

[Shri Oscar Fernandes]

Attempts to discover medicine for this dangerous disease which is prevailing in Karnataka have not been successful so far.

In this connection it is very essential for the Central Government to appoint medical experts to carry out research about disease and if need be the assistance of U.N.O. can also be taken. This disease has now spread to North Canara and Shimoga districts also. The death toll in these districts has risen to eleven. 165 persons in North Canara district and 73 persons in Shimoga district were afflicted and they are under medical treatment. The State Government is doing whatever it can within its limited resources to check this disease. If proper steps are not taken immediately to check this disease it may spread to other districts of Karnataka and many more may be affected.

Therefore, I request the hon. Health Minister to look into this matter immediately and take adequate steps to check this serious disease from spreading.

(ii) DROUGHT RELIEF WORK IN TAMIL NADU

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR (Dindigul): The Hon'able Prime Minister had sanctioned Rs. 10 crores and 16 thousand tonnes of foodgrains to Tamil Nadu towards the drought relief works. This amount of money and the quantum of foodgrains are neither adequate nor sufficient to meet the unprecedented food shortage and other crisis in the field of drinking water and power and the all round alarming situation in Tamil Nadu. While granting the central aid by means of money and food to Tamil Nadu for the drought relief work, I propose that all the works should be properly checked up, otherwise all the Central aid will not reach at the hands of the needy public.

I suggest under the present circumstances that the Central Government should direct the Tamil Nadu Government that the rice should be distributed to the public only through the fair price shops. Secondly, the drought relief works should be continuously and thoroughly checked up by an all party Committee to be formed at every level—union level; taluk level, district level and State level. Over and above, the Central Agency should be vig-

ilient to inspect the relief works to be done through Tamil Nadu Government in the interest of the people of Tamil Nadu.

(iii) CREDIT SUPPLY BY BANKS TO SICK ENGINEERING UNITS OF KOLHAPUR

SHRIMATI SANYOGITA RANE (Panaji): The sick engineering units of Kolhapur are in the grip of a severe crisis. Thousands of workers may be rendered jobless if the units fail to run smoothly. Many industrialists have voiced their serious concern over the situation. The turnover of factories in Udyamnagar industrial estate has come down from Rs. one crore to Rs. forty lakhs. Shiroli industrial estate has also sharp decline in its turnover.

There are about 1000 factories in 3 industrial estates of Kolhapur which manufacture spare parts of machines. The banks have stopped credit supply to these units resulting in fall of production which has come down to 50 per cent, 100 small scale units have already closed down. About 1600 workers of Ghatge Patil industries are likely to be removed from their job if the situation does not improve.

In view of this, I request the Government to take immediate steps to ensure the normal working of these units by directing the banks to continue the credit supply to them. Effective and urgent measures should be taken to reopen 100 small scale units which have closed down.

(iv) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, ETC. TO U.P. GOVERNMENT FOR RE-STARTING THE CLOSED KUMAR BRONZE FACTORY AT TARIKHET IN ALMORA.

श्री हरिश रावत (अल्मोड़ा): मान्यवर, उत्तर प्रदेश के औद्योगिक रूप से पिछड़े जनपद अल्मोड़ा के ताड़खेत नामक स्थान में स्थित कुमार बांज फैक्ट्री विगत 6 मास से बन्द है। कहीं से पैसे की प्राप्ति न देख कर इसे अचानक बन्द कर दिया गया है। मजदूरों का पहले का वेतन का भुगतान नहीं किया गया है। मजदूर आन्दोलन कर रहे हैं।