

like to draw the attention of the Government of India to the every increasing use of a very poisonous drug Amonium Sulphide commonly known as sulphas which is used as a pesticide for the protection of crops and foodgrains. But this drug is so poisonous and fatal that no one can survive after swallowing even one tablet of it.

In our family life, whenever young men and women are fed up with their lives due to some reason, they generally commit suicide by consuming sulphas. According to my estimate, in Northern India, particularly in U.P. and Bihar, more than five thousand persons commit suicide every year by consuming sulphas. I had written to the then Union Health Minister in July 1978 in this regard. Though the matter was examined but it was not considered feasible ban the sale of sulphas in the open market.

I would like to urge upon the Government that sale and manufacture of Ammonium Sulphide should be completely banned and manufacture of some such pesticide should be ensured for the protection of crops and foodgrains which may not be fatal for human beings and animals.

(iii) Need to revise the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes list and provide more facilities to backward classes

[English]

SHRI UTTAM RATHOD (Hingoli): The Government of India have been assuring the backward classes more facilities under Article 340. In spite of several Commissions, these assurances have not been fulfilled so far. The backward classes are frustrated due to the attitude of the Government.

The revision of S.C. and S.T. List under Article 341 and Article 342 has not been taken up so far.

Both these proposals require immediate consideration and action by the Government.

(iv) Need to set up the proposed project for exploitation of Nickel in Sukinda region of Orissa

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jajpur): Government of India had sanctioned a project in 1974 for the exploitation of Nickel in the Sukinda area of Orissa where Nickel ore is available in large quantities (155 million tonnes). Foundation stone for the proposed project was also laid. Although more than 15 years have passed, the project has not yet been set up and valuable foreign exchange continues to be wasted for importing nickel when large quantities of nickel ores are available within the country. I, therefore, request the Government of India, to set up this project which will lead to local development and production of a strategic material on the one hand and considerable saving of valuable foreign exchange on the other.

(v) Need to set up full fledged Doordarshan Kendras in towns having cultural heritage, especially at Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh

SHRI ANIL SHASTRI (Varanasi): Need is felt to set up Doordarshan Kendras in towns having cultural heritage. The Government, therefore, must draw up a plan to include towns like Varanasi for a full fledged Doordarshan Kendra. I request the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to take steps in this direction on an urgent basis.

[Translation]

(vi) Need to set up Purchase Centres in the Cotton producing districts of Madhya Pradesh

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise the following matter under Rule 377:-

The farmers in the cotton producing districts of Madhya Pradesh, particularly in the Nimad area, are suffering heavy financial losses due to delay in the setting up of purchase centres by the Cotton Corporation of India. The farmers have suffered losses to