their being smuggled out. Specially, so, when our neighbouring country, that is, Pakistan is bent upon using nuclear knowhow for the manufacture of warheads unlike our country where we have the capability to use our resources and knowhow and resources for the manufacture of warheads on our own. But we have decided to use it for the peaceful purposes for the benefit of our people.

Sir, piracy of the nuclear knowhow and smuggling of the radio-active minerals is not new to the world. There have been many instances where not only the know-how, but the whole ship load of uranium ore just got lost somewhere in the Mediterranean Sea. It is a well-known fact that the whole ship finally landed in Israel. Therefore, through you, Sir, I would like to caution the Government that they should take special measures to see that such valuable ore which is not only useful for us but can be destructive against us should not be smuggled out and the Government should be very vigilant in this case.

Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The whole House associates with you. Shri Rajni Ranjan Sahu will associate.

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU (Bihar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I associate myself with my colleague, Dr (Shrimati) Najma Heptulla who made a special mention on smuggling of uranium. I would also like to inform the Hon. Minister about an international racket of uranium which took place in Bihar.

These uranium smugglers are operating from a village parsudih and parsudih Police Circle near Jamshedpur in Bihar has busted their activities. A kilogram of uranium has been recovered from them. The gang was supplying the material to foreign countries through a Calcutta firm.

Sir, through you, I would request the hon. Minister to kindly look into the matter and investigate it and the culprits should be brought to book. Thank you.

REFERENCE TO THE DROUGHT IN MAHARASHTRA

श्री नरेश सो० पुगलिया (महाराष्ट्र) :
सभापति जी महाराष्ट्र के अकाल के विषय में स्पेशल मेशन के माध्यम से आप ने मुझे अपने विचार प्रकट करने का मौका दिया इस के लिये मैं आपका आभारी हूँ। मैं सदन का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहूँगा कि महाराष्ट्र राज्य में पिछले 2 महीनों के पहिले 4700 गांवों में टैंकर्स और वेगन्स से पीने का पानी दिया जाता था लेकिन आज की परिस्थिति में 20,000 गांव ऐसे हैं कि जहां पीने के पानी की गंभीर समस्या है और जानवरों के लिये चारे की काफी समस्या है। लोग काम की खोज में अपने गांव छोड़ रहे हैं और अपने जानवरों को कतलखानों में बेच रहे हैं। ऐसी हालत में ऐसे भीषण दुष्काल से निपटने के लिये महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार से 450 करोड़ की मांग की है और मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि केन्द्रीय सरकार अपनी सर्वेक्षण टीम जल्दी से जल्दी महाराष्ट्र में भेजेगी। मैं केन्द्रीय सरकार के एग्रीकल्चर डिपार्टमेंट का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहूँगा कि ग्रामीण जनता जो अपने जानवरों को लेकर, देहात छोड़ कर दूसरे जिलों में जा रही है और हमारे यहां 18,20 जिलों में काफी भीषण दुष्काल है तो इसका मुकाबला करने के लिये वहां पर आर० एल० ई० जी० एस० के माध्यम से दुष्काल का काम खोलने की आवश्यकता है और इस में जब तक केन्द्रीय सरकार अपनी मदद नहीं देती राज्य सरकार इन कामों को निपटाने में असमर्थ होगी और जो हमारे भाई वहां की ग्रामीण जनता अपने जानवरों को

बड़ी तादाद में बेच रही है क्योंकि उन के पास फाडर की कमी है इस लिये वहां कैंटिल कैप महाराष्ट्र के अरु जिलों में खोले जायें और केन्द्रीय सरकार की जो टीम जाने वाली है उस में किसी प्रकार का विलम्ब न किया जाय और उसको सर्वेक्षण के लिये जल्दी से जल्दी भेजा जाय और राज्य सरकार की जो 450 करोड़ की मांग है उस को केन्द्रीय सरकार पूरा करे। धन्यवाद।

REFERENCE TO THE RISE IN PRICES OF VANASPATHI AND EDIBLE OILS

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very much thankful to you for allowing me to mention a situation of rising prices in vanaspathi and groundnut oil. Sir, during the last year, in the month of May also, through a similar special mention, I had cautioned the Government that if proper action is not taken, the prices will rise to such an extent that the Government will not be able to make oil available for the use of common man at a very reasonable price. Sir, what has happened? This is the period when arrivals of groundnut seeds in the market is maximum. In spite of that, the prices are going up everyday. Sir, the prices have gone up by 22 per cent from 1st December, 1985 to 1st December, 1986. Similarly, in the case of vanaspathi, the prices have gone up by 33 per cent in one year. The vanaspathi price have gone up by Rs. 2 per k.g. only in one day. Sir, this is a situation. We want to give remunerative prices to the farmers. The Government policy is to import as less edible oils as possible. We agree with that. But I fear that the businessmen and other people will hoard the stock and they will bring it in the market, in the month of June when there will be acute shortages and as such, I request the Government that through the Marketing Federation and through the

F.C.I. groundnut seeds and other seeds must be purchased from the farmers at very reasonable prices and they should stock it. Those groundnut and other oil seeds should be brought in the market in the month of June, for extracting oil from these oil seeds. Sir, in the month of September, 1986, the vanaspathi oil was sold at Rs. 27. per kg, and if this time, proper remedial steps are not taken, it will go beyond Rs. 35. per kg. and as such, Government must plan its import policy in respect of edible oils right from now and purchase from the farmers oil seeds at a very good prices and stock it. Thank you.

REFERENCE TO THE NEED TO ESTABLISH PARITY OF ASSISTANCE BETWEEN DISPLACED SETTLERS AND TRIBAL FAMILIES IN DANDA- KARANYA PROJECT

SHRI BASUDEV MOHAPATRA (Orissa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you to a small problem of the State of Orissa. In the Dandakaranya Project Area, displaced persons as well as landless tribal families were settled down in consultation with the State Government. But Dandakaranya Authority could not agree to render financial assistance to the tribal families. As such, a Committee was appointed by the Dandakaranya Authority to finalise the matter. After much discussion with the concerned State Governments, the committee recommended for parity of assistance between D.P. settlers taken by the D.D.A. and Tribal settlers taken by the State Government. The parity of assistance would be for D.P. family Rs. 10,000 and for Tribal family Rs. 7,000 per annum.

The State Government from time to time has been requesting the Government of India for approval of the pattern of family assistance for the Tribal families.