

[Sh. P. Selvendran]

facilities provided by them to the students undue and unwarranted panic has been created in the minds of aspiring and existing students. This has also affected the morale of the teaching and administrative staff in these institutions. In the normal course, the report of the High-power Committee should have been sent to All India Council of Technical Education whose powers and functions are quite comprehensive. I, therefore, request that no unilateral action be taken on the report of the High-powered Committee without getting its suggestions examined by the All India Council of Technical Education from an overall national perspective. I would urge upon the Union Government to intervene in the matter and direct the concerned authorities not to interfere in the autonomy of universities in the States and not to by-pass the powers of the All India Council of Technical Education and thereby save the future of thousands of students of these technical institutions from being adversely affected.

[Translation]

(vi) Need to expand Sir Sunderlal Hospital and Medical Sciences Institute, Varanasi

SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA (Mirzapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your permission I get to make the following statement in the House:

Sir Sunderlal Hospital and Medical Sciences Institute of the Banaras Hindu University at Varanasi, is the sole Medical centre in the entire region of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, West Bihar and the backward areas of northern region of Madhya Pradesh. The patients of these areas are not in a position to go to Delhi, Bombay Calcutta, Bangalore etc. for medical treatment. Hence this hospital and medical institute at Varanasi is the only place for them where they can go for treatment. The doctors working in this hospital and medical institute are no doubt very competent but there is shortage of beds, special wards and other modern equipments in this

hospital. In this connection, I would like to request the Department of Health and the UGC that there is need to expand Sir Sunderlal Hospital and Medical Institute. Another branch of the same hospital consisting of 500 beds and 100 special wards should be established on the outskirts of Varanasi. In the main hospital also there is a need to add 100 more special wards and latest medical equipments and facilities should be provided in this Institute on the pattern of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Delhi and the amount of grants should also be increased. A cancer Research institute should also be established here and the doctors, surgeons and the specialists working here should be given due recognition and incentives. Besides, latest modern medical facilities should also be provided there for the treatment of male as well as female patients suffering from serious and chronic ailments on the lines of facilities available in Delhi, Bombay and other big cities.

13.33 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch to re-assemble at thirty five minutes past fourteen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha then re-assemble after Lunch at thirty eight minutes past fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Bhajan Lal may make a Statement.

STATEMENT RE: CURRENT FLOOD SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY AND RELIEF MEASURES UNDER TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): Sir, I seek leave of the House to make a statement on the current flood situation and the steps taken by the