

grants should be increased every year. The increase should be commensurate with the rate of inflation prevailing in the country. Due to inflation, the price of books is also going up since raw material inputs, such as paper are sky rocketing. Therefore, book buying grants should be increased every year so that India does not lag behind in imparting knowledge to our students, scientists and engineers

Slash in grants has caused a severe depression in the Book Industry, amongst publishers, importers, wholesalers and retail book sellers. The industry has come to a standstill and most companies are not able to pay salaries to their staff. If the situation continues, a lot of publishing concerns would be forced to close down and many others will have no other alternative but to lay off a lot of their employees.

An early solution of this problem is urged and the UGC should immediately give ad hoc grants to universities and libraries first to clear the debt for previous purchases of books and to continue the programme to purchase books for the current year.

(v) **Steps to check the epidemic of Cholera and Gastro-enteritis in Ghanj Block of Gorakhpur**

14 hrs.

श्री अशफाक हुसन (महाराजगंज) : मैं सदन का ध्यान गोरखपुर जिले के घानी ब्लॉक में फैले हुए कालरा और गेस्ट्रो इन्टाइटिस के प्रकोप की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। घानी बाजार और उसके आसपास के गांवों में इस महामारी का प्रकोप लगभग पंद्रह दिन से है और मुकाभी समाचारपत्रों के अनुसार 27 से भी अधिक लोग के मरने की खबर है। आसपास के गांवों में सफाई की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। सुनौरा गांव जिस की आबादी दो हजार से भी अधिक है उस में आम दिनों में गंदगी के कारण रास्ता चलना

दुभर हो जाता है। बीमारी पर काबू पाने के लिए आवश्यक है कि आसपास के गांवों में सफाई की उचित व्यवस्था हो और डाक्टरों के दल की नियुक्ति—उस समय तक के लिए की जाए जब तक बीमारी पर पूरे तौर से काबू न पा लिया जाए। यह सभी गांव राप्ती नदी के किनारे बसे हुए हैं। दरिया में पानी तेजी से बढ़ रहा है और इस बात की आशंका है कि सेलाब की वजह से बीमारी और भयंकर रूप अख्तियार न कर ले। इस वास्ते इसकी कुछ रोकथाम होनी चाहिए।

(vi) **Need for immediate transportation of bananas by Railways from Bhusawal to Delhi**

SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon): Bananas worth lakhs of rupees come in a rotten condition to Delhi from Bhusawal and other centres in Jalgaon district. This is because the Railways delay shipment of the common user's fruit. As against the understanding that the bananas should reach Delhi in 72 hours, the railway takes 120 hours.

(vii) **Need for averting recurring floods in Tel. Hati and Shagada rivers in Kalahandi district of Orissa**

SHRI RASABEHARI BEHERA (Kalahandi): The people of Kankiri, Chhilpa, Chhendia, Palash, Tamba-Chhada and Taransa, villages of Dharangarh block, Nandol, Makarshola, Kotengaon, Purnashor, Dasigaon and Ambadola villages of Junagarh block and Belkhandi village of Kesinga block are reeling under ravaging floods of swollen Tel, Hati and Shagada rivers of Kalahandi district.

This is the third continuous year of floods in these rivers. This has caused extensive damage to crops, cattle, wealth and land has become unfit for cultivation. Fifteen thousand acres of fertile land have become sandy. Hundreds of houses built on the banks of the rivers have collapsed. Thousands