

machines have been sent to some other places or the Government of Delhi has kept them unused...*(Interruptions)*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Why are you after the fogging machines?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : The nursing homes of Delhi have prepared bills of Rs. twenty to twenty five thousand and handed over to the patients. Whether any restriction has been put on these nursing homes?...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Minister, please continue your reply to the points already made.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERWANI : Sir, the Delhi Government has 17 fogging machines...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Please stop use of fogging machines because use of such machines creates breathing problems. Some incidents of suffocation have come to notice in Jaipur. As a result thereof, the prestige of the State Government has been lowered. Why are you insisting on the fogging machine...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Sir, it has been stated that some money has been taken from Chief Minister's Relief Fund during this period. I would like to ascertain the veracity of this statement...*(Interruptions)*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : A peculiar type of incense was burnt in Surat during the period when plague hit there. This kind of incense should be produced in a huge quantity and sent to Jaipur also. Fogging machine cannot kill the mosquito. This disease is not curable in Allopathy. Allopathy is totally failure...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you yielding Mr. Minister?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is a general rule that nobody should be allowed to speak without the consent of the Speaker.

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERWANI : Sir, before I conclude I wish to cover one point raised regarding the yellow fever. I would like to clarify that we are fully aware of it. The movement of yellow fever starts from Africa to India. We have also intensified our steps for surveillance at airport and at sea ports. But till today there is no reported case of yellow fever in our country which does not mean that we should become complacent. We are doing all the possible surveillance that can be done.

In the end, I would like to say that Members have been concerned and so have I; in fact, the whole country

has been concerned. I am calling a Health Ministers' Conference...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not yielding.

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERWANI : I am calling a Health Ministers' Conference in January. I think it is on 8th, 9th and 10th of January, 1997, where we are going to work on the monitoring and on the advance warning system to ensure in the best possible way how we can prevent this disease from taking place.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we shall turn to Item No. 10 - Matters Under Rule 377.

Shri Kashi Ram Rana.

15.34 hrs.

### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to Convert the Existing Low Power T.V. Transmitter in Surat, Gujarat into a High Powered Transmitter**

*[English]*

SHRI KASHI RAM RANA (Surat) : At present Surat city, having a population of more than 25 lakhs and spread over approximately 300 kms. area, has 100 watt low power T.V. Relay Station. It was planned to convert Surat L.P.T. into 10 Kilo Watt H.P.T. long ago. But this has not been done so far. A major portion of Surat city and Surat district remains uncovered by T.V. transmission since the L.P.T.V. Relay Station at Surat has a range of about 20 Kms. only. Because of very poor reception and performance, a number of T.V. owners as well as viewers of community T.V. sets are catching foreign T.V. programme specially the programmes of Pakistan and Gulf countries.

The H.P.T. at Surat is required to be commissioned immediately. I urge upon the Union Government to take effective remedial measures for converting Surat L.P. T.V. Relay Station into an H.P.T. as soon as possible.

- (ii) **Need for Immediate Repair of National Highway No. 28 and 28a between Tamkuhi Road and Raksaul in Bihar**

*[Translation]*

DR. M.P. JAISWAL (Bettiah) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the portion of National Highway No. 28 and 28A falling in Bihar which extends between Tamkuhi Road and Raksaul and Bauauni has been in a dilapidated condition as a result of which hundreds of vehicles either turn turtle or remains stranded in a damaged condition. Road construction Department of the Bihar Government does not repair this National Highway, whereas the portion of this National Highway, No. 28 falling in U.P. has been in a perfect condition.

Therefore, I demand from the Union Government that the responsibility of the maintenance of this Highway should be entrusted to either C.P.W.D. or Border Road Organisation and get this Highway repaired.

It is also demanded from the Ministry of Surface Transport that an amount of Rs. 10 crore should be allocated immediately for the repairs of this road.

**(iii) Need for Construction of Bridges on Gomti River in Chandvak, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI VIDYASAGAR SONKER (Saidpur) : In Chandvak, under my constituency, the bridge over the Gomti river has been lying closed since 1986, as a result of which the free flow of traffic is obstructed. The Government of Uttar Pradesh made available funds for the construction of a bridge over Gomti river at Karakat Thana Gaddi Marg but these funds have been diverted to other places without taking approval of the Government. Both these bridges are urgently required in public interest. Shahi bridge located over the Sai river in Jalalpur on Janupur Varanasi Road is in a perfect condition but after the commissioning of a new bridge, this Shahi bridge had been closed. This Shahi bridge can be opened for the pedestrians and cyclists in public interest. The traders of Jalalpur are facing the problem of livelihood.

I, therefore, would like to make humble submission to hon'ble Minister that the Government should construct all these bridges and open them for traffic in the public interest.

**(iv) Need to Take Steps to Bring Back Gandhi Memorabilia offered to Auctioners in England for Sale**

[English]

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE (Jorhat) : The news that a former employee in the office of Mahatma Gandhi has offered 458 handwritten notes and papers of Mahatma Gandhi to auctioneers in England for sale smacks of national shame. It is indeed inspiring to see that a number of alert and sensible British Members of Parliament, connected with Indo-British Parliamentary forum, intervened by giving a notice for a motion in the House of Commons to bar the auction and to demand that these treasures documents be returned to the Navajeevan Trust set up in 1929 to which Mahatma Gandhi had left by a will his property and copyright to all his writings, published or unpublished. The motion further demanded that the House should appeal to Phillips Auctioneer which advertised the sale of Gandhi papers. The quick intervention of these British Parliamentarians is in sharp contrast to the non-serious reaction of the people and the Government of our country. Even one auctioneer, the Sotheby's, aghast at this senseless commercialism, refused straightaway to put them on sale.

It is ironical that an Indian, whose association with Mahatma Gandhi helped him collected these papers, chose to put 'Gandhi on sale' in order to become richer, at a time when the country is all set to celebrate the 50 years of Independence.

It is imperative that the Government should take immediate steps to get this Gandhi memorabilia back to India. The Indian Parliament should also convey its deep sense of gratitude to these British Parliamentarians for their timely intervention.

**(v) Need to Convert the Existing Low Power T.V. Transmitter into a High Power Transmitter at Sitamarhi, Bihar**

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi) : Sir, in Sitamarhi district of Bihar, on UHF Band, Channel 28, a low power transmitter has been functioning as a result of which reception of television programmes is not clear. Moreover, because of Nepal being very near, so long as transmission from Nepal Doordarshan continues, the reception of television programmes remains blurred in the rural areas. Only one channel is functioning in the district as a result of which the people of this area are unable to view the programmes transmitted by the other channels of the Doordarshan.

Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to convert the existing low power T.V. transmitter into a high power transmitter in Sitamarhi and the height of the mast should be increased so that people in the rural areas are able to watch the Doordarshan programmes.

**(vi) Need to open a Circuit Bench of Calcutta High Court at Nawabbari Jalpaiguri, West Bengal**

[English]

PROF JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri) : I like to draw your kind attention to the fact that it is a longstanding demand of the people of the jalpaiguri and its adjacent area to open a Circuit Bench of Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri-Nawabbari. Jalpaiguri is the Divisional Headquarters of North Bengal and it has 153 tea gardens from which the Government is earning huge amount of revenue every year. It is an ideal place to open a Circuit Bench.

I do request the Government to take immediate necessary steps so that the Circuit Bench may be established at Nawabbari, Jalpaiguri at an early date.

**(vii) Need to Lay New Railway Lines between Macherla and Raichur via Nagarkurnool and from Vikarabad to Krishna via Pargin in Andhra Pradesh**

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagarkurnool) : A survey had been conducted for the laying of new Railway lines