

[Shri Arif Mohommad Khan]

In this connection, I draw the attention of the Union Government about a recent study on pollution of Ganges water. It reveals that at Kanpur the Ganges water is not drinkable because of being highly polluted. I have also received information that since I stay one week in one of the industrial areas, Dadanagan, a very foul swelling smoke is being emitted by some industry which is further polluting the atmosphere. The latest report of a survey done by a team under Dr. R.K. Gupta is extremely disturbing. The report has revealed that Kanpur has the highest rate of infection in hospitals and in one hospital alone 96 per cent patients developed infection while just staying in beds. Normally such infection rate elsewhere is below 15 per cent.

I would urge the Government to look into this problem and take immediate steps to check pollution and high infection rate in Kanpur hospitals in the interest of public health.

(viii) PROVISION OF SHELTER TO THE VICTIMS OF BIHAR SHARIF

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI (Patna) : Eight months have passed since the communal killings in Bihar Sharif of Nalanda Distt. shook the country. But still more than five hundred Muslims—men, women and children—are rotting in a refugee camp in Bihar Sharif Madarsa. In fact, in the current severe cold, they are having a harrowing time without proper clothings and blankets.

They have either no place to go or are so morally shattered that they do not have the courage to return to their village homes.

The Government has been supplying them food at the rate of 500 grams of wheat or rice per head per day for adults and 250 grams for

children, besides potato, mustard oil and wood for cooking. But it is a severe winter and the chilly nights appear to have escaped the attention of concerned authorities. The refugees have no blankets and sleep on cemented floor. Unfortunately, the authorities feel that it is not their responsibility to provide them blankets. Even haystacks found in abundance during paddy harvesting season and which could give them a lot of protection from cold, have not been provided.

The refugees belong to nine villages. In Gulani village, at least seven persons were burnt alive, but their relatives are yet to get anything.

The authorities do not know if any doctor had been deputed to look after the inmates of the camp.

There is no lack of funds, but what prohibited the authorities from giving blankets to the refugees ?

In view of this, I would earnestly appeal to the State Government and the District authorities to help the refugees with all necessities of life so that nobody dies in this biting cold.

13.00 hrs.

(ix) NEED FOR WITHDRAWAL OF THE RECENT NOTIFICATION DENYING PARTIAL EXEMPTION FROM CUSTOMS DUTY ON CERTAIN DRUGS PRODUCED BY SMALL SCALE UNITS.

Prof. K. K. Tewary (Buxar) Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to a matter of urgent public importance. It has been reported that 150 small scale sector units, engaged in the manufacture of life-saving drugs from various drugs intermediates, are facing closure due to a Customs Notification issued by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) dated 27 Novem-