

excluded from the Price Control Order. Most of these drugs are in monopoly position. Around 50 drugs which are wholly imported in the country have been excluded from price control. From the above, it will be seen that the objective, that indigenous production will be given a boost, has been completely ignored and the aim to make medicines available to consumers at reasonable prices, would not be achieved. It is not known what is the justification of excluding from price control monopoly products being purchased by common man. I, therefore, request Government to review the Drugs Price Control Order, 1987 to remove these lacunae.

12.27 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

- (ii) **Need for the Union Government to bear the cost of the Master Plan prepared by the Government of Orissa to save Chilka lake from siltation**

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack): It is a matter of great concern that Asia's largest inland lake Chilka is in grave danger. The lake has shrunk from 1165 Kms. to 916 Kms. due to heavy siltation increasing salinity and spreading of weeds. Now the channel to the Bay of Bengal is clogged, restricting the flow of sea water. The thick layer of the dead weeds and silt on the lake bed have turned Chilka shallow, and its water marshy.

Chilka is an excellent breeding ground for millions of local and migratory birds. With the first nip of winter, the migrants begin their spectacular descent on this lake. They sweep across the high mountains from as far away as Siberia and Alma Ata.

Apart from its economic and ecological value, Chilka with its vast expansion of blue water touching the horizon, its colours changing with passing clouds and moving sun, its surface rippling with gentle breeze from the Bay of Bengal, and also its islands is a thing of beauty and a joy for everybody. But the joy will be shortlived, if the lake is not de-silted and developed soon.

Chilka, known as the queen of lakes, is one of Orissa's premier tourist centres. The people of Orissa are very much concerned about its survival, and so, a Master Plan has been prepared for its development. But due to constraint of resources, the State Government is not able to implement the Master Plan. As Chilka occupies a prominent place in the tourist map of India, I request the Union Government to bear the entire cost of the Master Plan and save the lake from extinction.

\*\*  
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have not allowed.

- (iii) **Need to provide more funds to Government of Maharashtra for drinking water schemes**

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY (Amravati): As many as 5,687 villages from 47 talukas in Jalgaon, Ahmednagar, Pune, Wardha, Amravati, Chandrapur, Bhandara, Yavatmal, and Gadchiroli districts are estimated to have been affected by drought in Maharashtra this year i.e. 1987-88, fourth successive drought year.

On the basis of the final paisewari of kharif crops, it is found that 6,249 villages from 13 districts on the State are having

[Shrimati Usha Choudhary]  
paisewari 50/60 paise or below.

Due to irregular and scanty rainfall during the monsoon of 1987, a large number of villages in Maharashtra State are expected to face drinking water scarcity during summer season of 1988. Though there has been some improvement in the situation as a result of rains received during November, December, 1987. It is estimated that 5,837 villages are likely to face acute drinking water scarcity during the coming summer.

The State Government has already approached the Government of India for providing adequate central assistance for undertaking various drought relief measures. The Government of India has so far sanctioned Rs. 104.19 crores. This is not enough to meet the situation. Union Government should review the position again and grant more central assistance.

- (iv) **Need to increase the quota for reservation all certain stations in Orissa on trains going towards Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi**

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI ((Sambalpur): The quota for reservation in second class, first class and air conditioned second class sleeper provided in some of the important trains is quite inadequate particularly at Jharauguda, Sambalpur, Bolangir, Belpahar, Brajraj Nagar, Bargarh, Bamra and Rourkela Stations in Orissa. The quota provided at these stations for travel towards Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi is thoroughly inadequate. Though railway administration has been requested by Government of Orissa and Members of Parliament from time to time to increase the quota in important trains like Gitanjali Express, Ahmedabad Express, Howrah-Bombay Mail, Howrah-Bombay Express and Utkal Express trains substantially to cater to the

needs, but nothing has been done so far.

In the interest of the railway passengers, it is necessary to increase the quota for reservation in second class, first class and A.C. sleeper. I request the Honourable Railway Minister to look into this matter and do the needful at the earliest.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would like to inform the House that in the case of matter under rule 377, only approved texts already given by the hon. members will go on record. If any hon. member, while reading his text, deviates from the original text already given, and starts adding, then that added portion will not form part of the proceedings.

- (v) **Need to take quick remedial measures to avoid recurrence of devastating floods in North Bihar**

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Last year, the whole of North Bihar, Particularly the Mithila region, faced the worst type of floods in the living memory. The devastating floods were caused by the turbulent rivers which originate in Nepal.

It is gratifying to note that Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi not only visited the flood hit areas of North Bihar promptly and assuaged the feelings of the marooned people, but he also took up the matter with the Government of Nepal during the last SAARC meeting at Kathmandu.

On the initiative of the Prime Minister, it was resolved at Kathmandu to study the problem in depth to find a lasting solution to the menace of recurring floods. It was felt that if the rivers of Nepal are properly tamed, not only the problem of floods would be solved permanently but enormous electricity would be generated which would boost up the economic development of both Nepal and North Bihar.