

[*Shri Chintamani Jana*]

this plant is not taking any interest to re-vitalise the plant. According to the knowledgeable persons, the plant could have been made workable within a couple of months, if effective steps had been taken, much earlier.

I would, therefore, request the Government to take up expeditious action to revive this plant and start production of heavy water.

**(v) Measures needed to check the spread of various diseases in tribal areas of Orissa.**

SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA (Bolangir) : A sizeable population of Orissa comprise of tribals. Apart from the need to have a close watch and regular follow up action to raise their standard of living, it is also imperative that some special attention needs to be paid to give relief to them from the diseases they suffer. One such disease is the 'ring worm' disease or it is also called the poor man's disease. The patient becomes anemic, limbs get twisted, joints get swollen and gradually the patient dies a slow death. It is felt that oxygen content and the red corpuscles get reduced and the person dies. It is very painful. The incidence of this disease is as high as 11 per cent in Orissa although it is also prevalent in the neighbouring States of Bihar and Andhra Pradesh. No positive cure has yet been found. It is necessary that the Centre should come forward and take up the research work and send experts to give proper medical aid to them. In addition, leprosy is also on the increase. We have one centre but the number of patients has gone up so high that it cannot cope with the problem. Coupled with this the tribals are suffering from a long disease. It is not asthma. It does not come in bouts, the breathing capacity gets weakened and slowly the patient approaches death. It is said that diseases of some ethnic section of our population should go unnoticed but we really want to help them. It is, therefore, necessary that not only the Centre should take up such cases on themselves, but

should ensure that World Health Organisation help, that is now being used only for cities, should appropriately be used in the tribal areas in setting up hospitals and research centres for the cure of diseases which affect the tribals.

**(vi) Need to render financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh for providing drinking water to East Godavari district and also to clear Polavaram Project**

SHRI SRIHARI RAO (Rajahmundry) : In my constituency, Rajahmundry (A<sup>1</sup>) there is a dry upland where no drinking water is available as there has been a continuous drought for the last 4 years. It is in Burugupudi and Kadium Assembly Constituencies and there are also other uplands in Assembly Constituencies of East Godavari District. The people of this area are greatly suffering for lack of drinking water for themselves and also for their cattle. I request the Central Government to provide adequate financial assistance to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh under the central scheme of ARWS for providing drinking water to the villages so that the State Government may take up the scheme and provide drinking water to the people of drought affected areas of these Assembly Constituencies. I also request that the polavaram project may be given early clearance so that water may be supplied to these drought affected areas on permanent basis. The Polavaram project will also supply water for the steel plant at Visakhapatnam and also to other towns enroute.

**(vii) Need to re-examine the SC/ST reservation formula for Bengali families settled in Rajasthan**

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar) : Thousands of Bengali families had been up-rooted from Bangla Desh (the then East Pakistan) at the time of the Partition of our country in 1947. These families belonged to all classes and castes of non-Muslim population including the