

post-independence period. One of the important reasons attributes to it is the shortage of doctors as compared to the growth of population and the present system of medicine being very costly. Government has been promoting different systems of medicine by recognising them from time to time, keeping in view the needs of the people of our country. For example, Ayurvedic system of medicine, which has been practiced from times immemorial in the country, was recognised by the Government in 1932. Dr. Majumdar was the pioneer in introducing the study of Homeopathic system of medicine in India by opening a private college in Calcutta. This system was also recognised by the Government after persistent efforts and struggle for hundred years. Electropathy medical science was introduced to the world in 1865 by its founding father Dr. Count Cezarmetti, who was an Italian. This system has its own complete pharmacopoeia and Medicines of this system are harmless, efficacious, cheap and suitable to the needs of our country and economic conditions of our people. Hundreds of colleges of this system of medicine are imparting training in the country and also successfully treating the people. N.E.H.M. of India have contributed very much for the propagation of of this system in the country.

So, I urge upon the Minister for Health of the Government of India to accord recognition to the Electropathy system which is a complete science in itself, as the fifth system of medicine.

[English]

- (vi) Need for immediate steps to control Kala a-Zar which has spread in epidemic form in Bihar Eastern U.P. and West Bengal

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Sir, KALA-A-ZAR has taken the form of epidemic in Bihar, Eastern Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. It is a dreadful disease and the rate of mortality is very high. The most unfortunate part of the story is that the proper medicine of this disease is not manufactured in India and is imported from foreign countries only. The price of the imported medicine is exorbitant and is beyond the reach of the common man.

This dreadful disease had spread in an epidemic form in these States in 1940 also and taken a heavy toll of human life.

It is requested that all-out efforts be made to control this disease on a war-footing. Besides, the necessary medicine be imported in bulk quantity immediately and supplied to the poor people of these States, at a subsidised rate.

- (vii) Need to start I.A. flights between Trivandrum-Singapore and between Trivandrum-Andamans

SHRI K. MOHAN DAS (Mukundapuram) : Sir, the Indian Airlines is operating a flight between Madras and Singapore. A large number of Keralites are working in Singapore. The present flight is not of much help to them. It will be highly helpful to the Keralites if another flight is introduced between Trivandrum and Singapore, or in the alternative the present flight be extended upto Trivandrum. This will make this service highly profitable.

Similarly, there is a strong demand that a flight be introduced between Trivandrum and Andamans in view of the large number of Keralites working in Andamans.

It is requested that early action may be taken on both the demands.

- (viii) Need for early implementation of Mandal Commission recommendations

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj) : Sir, the report of the Mandal Commission on the Other Backward Classes has not yet been implemented although seven years have lapsed since it was submitted to the Government. Various national parties and organisations have demanded its implementation atleast at the Central level. The National Union of Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Minorities has launched a nation-wide agitation for its implementation. In 1987, it submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister on the subject, and subsequently discussed this subject with one of his colleagues.

The Report was tabled and discussed in both Houses of Parliament and a consensus emerged in favour of its implementation;