

(iii) Need to control gastroenteritis in Visakhapatnam

[English]

SHRI RAMA KRISHNA KONATHALA (Anakapalli) : Sir, I would like to bring it to the notice of the Central Government some recent tragedies that have occurred in the district of Visakhapatnam. The killer disease, gastroenteritis struck Visakhapatnam right from Bhimuniapatnam to payakarapeta. The recent death toll due to the dreaded epidemic gastroenteritis in the district has gone up to 32 exclusively in Bhimuniapatnam, Tagarapuvalasa and angivalasa villages. In the recent past also, this disease had struck the tribal belt of Chintapalli, Paderu and took 35 lives and spread over plateau towns of Anakapalli, Narasipatnam and Payakaraopeta. Now, the entire district has been affected by this epidemic and 600 cases have been officially reported in the government hospitals. .

I request the Central Government to intervene in the matter and send a high level medical team to investigate and take adequate preventive measures to control this disease.

I also request the Union government to release at least one crore rupees from Prime Minister's Relief Fund for providing relief to the affected people. Ex-gratia payments to the families of the deceased may also be granted.

(iv) Need to remove anomalies left by the third Pay Commission in respect of SSA's foremen

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune) : Sir, the Third Pay Commission has left many anomalies in the pay scales of SSA's foremen. These were accepted by the Government of India in 1974. Expert Classification Commit-

tee (ECC) was appointed by the Government under the chairmanship of Justice Puri. ECC submitted its report in 1979, but the report was not accepted by the Government.

In the Joint Consultative Machinery, disagreement took place and the same was recorded on 22nd September, 1982 and the matter was then returned to Arbitration Board.

Arbitration Board declared the decision on 12th August 1985 in favour of the SSA's. The matter was taken up by the scientific workers association, Kanpur with the CAT principal bench, New Delhi in 1986. CAT principal bench gave the decision in favour of SSA's in August, 1989. Government filed SLP in Supreme Court in 1989. Supreme Court finally decided the matter and give decision in favour of SSA's.

Sir, I request the hon. Defence Minister to look into the matter sympathetically and settle the same at the earliest.

(v) Need to take steps for protecting the Ganges from pollution in Kanpur and also to solve acute drinking water problem in villages alongside the bank of the river

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAMBIHARI MISRA (Bilhaur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a large number of villages and the city of Kanpur are situated alongside the bank of the river Ganga. The people living in these villages use Ganga water for drinking purposes. For the last few months the Ganga flowing from Farrukhabad side contains a heavy mixture of colours and chemicals due to which the white water

[Sh. Shyam Bihari Misra]

of Ganga has become coloured and polluted.

Due to the polluted Ganga water an acute crisis of drinking water has arisen in the villages situated on the banks of the river. The villagers are running from place to place in search of drinking water. This problem may take a serious turn during the summer season.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to make an inquiry to trace out the source of polluted refuse being flowed into Ganga. A check should be put to it and the water of Ganga. A check should be made pollution free. Alongwith this the government should also ensure installation of India type hand pumps of deep boring in more numbers in villages alongside the river and in the city of Kanpur so as to solve their problem of drinking water.

(vi) Need for proper conservation of the forts in Sasaram Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram): Mr. Chairman, Sir, my constituency Sasaram is an important place from historic point of view. There are many historic and religious monuments like 'Shershah ka Roza,' 'Rohtas Quila', Shergarh, Salimshah ka Roza, Tarachandi, Dhuan Kund, Mandeshwari Mandir, in this area. Most of the people are not aware of these monuments. Necessary funds are not being spent on the maintenance of these monuments.

Therefore, I request the Central Government to establish tourist centres around these historic forts and religious places and review the money allotted and the work

being done for the conservation of forts.

(vii) Seed to fix minimum Support price for agricultural produce and ensure adequate purchases by Government agencies

[English]

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Cultivators and farmers throughout the country are facing a crisis as there are no buyers of agricultural products, either cereals or cash crops in the market. The production of all items of agricultural crops has increased considerably due to good monsoon. Central Government has also increased the minimum support price. However, the Government agencies are not entering into the markets to the desired extent and the target of procurement has not been fixed.

As a result, the poor and marginal sections of the farmers are compelled to undertake distress sale and incur heavy losses as the prices have fallen below the minimum support price. High rise in input costs also added to their losses.

In Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana coarse variety foodgrains like jawar, bajra and maize have gone down below the minimum support price. In Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Haryana, the prices of edible oil, seed-groundnut, mustard and sunflower have gone down and there are no buyers.

Even Basmati paddy is being sold at Rs. 4/- per kilo in Tarai region of Uttar Pradesh.

In West Bengal, the price of potato has come down to Rs. 70/- per quintal which is below minimum support price.

The whole of agricultural sector is facing a crisis which needs immediate intervention by Government agencies in the market. Big traders are waiting for further fall of prices as they know that they are the only