

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention as well as of this House towards an important question. Recently, a seminar was organised by some famous institutions like National Institute on Health and Family Welfare, I.C.M.R., W.H.O. and UNICEF etc. in Delhi on the banned medicines which are being sold to the Third World including India by the Multinational companies. They have sold about 15 thousand such banned drugs. Similarly W.H.O. has banned the Breast Milk Substitute and it is also being sold in India without any check. In this connection, I would like to point out that the Government has failed to present any drug policy before the Parliament and that is why these 15 thousand banned drugs are being sold in India without any hesitation. So, I would like to know from the Government through you as to what steps are being taken to ban the use of these 15000 banned drugs for which the I.C.M.R., National Institute on Health and Family Welfare and W.H.O. have been requesting time and again but the Government has not been paying any attention to their requests.

[English]

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Viyawada): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very disturbing news from the State of Kerala regarding the prevalence of AIDS which is causing a great concern among the people of this country. Sir, it appears that the prevalence of AIDS is on an increase in Kerala and the number of AIDS victims is increasing year after year. Only recently a person died of AIDS. The unofficial figure shows that more number of persons die due to this very alarming and disastrous disease. I request the Government to take all possible steps in this direction. The incidence of AIDS is comparatively

high among the people belonging to the State of Kerala because they are working in Gulf countries.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Sir, I object to it. He has to prove that argument here. He cannot simply say all these things. Let him prove it here. (*Interruptions*). You bring the papers here. We Members of Parliament from Kerala are also concerned about this.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I must express my unhappiness. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI E. AHAMED: It is unfair on his part to say this. He should have brought the documents here. (*Interruptions*). You bring the papers, then only we would be able to retort. What he is saying is not correct. We are also concern about AIDS. He is creating an impression that Kerala is full of AIDS patients. It is wrong. We protest this.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us go by what the Members from Kerala are saying rather than what you are saying.

SHRI E. AHMED: We are most healthiest people in the country. Let him come and see our patients, our medical facilities, our medical welfare and so on. You do not do anything in Andhra Pradesh. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Sir.....

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, you have brought the notice of the Government.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will urge upon the Government to take all necessary steps. It is because a very large number of people are working abroad. There are a very large number of people who are working in Bombay. So, I would request the Government to

take all necessary steps. In the very prestigious hospitals in Kerala, separate Wards for keeping these AIDS infected patients are not there.

MR. SPEAKER: May be they are more particular about it?

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: I would request the Government to provide all necessary infrastructure there so that this will not increase and cause ill health to the people.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Sir, I do not want to comment on this issue. I am on some other issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us hope and pray that it is not there and let us take all precautions that it should not be there. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Sir, Reports are appearing in the newspapers about AIDS. I agree with my colleagues. The point is that there must be more medical facilities for this. The patients are coming. I do not deny that. But he should not have put this point in this way that it becomes an insult to the people of Kerala.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: That is not my intention.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Sir, I am on a different issue. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: One minute. As you are on a different issue, so I am allowing Prof Kurien.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The Government may be having more information. Let us have the information from him.

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Day before yesterday.....

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Charles, what is this? I have allowed you so many times. Why do not you wait for some time? I am allowing you.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): Sir, the hon. Member is trying to create an impression as if there is an excess of AIDS patients in a particular State. It is not correct, Sir.

Sir, I would request you that if there is an allegation like that, that should be removed from the records. It is not correct.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Sir, a lot of reports are appearing in the newspapers about the rejection of the proposal for Bombay High - Kochi gas pipeline by the inter - ministerial committee of Central Government. It is reported that it is unfeasible and these reports have caused shock and consternation in the State.

The politicians, planners and environmental groups in the State were unanimous in their advocacy of the natural gas pipeline from Bombay offshore to Kochi.

This pipeline would be highly helpful for the industrial growth of Kerala. The other day, Members from Kerala have raised the question of Kayamkulam Thermal Project. It is highly shocking that the proposal for a Bombay High-Kochi gas pipeline is also rejected by the inter - ministerial committee of the Government.

"The recommendation by the nine-member committee appointed by the Union Petroleum Ministry against the pipeline proposal is seen here as a blow to the State which had seen the project as offering a