

SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: My second supplementary is, whether the Government has taken any action to provide help to the poor fishermen from the clutches of mechanised fishing.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Sir, we have many schemes for the welfare of fishermen. We also give subsidy on diesel. We also help them in mechanising their boats. The Government provides money for fishermen to mechanise their boats also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 254, Shri R.S. Gavai, not present, Q.No. 255, Shri V.V. Raghavan and Shri J. Chitharanjan, not present.

\*254. [The questioner (Shri R.S. Gavai) was absent. For answer *vide* page 43 *infra*].

\*255. [The questioner (Shri V.V. Raghavan and Shri J. Chitharanjan) were absent. For answer *vide* page 43-44 *infra*].

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 256.

### **Ozone depletion**

\*256. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is a signatory to Copenhagen and Montreal protocols on controlling Hydro-Chloro-Fluro Carbon (HCFC), Hydro-Bromo-Fluro Carbon (HBFC) and Methylene Bromide emissions causing damage to Ozone layer on its skies;

(b) if so, the measures initiated by India to protect the Ozone layer; and

(c) what steps are being taken to ban the aerosol dispensing devices which also cause Ozone depletion?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### **Statement**

(a) India became a Party to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer on 17th September, 1992. The Copenhagen Amendment to Montreal Protocol which mandates control of Hydro Chloro Fluro Carbon (HCFC), Hydro Bromo Fluro Carbon (HBFC) and Methyl Bromide has also been approved for ratification.

(b) The important measures initiated by India for phasing out of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) are:-

- (i) A Country Programme for phasing out of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) is under implementation since 1993.
- (ii) The Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 have also been brought into force from 19th July, 2000 to control production, consumption and trade of ODS.
- (iii) Access to Multilateral Fund for financial and technical support for phasing out of ODS.

(c) The use of the Ozone Depleting Substance, Chloro Fluro Carbon (CFC), in manufacture of aerosol products or pressurized dispensers (excluding Metered Dose Inhalers for medical purpose) has been prohibited with effect from 1st January, 2003 under the ODS Rules.

SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Sir, I would like to know whether the Government has effectively banned the use of aerosol products and harmful refrigerant gases; and if not, whether any deadline has been set to phase these out.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, we do discourage use of ozone depleting substances; in a phased manner, suppose CFC is utilised for the purpose of refrigeration, they have to shift to HCFC. Even HCFC has got a limit, up to 2040. That has to be shifted. Even that has to be re-phased even after sometime, at a particular time. Till such time they can go and they can use HCFC in the refrigeration system.

SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: I would like to know whether the Government has any mechanism in place to effectively check and monitor carbondioxide emission beyond a permissible limit which causes global warming?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Yes, Sir. Carbondioxide,  $\text{CO}_2$ , causes a lot of havoc to the air quality. We have announced fuel standards to see that the standard of air quality is maintained, and for which we are closely interacting with the Ministry of Petroleum as well as the Ministry of Transport to see that the engine quality is maintained. Nowadays, there is a lot awareness that has been created among the motorists as well as the people who are using diesel, petrol, etc. A lot of standard is in place.