

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

[Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey]

the tune of crores of rupees due to the policy of the Cotton Corporation of India. Government is, therefore, requested to set up purchase centres in the cotton producing districts of Madhya Pradesh without any delay.

(vii) Need for steps to maintain ecological balance in the country

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise the following matter under Rule 377:-

There should be a uniform law throughout the country for maintenance of ecological balance and social awareness should be created among the people to abide by the law. The Government would also have to create a social awakening among the people.

The Government is, therefore, requested to set up more and more national parks to maintain ecological balance.

[English]

(viii) Need to take measures for normalising relations between India and Pakistan

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): India did not have a favourable response in the past in its moves towards improvement in the relations with Pakistan. True, that Pakistan has not been warm to India's gestures of goodwill extended at various points of time in the past, yet the fact remains that India has to strive for friendship with Pakistan. The friendship between the two countries is decidedly mutually advantageous.

In any case, beginning has to be made in some areas to normalise relations. Protocols have been signed for cultural exchanges etc. These protocols need to be implemented and strengthened further.

Government should make a move and take up with Pakistan the question of opening Srinagar-Rawalpindi road. The passport

and visa restrictions will, of course, remain but these could be made less stringent.

What the Central Government can take notice of is that Russian Perestroika has swept the entire world, especially Europe and more particularly Eastern part of Europe. The Berlin wall is gone. Why can't a road which used to be the main link between Kashmir and the then Punjab, be opened with precautions that are necessary.

This step will go a long way to heal the wounds and normalise relation between India and Pakistan.

(ix) Need to take necessary steps for an amicable solution of the Punjab problem

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH (Lucknow): The healing touch given to Punjab by the present Government has probably paved the way for an amicable solution of the Punjab tangle. Now the hard task of coming to grips with concrete problems like the river water and territorial disputes, publication of Thakkar Commission Report on Indiraji's assassination and the Misra Commission Report on the 1984 riots followed by consequential action should find top priority on the Government's agenda. This is bound to assuage the hurt feelings of the brave Sikh community and usher in a new era of emotional and national integration in the country resulting in isolating the separatist tendencies.

11.46 hrs.

MOTION OF CONFIDENCE IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Prime Minister.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): Sir, I beg to move: