

Title: Requests the Central Government to send a team to ascertain the reasons for contamination of drinking water at Cuddalore in Tamil Nadu and need to provide compensation to the families of the deceased.

SHRI M.C. DHAMOTHARAN (CUDDALORE): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Government towards a grave situation, resulting in death of people due to contamination of drinking water in my constituency, Cuddalore. Cuddalore is a district headquarter and a municipal town. Yet, due to the negligence of the authorities, the drinking water supplied by the municipality got contaminated recently. The unsuspecting people of Pudupalayam area who used it had to be rushed to hospitals for medical aid. Some people have already died.

SHRI M.C. DHAMOTHARAN : Over 500 people have been hospitalised. Some people are in a serious condition. People of the town are scared to drink any available water.

MR. CHAIRMAN :Yes, you are on a point of order. May I tell you(Interruptions)

municipality of Cuddalore. Shri Ko.Si. Mani, the hon. Minister for Rural Development and Local Administration has visited the area.(Interruptions)

SHRI M.C. DHAMOTHARAN :Sir, I am raising the problem which has arisen in my constituency.

already been attended to.(Interruptions) This is highly deplorable that the matter relating to a municipality is being raised here.(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, let me tell you that these issues had been placed before the hon. Speaker. In his wisdom, he has given his consent to it and listed it here. I think, Shri Baalu, you are questioning the authority of the Speaker. I do not want you to do that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has listed it here.

SHRI M.C. DHAMOTHARAN :The entire Cuddalore is tense as if an epidemic has broken out.(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can take it up in the Business Advisory Committee. 'Law and order' is also a State subject, but we discuss it here. Many State subjects are discussed here. Shri Baalu, this is not an exception. Therefore, in the Business Advisory Committee, you take up this matter, for the House to strictly stick to the Central subjects.

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Muthiah, he is quite capable of defending himself.

SHRI M.C. DHAMOTHARAN :The entire Cuddalore is tense as if an epidemic has broken out. It is reported that the drainage water got mixed with the drinking water system. The people are in a state of severe shock, not knowing what to do.

They have lost faith in the local authorities. Therefore, I appeal to the Government to send a Central team comprising of experts from the Pollution Control Board to Cuddalore, to ascertain the reasons for contamination of water and suggest remedies. I also appeal to the Government to provide adequate compensation to the families of the deceased and other victims of contamination of water.

MR. CHAIRMAN :Kumari Kim Gangte.

... (Interruptions)