(English)

(iv) Demand for sending a team of doctors along with medicines and vaccines to the cholera and gastro-enteritis affected districts in U.P.

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA (Shahjahanpur): A large number of deaths are being reported everyday from districts in Uttar Pradesh due to chlorea and gastro-enteritis. In the district of Shahjahanpur alone, large number of human lives have been lost due to cholera and gastro-enteritis. There is shortage of doctors, medical facilities, vaccines and medicines. The drinking water is contaminated and the sanitary conditions are deplorable. To avert a large scale calamity, I urge upon the Union Government to send a team of Doctors to the affected area with medicines and vaccines.

(v) Demand for enquiry into the circumstances under which SAIL has appointed M/s Arthur. D. Little of USA for giving advice on safety measures in the steel industry.

PURNA CHANDRA (Durgapur): The appointment of foreign experts by the Public Sector undertakings has become a matter of concern in the country. The Steel Authority of India Ltd. which has established bi-partite machinery for periodically studying the problems of safety and environment had appointed a foreign expert to give suggestions for developing safety organisation in steel by paying a heavy fee. The SAIL management did not consult the bi-partite machinery in the matter. It is understood that the expert concerned was Rs/S. Arther D. Little from the United States of America.

As reported in the Press some time back, the same consultant was appointed by the Union Carbide, a multinational company from U.S., to enquire into the causes of Bhopal disaster reported in his conclusions that sabotage committed by an Indian employee and not any technical neglect was the cause of the tragedy. It is well

known in India and abroad that the violation of safety rules was the major cause of the disaster.

It is further reported that SAIL had proposed to appoint the same consultant under the World Bank loan for making recommendations on the reorganisation of marketing set-up of the Bokaro Steel Plant and SAIL Corporate office.

It is essential to enquire into the circumstances under which the SAIL has appointed the same consultant to advise the public sector management about the safety organisation in steel industry.

[Translation]

(vi) Demand for checking pollution of rivers.

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN (Kairana): I want to draw the attention of the Government to the serious pollution of small rivers in the country. This pollution is caused by the flow of dirty water containing acid and poisonous substances into these rivers from the factories based in the cities situated near the rivers and by drinking this water animals become victims of many fatal diseases. Even fishes are unable to breed in this water and most of them die. For instance in my constitutency Kairana (Muzaffarnagar) a large number of animals have died and are becoming victims of many diseases because the Hindon, the Krishna and the Kali rivers coming from Saharanpur bring poisonous water discharged by the mills and factories situated there. Secondly, these rivers are very deep, due to which the pollution is going on increasing there.

12.39 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

So, I urge the Government to take steps to check the flow of dirty and acidic waters of factories into these rivers and to take necessary action for checking this serious pollution and cleaning these rivers like the Ganga.