

[Sh. Gopinath Gajapathi]

ful. Such devices should be popularised in the hospitals and mid-wives can use them provided they are properly trained. Thus millions of children can be saved.

In view of the high child mortality rate in the country, I urge the Government to popularise Bag and Mask System to save the new born infants from untimely deaths.

[Translation]

**(iii) Need to implement the Abid Hussain Committee Report to revive the Powerloom Industry in Ahmedabad and its adjoining areas**

SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL (Godhra): During the last few weeks, the supply of all types of synthetic yarn to Ahmedabad has been very much curtailed. It has seriously affected the production in 3000 powerlooms in and around Ahmedabad. According to the handloom industry sources, this shortage is due to the diversion of large supplies of yarn to the markets in Uttar Pradesh, where a number of new handloom cooperative societies have been set up recently.

The difference in price of yarn in the markets of Uttar Pradesh and that of Ahmedabad indicate that the handloom cooperative societies buy that yarn on large scale and re-sell it to the consumers at high prices.

Due to the large scale export of indigenously produced yarn in the country, there is shortage of yarn which results in continuous pressure on its price. The recommendation of the Abid Hussain Committee with regard to the price structure of yarn should be considered.

So, I would request the Central Government to assist the Government of Gujarat so that the powerloom industry is not affected adversely.

[Translation]

**(iv) Need to provide 'Local Call' telephone facility between Bombay and New Bombay**

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAV-INCHANDRA MEHTA (Bombay North-East): New Bombay was built keeping in view of the growing population of Bombay and many business enterprises and industries have been shifted from Bombay to New Bombay. If a person in Bombay has to talk to another person in New Bombay or *vice-versa*, on the telephone, he can do it only through STD call. There is no provision for a direct call. One can make a direct call to Thane from New Bombay which is situated at a still longer distance. Due to big difference between local call and STD charges, common people face a lot of inconvenience in making a call between Bombay and New Bombay and have to spend a lot of money for this purpose. Owing to these reasons, I request that necessary provisions may be made in the telephone exchange to provide direct call facility between Bombay and New Bombay.

[English]

**(v) Need to bring down the prices hank yarn**

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA (Tamluk): Mr. Chairman, Sir, sharp rise in prices of hank yarn in recent times has seriously affected the handloom industry of our country.

Handloom and powerloom sectors of our country are seriously suffering from the high prices of hank yarn in the domestic market. Particularly, the poor weavers of our country have been placed in a very serious situation. The consumers, particularly the poorer section of the people, are forced to purchase cloth at a higher price.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to review the whole situation and take necessary steps to bring down the prices of hank yarn.