

श्री राबेलाल व्यास : यह प्रश्न बांसवाड़ा के सम्बन्ध में था और माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो स्थान बताया है वे मध्य-प्रदेश में हैं और मध्य-प्रदेश सरकार वहाँ बिजली पहुंचाएगी। बांसवाड़ा हालांकि राजस्थान में है लेकिन वह मध्य देश के बार्डर से बिल्कुल नजदीक है, तो क्या ऐसी व्यवस्था नहीं हो सकती कि मध्य-देश के थ्रू इन लाइन को बढ़ा कर बांसवाड़ा जो डिस्ट्रिक्ट हैडक्वार्टर है वहाँ तक बिजली पहुंचाई जा सके? क्या मंत्री महोदय मेरे मित्र के इस प्रश्न का उत्तर दे सकेंगे?

श्री हाथी : बांसवाड़ा राजस्थान में है, और राजस्थान के बीच जो जगह बतालाई गई है उनमें बांसवाड़ा भी है जिसे बिजली मिलने के लिए लिखा गया है। मने सोचा था कि बांसवाड़ा मध्य-प्रदेश में कोई जगह होगी और उसके बारे में माननीय सदस्य कह रहे हैं। अगर इसका सम्बन्ध राजस्थान के बांसवाड़ा से है तो सका नाम भी इसमें है।

New Drug for High Blood Pressure

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{ Shri Nanjappan:
*1868. { Shri Ram Shankar Lal:
{ Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new wonder drug named Chini Dhaniya, which is claimed to be far more superior than rauwolfia serpentina in the treatment of high blood pressure, has been found out by the Ayurvedic Council of New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the results of clinical trials conducted on cases?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The Government of India have no information.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Nanjappan: May I know whether any other research institute has found out or made this drug?

Shri Karmarkar: To the best of our information this drug does not exist, what is called Chini Dhaniya. Dhania is there, but this Chini Dhania we are not able to find out. I would also like to add for the information of my hon. friend that we went into this matter further, because the organisation calls itself the Ayurvedic Research Council and we found that this is a one-man body who is much interested in selling such spurious products; because, earlier they had also said about some drug to cure refractive errors in the eye. Many persons complained to us about it, and we followed it up. Because of the respectable nature of the name, we went into the matter. And we would not be surprised if in this case also this Chini Dhaniya business exists only in the imagination of the inventor thereof with a view to making money.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Is there any way in which this type of exploitation can be discouraged by the Health Ministry? Is there any law to take action against such people who repeatedly do these things? If not, is there any proposal to have any such power taken by the Health Ministry?

Shri Karmarkar: It is difficult to say that they are cheating because we have to find evidence for it, and evidence is not always found. One way of doing it would be by preventing anybody from calling himself or themselves by the name of ayurvedic research council, etc., by, sort of, limiting the name to such body. Our Ministry is considering in that light. Otherwise it is very difficult to prevent these people from advertising such drugs except under the Magic Drugs Act, which we have been trying to do also. But it is not possible to limit the activities of such people. One of the ways would be not to ask questions about such bodies. (Laughter). No, no, I will explain why I am saying so. I am rather worried about this matter. The matter comes up in

the newspaper, "wonder drug". Newspapers do not publish advertisements so much about ordinary drugs as about "wonder drugs". Innocent patients go in for them, and when they do not find any results they come and complain to us. And it is very difficult to check the mischief. My hon. friend must have heard about this innocently, but now this will give advertisement to it that here is such an Ayurvedic Research Council in Delhi, which is nothing but a one-man body advertising such drugs.

About this Chini Dhaniya we referred to the ayurvedic bodies. In the text books it is not there. We referred to the market. It is not found there. I am only suggesting that the wrong persons should not profiteer through further questions asked in this House.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether the hon. Minister has consulted the dictionary for this term 'Chini'?

Mr. Speaker: But for a few exceptions, all hon. Members are not doctors here. Therefore, if somebody says that there is a wonder drug, does the hon. Minister, through his agents or technical experts, try to find out whether it is really a wonder drug or not? The advertisements appear not on account of the hon. Members here....

Shri Karmarkar: No. I did not say that. I did not make any aspersion on the Members; but the party concerned would be interested in publicity through questions in this House. That was what I said.

Mr. Speaker: Only Dr. Sushila Nayar asked that question. Instead of asking hon. Members not to bring up such questions here—and I am admitting them, because if it is a wonder drug, then everyone of us also can use it—it is open to the hon. Minister to say that hereafter, any wonder drug or anyone such recipe shall be tested by a Central authority, before it is advertised in the newspapers; or some such action might be taken, instead

of leaving it to the ordinary citizen, because he only wants to get rid of his disease, and, therefore, madly he rushes to this and that. It is no good giving that advice here. On the other hand, the hon. Minister must take steps to see that these fellows are punished, and if these drugs are not tested by a competent laboratory or council, they ought not to be sold or advertised and so on. Some such step has to be taken, instead of hon. Members being asked not to bring up such matters here.

Shri Karmarkar: I entirely submit to what you have said, but lest what you have said might be misunderstood I should like to say that law goes up till a particular stage. Supposing there is a magic drug or wonder drug, and it is said, for instance, by somebody that diabetes can be cured by taking that medicine, then that is prohibited. If some gentleman comes up tomorrow and advertises in the papers that 'Take this medicine, and your tooth-trouble will be over', then, the law does not authorise me or the Government to take steps.

It is from that point of view that I say that I shall be very grateful if, in the case of such wonder drugs, before tabling questions for answer in this House, hon. Members write to me earlier; I promise them a reply within seventy-two hours of the receipt of the letter.

Mr. Speaker: I am sure that hon. Members here will be only very willing to assist the hon. Minister in taking effective steps to see that such kind of imposition is not made. It is no good saying 'I have no law'. Even the Constitution is being changed. So, if necessary, he can have a law.

Shri Thirumala Rao: May I know what positive action Government are taking to protect the public against these false advertisements which appear in such large numbers in every part of the country, not only in respect of this drug and for this disease, but for a variety of diseases, because the public are at the mercy of these

quacks and these deceiving advertisements? What positive action is the Ministry taking, either by way of amending the law or by having a standard drug research laboratory to test the veracity of these advertisements?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister is responsible to the whole country, and, therefore, if he wants to take steps, I do not think any hon. Member here who has taken part in this would stand in his way; in fact, even those hon. Members who have not been allowed to put questions will join, and will certainly help the hon. Minister and strengthen him with powers to catch hold of all these people who trade in the name of good drugs.

Dr. M. S. Aney: The hon. Minister has said that he had made enquiries, and found that it was only an one-man council. May I know whether the hon. Minister had called for that man and asked him to point out the particular drug which is referred to in this question, which the hon. Minister was not able to find in the market. Did the hon. Minister do that?

Shri Karmarkar: I think I shall try that also. We shall write to the man and ask him to tell us what that drug is, and if any reply is received, I shall place it on the Table of the Sabha.

Mr. Speaker: Let him examine it.

Water Works at Jhansi

*1871. **Dr. Sushila Nayar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal for installing water-works jointly by the Ministry of Railways, the Ministry of Defence and the local authorities at Jhansi;

(b) if so, the progress made in the execution of the project; and

(c) what are the proposed contributions by each party?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Is it not a fact that such a proposal existed about a year ago? Will the hon. Minister tell us why that proposal has been dropped, if it has been dropped? If it has not been dropped, may I know whether it will be put into practice before long?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Yes, as the hon. Member is aware, there was a proposal to have a joint water-works system wroked by the UP Government, the Railway Ministry and the Defence Ministry, from the Matatila Dam. The railways are more or less self-sufficient in regard to water requirements at Jhansi. Some quantity of water was urgently required, and we had a scheme; when it was found that joint scheme was likely to be delayed very much, we could not postpone our work. So, we started with our own scheme, which was a minor scheme. Therefore, there is no question of our joining the joint scheme now.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Is it a fact that the scheme of the railway costs nearly a crore of rupees? Could the hon. Minister give us an idea of the extent of expenditure involved? Also, is it a fact that the joint scheme would be much more economical and would benefit a much larger section of the population than the scheme taken up in piece-meal fashion, and if so, will the hon. Minister do something still to save the joint scheme?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: All these pre-suppositions are not correct. The scheme of the railway does not cost Rs. 1 crores.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: How much does it cost?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: As I have said, we are more or less self-sufficient in regard to our requirements. It is a very small quantity that we require, and this scheme is worth just about Rs. 6 lakhs or so.