

not up to the standards prescribed by All India Medical Council.

(iv) SHORTAGE OF LIFE SAVING DRUGS
IN KERALA.

*SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Sir, under rule 377, I wish to raise the following matter.

A situation has arisen in Kerala where many life-saving drugs are not available, despite the fact that these medicines manufactured by the Sarabhai Chemicals, a reputed drugs manufacturing company, are in stock. This is due to a dispute about the reduction in the payment of commission. Since 4th November, drugs such as Pronestil, used for heart disease, Anatinol used for mental disease and other essential drugs for Asthma, typhoid and ophthalmic diseases have disappeared from the market. There is a shortage of other medicines also which are manufactured by Sarabhai Chemicals. The drug dealers have started an agitation in response to the call given by the All India Chemists and Druggists Organisation. This agitation which has been started to protest against the reduction by one per cent in the commission given by Sarabhai Chemicals, has considerably affected the people. This agitation has increased the possibilities of blackmarketing of drugs which will be brought from outside Kerala. While the people are facing difficulties due to the non-availability of these drugs, stocks are piling up in the manufacturing company. When such a thing is happening, the Drugs and Pharmaceuticals owned by the Kerala Government is lying closed. Production of drugs has come to a standstill in many other pharmaceutical companies, due to strike etc. At a time when there is a general shortage of essential drugs, such an agitation aimed at profit only and carried on with an uncompromising pastime, cannot merely be regarded as a dispute in the commercial sector. More than the right or wrong of either

side, it is the difficulties and distress caused to the people due to the shortage of life-saving drugs, that is relevant in the matter.

Under the Drugs Control Order, not only refusal to sell the medicines in stock is an offence, but stern action can be taken against those responsible for not selling the life-saving drugs. It is learnt that in Andhra Pradesh when there was such a threat, Government took very stern steps and thus avoided the difficulties of the people. But the Government of Kerala has not taken any steps to relieve the miseries of the people, even after many weeks have passed. Therefore, I request the Central Government to take immediate steps to put an end to the difficulties of the people in Kerala.

(v) NEED TO EXTEND RAILWAY LINK FROM BAGAHA BRIDGE TO GORAKHPUR VIA SISWA IN UTTAR PRADESH

श्री अशोक हुसैन (महाराजगंज) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, बगहा पुल को दो वर्ष में पूरा करने के सदन में रेल मंत्री के एलान से विशेष रूप से पूर्वी उत्तरी प्रदेश और पश्चिमी उत्तरी बिहार के लोगों में आशा की लहर दौड़ गई है। पुल के बह जाने की वजह से जब से यह लिंक टूट गया था इस पिछड़े क्षेत्र का विकास रुक सा गया था। रेल मंत्री का यह एलान भी कि मुजफ्फरपुर से बगहा तक की रेल लाइन को बड़ी लाइन में परिवर्तित किया जायेगा इस क्षेत्र के विकास में मददगार साबित होगा। लेकिन बगहा पुल के बन जाने के बाद बड़ी लाइन को बगहा तक ही समाप्त कर देना और बगही को बड़ी लाइन का टर्मिनल स्टेशन बना कर छोड़ देना न तो बगहा और पश्चिम बिहार के लिए ही लाभदायक होगा। और न पूर्वी उत्तरी उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए ही। बगहा पुल और बगहा तक लाइन लाना तभी पूरे तौर पर इस पिछड़े क्षेत्र के विकास

*Original speech was delivered in Malayalam.

Central Government to ban immediate import of copra and coconut oil into our country.

के लिए लाभदायक होगा जब बड़ी लाइन को बगहा तक ही समाप्त न कर सिसवा बाजार के रास्ते गोरखपुर से जोड़ा जाए। तब इस पिछड़े क्षेत्र का रिस्ता एक तरफ दिल्ली से और दूसरी तरफ कलकत्ता से सीधा जुड़ सकेगा। इसलिए मैं मांग करता हूँ कि मुजफ्फरपुर से बगहा तक बड़ी लाइन में तबदील करने की योजना का विस्तार कर इसे सिसवा बाजार के रास्ते गोरखपुर से जोड़ा जाए।

आज के युग में सड़क परिवहन का बहुत महत्व मुकाम है। बगहा या उसके आस पास बड़ी गण्डक नदी पर पुल बनाना आसान काम नहीं है। इस नदी पर निकट भविष्य में आस पास कोई दूसरा पृथक सड़क का पुल बन सके वह मुमकिन नहीं प्रतीत होता। इसलिए प्रस्तावित बगहा पुल में अगर निर्माण के समय ही यह गुंजाइश रखी जाए कि निकट भविष्य में इसे रेल के साथ साथ सड़क पुल के तौर पर इस्तेमाल किया जा सके तो इससे इस पिछड़े क्षेत्र की तरक्की के रास्ते खुलने की गुंजाइश भविष्य में भी रहेगी। इसलिए हम केन्द्र सरकार से यह भी मांग करते हैं कि रेल और परिवहन मंत्रालय मिल कर इसी समय इस हर दृष्टि से महत्व के पुल को रेल के साथ सड़क के इस्तेमाल के लायक भी बनावें।

(vi) NEED TO BAN IMPORT OF COPRA AND COCONUT OIL.

SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL: (Muvattupuzha): The price of copra (dried coconut) and coconut oil has crashed in the market due to the import of these commodities into our country. More than three million small and marginal farmers of Kerala are affected because of the fall in price of coconut products. It will surely affect the economic conditions of Kerala. So, I request the

diately the import of copra and coconut oil into our country.

(vii) STRIKE BY DEFENCE EMPLOYEES.

SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL (Mathurapur): Sir, defence employees (civil) all over India will launch one day token strike today in protest against the non-implementation of their nine-point charter of demands by the Ministry of Defence. This Ministry has taken to dilatory tactics for not implementing the agreement reached with the All India Defence Employees Federation on 11-8-1979 on the nine demands on the basis of which the earlier strike called for 13-8-1979 was postponed. The nine-point demands are (1) revision of pay scales and avenues of promotion on the pattern obtaining in the railways in respect of all categories; (2) grant of two promotions for every category of employees during service as recommended by the Pay Commission; (3) opening of avenues of promotion for Class IV non-industrial and large number of mazdoors who are now stagnated and have no avenues; (4) bonus to all defence employees along with railways, P. and T. etc.; (5) defence orders not to be handed over to private sector to the detriment of employment and earnings of defence employees and also at the cost of quality of defence goods; (6) statutory canteen and employees to be treated as government employees; (7) parity of leave entitlement between the industrial workers and non-industrial workers; (8) Vacate all types of victimisation; and (9) Full trade union rights to all Defence workers.

Sir, nearly 2.20 lakhs civilian workers belonging to M.E.S., Research and Development, A.S.C. Supply Depots, Military Farms, Sainik Hospitals and a section of Air Force and Naval Dock Yard workers and some workers in other units have not been paid even 15 days' wages, although the Defence Ministry assured to pay this amount before Durga Puja. So, this is the attitude of the Defence Ministry and they are responsible for