

an>

Title: Regarding rampant use of various vaccines leading to commercialization of public health.

DR. A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): The issue that I would like to invite the attention of the Government of India, through you, Madam Speaker, is also related to health. I was on the queue. I am the next speaker to Shrimati Shreemathi Teacher who was previously a Minister of Health in the State of Kerala.

What we now experience in this nation is some kind of fanaticism in the health sector. I may be permitted to use such a word. Why I say so is, now-a-days we are experiencing a very severe shortage of anti-rabies serum. Anti-rabies vaccine can be administered if the dog bite is only skin deep. But if the bite is of very grievous nature, then quite naturally the doctor should give at the earliest the anti-rabies serum. If the bite is on the head or on the neck or on the abdomen, quite naturally, people will be running to get the anti-rabies serum at whatever cost that they can fetch. In many States, including Kerala, we are in short supply of anti-rabies serum.

Madam Speaker, anyway I am quite sure--and you will also agree with me in this matter--that our nation is one where the largest number of people are dying because of dog bite. There are people who are there to save the lives of the street dogs but there are no people to save the lives of the poor people. The anti-rabies serum is very expensive. So, I would like to invite the attention of the Chair and also the Government of India to a Report submitted in August, 2013 by the Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare.

13.00 hrs.

This is a very serious report. If you permit, this House should discuss it later. The Report is 'Alleged Irregularities in the Conduct of Studies using Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine in India'. It is being used by certain agencies.

Hon. Speaker, in the experiments that had been conducted on human beings since 2005 upto 2012, a number of 2,644 people had died and most of them were women and girls. The experiments are conducted on women and girls. They are bitten like guinea pigs....(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Please raise your point.

...(*Interruptions*)

DR. A. SAMPATH : It is a serious matter. It does not have any political colour or any communal colour. This is regarding the health of our own people. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Please come to the point. In 'Zero Hour' only one or two minutes are available for each Member. Nobody is objecting to what you are saying.

DR. A. SAMPATH : Madam, just give me one minute. I am very much thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this matter in this House today. I am a bit lucky that I got selected in the slot also.

My request is that on the one side the experiments being conducted upon people should be thoroughly scrutinized. It is only after the thorough securitization by the concerned authorities should that happen. Then, on the other side, life saving drugs like Anti-Rabies Serum should be provided free of cost through the Community Health Centres in all the States and the Union Territories throughout the nation. Thank you, Madam.

HON. SPEAKER:

S/Shri M.B. Rajesh,

P.K. Biju and

Adv. Joice George are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. A. Sampath.