

(d) Does not arise.

Bap on cow slaughter

*138. PROF. RAMLAL. PARIKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given an assurance to Shri Vinoba Bhave to the effect that the slaughter of cow would be banned all over the country and that the Constitution would be amended for this purpose; and

(b) if so, what measures Government have taken or propose to take to implement the said assurance?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) The then Prime Minister made a statement in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 26th April, 1979 offering to bring forward before Parliament, an appropriate Bill to amend the Constitution with a view suitably to providing an entry regarding preservation, protection and improvement of stock in the Concurrent List and subsequently, introducing the necessary legislation in this behalf.

(b) Government introduced the Constitution (50th Amendment) Bill, 1979, with the objective of securing legislative competence for Parliament to legislate on the subject of prohibition of slaughter of cows, calves and other milch and draught cattle through a new entry in the Concurrent List to which the existing entry in the State List would be subject. The above Bill has, however, lapsed with the dissolution of the Sixth Lok Sabha.

Prof. Raj Krishna's statement regarding reasons for rise in Sugar prices

*139. SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported statement of Prof. Raj Krishna attributing phenomenal rise in sugar prices to the former Government's disagree-

ment with the Planning Commission over the policy of decontrol of sugar management; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and how the sugar policy is being modified?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Government's attention has been drawn to the statement made by Prof. Raj Krishna as reported in the Press on 28-2-1980.

(b) The statement in question attributes the rise in prices of sugar to the failure of the policy of decontrol. Since the policy of decontrol has already ceased to be in force from 17-12-1979, the question of taking any action on the statement with reference to modifying the earlier policy does not arise.

Beautification of Delhi

*140. SHRI ROSHAN LAL: SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large sums of money have been spent by the NDMC on the plea of beautification of the city during the last two years; and

(b) if so, what was the amount spent on decorative lighting, fountains etc. during that period?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir. Certain development and improvement projects, which in common parlance are known as beautification programmes, were undertaken by the New Delhi Municipal Committee out of its non-Plan funds.

(b) Expenditure incurred on these projects is Rs. 6,37,800.00 and Rs. 9,17,200.00 for the years 1978-79 and 1979-80, respectively.

@Previously Starred Question 60* transferred from the 13th March, 1980.