

12.14 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE

REPORTED OUTBREAK OF JAUNDICE EPI-
DEMIC IN DELHI AND THE STEPS TAKEN
TO MEET THE SITUATION.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the Calling-
attention by Shri Dwivedy. Now I
stand corrected.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVE-
DY (Kendrapara): Sir, I call the
attention of the Minister of Health
and Family Planning and Works,
Housing and Urban Development to
the following matter of urgent pub-
lic importance and I request that
he may mak a statement thereon:—

'Reported break out of jaundice
epidemic in Delhi and the
steps taken to meet the
situation.'

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH
AND FAMILY PLANNING AND
WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT (SHRI K. K.
SHAH): Honourable Members would
recall that consequent to the fre-
quent stoppages in the water supply
in South Delhi Colonies in March,
1970 as a result of suspected pollu-
tion in the water at Okhla, the pub-
lic mind was considerably agitated.
On the basis of information avail-
able at that time we had expressed
grave concern at the reported water
pollution while stating that there
was no cause for alarm. However,
as a measure of abundant precau-
tion, the All India Institute of Medi-
cal Sciences undertook to conduct
a survey in the possibly affected lo-
calities with a view to anticipate the
possible appearance of Viral Hepati-
tis.

In March 1970, the All India In-
stitute of Medical Sciences conduct-
ed a study of selected group of popu-
lation from the Greater Kailash
areas who have been consuming
water from Okhla. According to
their findings, 735 cases were ex-
amined between 17th March and 24th
March, 1970 and none was found to
be a case of jaundice. Between 25th
March and 30th March, 1970 out of
the 395 cases clinically examined,

4 cases of jaundice were detected,
and between 31st March, 1970 and
5th April, 1970, out of 270 cases clin-
ically examined, one case of jaundice
was detected. There is no cause for
alarm, but as a matter of abundant
caution, the following precautions
have been taken:—

- (1) A ward in each of the major
hospitals in Delhi, under
the charge of a senior phy-
sician will be set apart for
attending to jaundice cases.
- (2) To assist the day to day
monitoring of the situation
as also for suggesting ways
and means for taking neces-
sary steps to the extent
possible for hospitalisation
and treatment of cases, a
Committee has been formed
with Director, National In-
stitute of Communicable
Diseases, Delhi as convener.
In addition, the Director
General of Health Services,
is also collecting and collat-
ing the data for supplying
to all concerned a daily
bulletin regarding the num-
ber of cases of jaundice ad-
mitted in the hospitals/dis-
pensaries.
- (3) In the present state of know-
ledge of this infection, the
only prophylactic agent to be
used in Gama Globulin which
is in short supply in the
Country. The present position
regarding the supply of Gama
Globulin is as follows—
 - (i) 100 ampoules of 1 ml. each
have already been received
from the Haffkine Institute
Bombay.
 - (ii) 1,000 ampoules of 1 ml.
each will be available from
the Haffkine Institute, Bom-
bay, within a couple of days
and another 4,000 ampoules
of 1 ml. each will be avail-
able from the Haffkine In-
stitute, Bombay, by the end
of this month.
 - (iii) 5,000 doses of Gama Globu-
lin will be available from
Moscow by the 10th of this
month.

- (iv) The World Health Organisation has also promised to supply 6,000 doses of Gama Globulin.
- (v) 1,000 doses of Gama Globulin are also likely to be received from Bulgaria within the next few days.
- (vi) Arrangements have been made to start within the next few days inoculations of the pregnant women, who are in their last three months of pregnancy, from the South Delhi Area, at the Safdarjang Hospital, All India Institute of Medical Sciences and the Maternity Child Health Centres of Delhi Municipal Corporation at Malviya Nagar, Lajpat Nagar and Kalkaji.

The normal treatment for Viral Hepatitis is B. Complex, Vitamin C, Glucose and Injection Glucose Saline. In severe cases of jaundice, neo-mycin is used. All the medicines are available in all the hospitals and C.G.H.S. Dispensaries. A statement of reports received from different hospitals/dispensaries from January 1970 to April, 8th, 1970, is annexed herewith. Deaths are mentioned in brackets. These reports are indicative of absence of outbreak of jaundice. I would also assure the House once again that there is no cause of alarm, all precautions are taken and in case of necessity, proper treatment will be available.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY: Sir, the hon. Minister has given us a long list of precautionary steps that have been taken. At the same time, he has said that there is no cause for alarm. About the experts' opinion, he has said that they have found no outbreak of epidemic just at the moment. But I want to know if they have altogether ruled out the possibility of epidemic in this area because of the water pollution. I would like to know whether they have specifically said so.

It seems, because of the dual authority here, there is some discrepancy in the statements that have been made by the Government here and the

Delhi Administration. I have with me a statement made by the Lt. Governor of Delhi on the 23th March in which he has said, I quote:—

“The supply of water from Okhla water works which was not of a desired quality.....”.

Now, the question is whether you are going to stop the supply from Okhla altogether and, if so, what steps you are taking to stop the supply of this polluted water. The Delhi Administration seems to be taking shelter because the Government of India, according to them, are not taking proper steps to stop the flow of this water from Okhla.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI (New Delhi): Will the hon. Minister refer to the report, 10 years ago, when jaundice epidemic took place? Have you learnt any lesson from that? He is under-estimating the whole thing. The people will die of this disease. This is my constituency. I myself suffered last year.

SHRI K.K. SHAH: I am sure that the hon. Member will be very happy to know that every day clinical examination, blood examination and sample survey are being carried on. There is complete co-ordination between the Delhi Administration and the Government of India. It is no use trying to pass on the blame to the one or the other.

For his satisfaction, I can give him daily reports of examination that is carried on.

So far as the question of my hon. friend, Shri Dwivedy, is concerned, it is true that we have been examining the content of oxygen in the supply of water as well as the treatment of water and though even upto 200 units it is permitted, if it goes above 40 units, we stop the supply of water. We stop supply of water for a day or two so that it is kept under examination. I am confident that with all the precautions that are taken, those cases where at an earlier stage a little trace has been found have been treated. I won't say there is no chance. But the chance is between 15 days and 45 days and we are about to complete 45 days. God willing we have got out.

*Statement showing cases and deaths due to Viral hepatitis in
Delhi during the period January—April, 1970.*

Month	C.G.H.S. Dispensaries	Lady Hard Hospital	Kalawati Saran Hosp.	Safdar-jang Hosp.	Willingd. Hospital	A.I.I.M.S.	Police Hosp.	Irwin Hosp.	Hindu Rao Hosp.	Other Hosp. /Disp. under M.C.D.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
January	..	..	66	†	2	33	7	10	1	6(1)	27	†
February	..	..	28	†	3	34	9(1)	7	5	3	23	†
March *	..	..	65*	9*	1	22	3(1)	10	2	3	34	33
April (1 to 8)	..	..	13	1	1	5(1)	4	3	—	6	8	1
Datewise break-up	..	..	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	4	3	—
2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	—
3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
8	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

NOTE: * = Information relates from 12th March to 31st March.

† = Information not available.

— = Nil information.

Figures in brackets denote number of deaths.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त (दिल्ली सदर) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह प्रसन्नता की बात है कि जो
एग्जामिनेशन केन्द्रीय सरकार के अधिकारियों ने
किया या नगर निगम के अधिकारियों ने किया उस
में यह पता लगा कि जॉडिस के जो क्लेज हुए हैं
वे पिछले साल के मुकाबले में इस साल कम हैं
और उन में कोई विशेष बड़होत्तरी नहीं हुई है।
लेकिन यह बात सही है कि जब तक सरकार
हमेशा के लिये यह पोल्थुशन का रास्ता बंद नहीं
करती तब तक सही काम बनने वाला नहीं है।
मैं तीन, चार बातें मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहना
हूँ। एक तो यह कि क्या यह ओखला से गंदा
पानी लेना बंद हो जायगा ? क्या यह सही है कि
कारपोरेशन ने कहा है कि दिसम्बर 70 तक
ओखला से पानी बंद हो जायगा ? दूसरी चीज
यह कि आप की सरकारी फ़ैक्टरियों और दूसरी
फ़ैक्टरियों का भी गंदा पानी उस में पड़ता है तो
उसे रोकने के लिये तुरन्त आप क्या काम कर रहे
हैं ? एक तो आप लेजिस्लेशन लाये राज्य सभा में
लेकिन उसे पास करने में बड़ी देर लगेगी तो क्या
तुरन्त कोई इस प्रकार का काम सरकार करेगी
जिससे गंदा पानी, विशेषतया सरकारी फ़ैक्टरियों
का या बड़ी बड़ी फ़ैक्टरियों का उस में न आये ?

पानी का पोल्थुशन तो है ही लेकिन हवा का
पोल्थुशन भी बड़ी तेजी से बढ़ रहा है क्योंकि यहां
पर बहुत सारी इंडस्ट्रीज लगी हुई हैं तो जो
लेजिस्लेशन आप ला रहे हैं उसमें वह चीज आप
रखेंगे या नहीं ?

क्या यह सही है कि वह जो गामा ग्लोबुलिन
की 1000 ऐम्प्यूलस हमारे यहां हैं वह आउट
आफ़ डेट हो चुकी हैं उसका टाइम निकल गया है
यह डाक्टर्स ने कहा है ?

आखिरी सवाल मेरा यह है कि क्या आप ने
इस प्रकार का सर्वे कराया है कि यह जो पोल्थुटेड
वाटर है वह ज्यादातर प्रैगनैट वीमैन के ऊपर
और 4-5 साल के बच्चों के ऊपर ज्यादा असर
करता है, यदि हां, तो उस के वास्ते आप ने क्या
प्रबन्ध किया है ?

श्री के० के० शाह : जहां तक माननीय सदस्य
के पहले सवाल का ताल्लुक है तो कारपोरेशन
ने कहा है कि सितम्बर, 70 तक यहां से पानी
लेना बंद कर दिया जायेगा। जहां तक वाटर
पोल्थुशन का सवाल है हम ने कह दिया है कि
ट्रीटमेंट किये बिना वाटर डिस्चार्ज कोई भी
फ़ैक्टरी नहीं करेगी। ऐयर पोल्थुशन के बारे
में खोज हो रही है। फ़ौरन कंट्रीज भी बड़ा
टाइम लगाते हैं और यह पोल्थुशन सम्बन्धी
मामला तय करने और औक्सीजन की कंट्रोल
डिसाइड करने में काफी लंबी एग्जामिनेशन की
जरूरत पड़ती है।

श्री सुरेन्द्रनाथ द्विवेदी : वह जो 1000 गामा
ग्लोबुलिन के ऐम्प्यूलस विर्लिगडन अस्पताल
में पड़े आउट आफ़ डेट हो गये हैं उस के बारे में
मंत्री जी को क्या कहना है ?

श्री के० के० शाह : हैफ़िकन संस्थान जितनी
दवाई तैयार करता है उस से पूरा नहीं पड़ता है
इसलिये स्टॉक रखने का सवाल नहीं है। स्टॉक
होता तो हम बाहर से दवाई न मंगाते। यह
बाहर से आजा ही आई है। 4-10 से ज्यादा
वह ऐम्प्यूलस नहीं होंगे। हमारे पास ज्यादा स्टॉक
ही नहीं रहता।

It is very difficult to have a survey
of pregnant women. As I mention-
ed, as a matter of precaution we have
decided to give injection to pregnant
women in the last three months of
pregnancy.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : मैं ने यह सवाल पूछा
था कि क्या मंत्री महोदय ने इस का सर्वे कराया
है कि इस पोल्थुटेड वाटर का असर गर्भवती
स्त्रियों और छोटी उम्र के बच्चों पर ज्यादा होता
है और मैं ने ऐसे बच्चों और औरतों की तादाद
पूछी थी ?

SHRI K.K. SHAH: From 5 to 9
ages, number of samples examined
for SGOT: males 12, females, 9. For
both sexes, percentage zero; total 21.
I have got all these figures here; I
can hand this over to him.

श्री कंचर लाल गुप्त : मेरा सवाल यह है कि जो उस ऐरिया में लोग रहते हैं, बच्चे और इस प्रकार 1 बीमैन जो प्रैगनैट हैं, वह कितनी संख्या में हैं और उन के लिये आप ने क्या किया ? इस का जवाब क्या है ?

SHRI K.K. SHAH: We are trying to calculate even before the start of delivery.

श्री भीठालाल भीना (सवाई माधोपुर) : इन दिनों प्रायः जमुना का पानी कम हो जाता है और उस कम पानी में दिल्ली के सारे गंदे नाले जाकर पड़ते हैं, घोबी लोग भी वहां पर कपड़े धोते हैं और उस पानी को महज फिल्टर करके लोगों को पिला दिया जाता है जिससे कि यह सारी की सारी बीमारियां फैल जाती हैं। नालों की उस गंदे पानी की वजह से यहां सब मच्छर हो गये हैं और सब जगह बीमारियां फैलने लगी हैं, मच्छरों का प्रकोप अधिक होने से मलेरिया फैलने की आशंका हो चली है। लेकिन इस सब के बावजूद सरकार ने मलेरिया इंस्टीच्यूट को बंद कर दिया और डी डी टी पाउडर का जो छिड़काव दिल्ली में और सारे देश में करवाया जाता है उसको अब प्रायः बंद कर दिया है तो एक तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस जमुना के पानी के गंदगी को रोकने के लिये सरकार क्या इंतजाम कर रही है जिससे उसका वाटर पौल्यूटेड न हो और दूसरे दस-12 साल पहले दिल्ली में जब पीलिया फैला था और उस की रिपोर्ट जो निकली थी सरकार ने उस पर क्या अमल किया है, उस के ऊपर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

SHRI K.K. SHAH: About mosquitoes and other things it is not correct to say that we have stopped treatment of mosquitoes. On the contrary it is being looked after very well.

श्री भीठालाल भीना : यह जो जमुना का गंदा पानी पिलाया जाता है इस पौल्यूटेड वाटर को रोकने के लिये सरकार की क्या योजना है और साफ पानी दिल्ली वालों को मिल सके इस के लिये सरकार क्या करने जा रही है और उस की क्या योजना है ?

श्री के० के० शाह : अभी मैंने कहा कि कारपोरेशन ने कहा है कि ओखला से पानी दिसम्बर 70 तक बंद कर दिया जायेगा और साथ ही एक दूसरी मशीनरी लगाई जायेगी।

श्री भीठालाल भीना : आज से दस, बारह साल पहले दिल्ली में जब पीलिया फैला था और एक मेडिकल रिपोर्ट निकली थी उस के आधार पर सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

श्री के० के० शाह : उस के बारे में दो कमेटी बनी हैं और वह रिपोर्ट तैयार कर रही हैं।

श्री भीठालाल भीना : क्या उन की रिपोर्ट को सभापटल पर रखेंगे ?

श्री के० के० शाह : जी हां रखा जायेगा।

SHRI M.L. SONDHİ: Why that follow-up action on that Report cannot be placed on the Table of the House?

MR. SPEAKER: I think I will have to amend the rules that whenever Mr. Sondhi gets up, all the business should be suspended. Please resume your seat.

SHRI M.L. SONDHİ: Sir, why has he not told about the follow-up action? You should ask him Sir, in your own interest and our own interest; we all drink the water. Let him lay it on the Table of the House, Sir.

(Interruption)

SHRI LOBO PRABHU (Udipi): In spite of our complaint that the Minister was long-winded in his reply, I find that he has not mentioned 2 very vital factors which are involved in this matter. The first is, the total water supply to Delhi is 155 million gallons and the water from Okhla which is contaminated is only six million gallons. Four years ago, a Foreign Expert advised the Government to stop taking water from Okhla because its contamination is not removed. My question is this. Why did you not stop taking water from Okhla and in place of that why did you not give connection to this area from your general system to South Delhi?

My second question is this. Although you have said that there is no danger of an epidemic and you have given a long details of arrangements that you have made, there are two points that you have missed. The first point that the Minister has missed is the arrangement made to detect these cases as they arise. If you fail to detect them as they arise, then it becomes a source of infection. The second thing which he has not informed this House is whether the public concerned have been told of the symptoms of this disease so that they themselves may go for the treatment and save the remaining population from infection.

SHRI K. K. SHAH: So far as the first question is concerned, the hon. Member is correct in the sense that in some parts of Delhi the water supply—I have not got the figures but if I remember a right—is about thirty to thirtyone gallons per head whereas here it is hardly eleven gallons or something. We have brought it to the notice of the Municipality. But it takes time to change the distribution system.

SHRI BALRAJ MADHOK (South-Delhi): This is a misleading answer. This question was raised in this House a number of times. And we have been telling you that something must be done for water supply for South Delhi. You should make some provision. Every year you go on saying that you will do something. The question is that South Delhi has no water for three months in summer. What are you going to do for that?

SHRI K. K. SHAH: Professor Madhok is aware that the Municipality is doing everything.

SHRI BALRAJ MADHOK: That is a remote possibility.

SHRI K.K. SHAH: I have nothing to do with that.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्त : आपने टाइम पर रुपय नहीं दिया । रुपया दें तो होगा ।

SHRI K.K. SHAH: We have given money. I have made that statement once and I am making that statement again that so far as money is concerned there is no shortage of it. You

can ask the Municipality and the Delhi Development Authority about this.

SHRI KANWARLAL GUPTA: Rs. 50 lakhs have not yet been paid.

SHRI K.K. SHAH: This has nothing to do so far as water supply is concerned. You kindly get it examined.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU: Are you giving connections to this area from the general system?

SHRI K.K. SHAH: New supply will be available. It will not take more than six months. And water from Okhla will be stopped. Even if the new pipelines are to be laid, it is bound to take six months. Therefore we have told the Municipality that this pumping station should be expedited. They have done so. It will not take more than six months and within six months, the supply of water from Okhla will be stopped. So that problem is solved.

So far as arrangement for detection is concerned, as I told the House, the staff of the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences is going round and taking samples and examining the water. If Enzyma is found, this is the earlier sign. We have also given notice to the public that if they pass blackish sort of urine, immediately they must go to the doctors.

SHRI S.M. KRISHNA (Mandya): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a recurring phenomenon. As usual, the government with its jaundiced eyes is not able to cope with the problems. In 1955, I may recall, there was a severe attack of jaundice in New Delhi. About 10,000 people were attacked by jaundice. And there were 86 people who died in 1955.

So, as a result of that, a high-powered Committee was appointed by the then Government and they went into this question. I have got a copy of their report which was known as the Das Committee Report. They made thirteen recommendations to arrest this recurring phenomenon. I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government has implemented all the thirteen recommendations that have been made by this Committee.

SHRI K.K. SHAH: Except the recommendation that that water supply should be stopped within a reasonable time. That reasonable time we have not been able to keep. But all intermediate recommendations for seeing that polluted water is not supplied are carried out.

SHRI M.L. SONDHI: I warn the Minister that I am going to bring a privilege motion on this. There has been no follow-up. Life of the people of Delhi has been imperilled.

MR. SPEAKER: All the time doing like this?

SHRI M.L. SONDHI: Not all the time. It is a matter of life and death. Jaundice is a very fell disease.

SHRI K.K. SHAH: What I said was that all precautions that were suggested were taken. I do not say all the recommendations are carried out.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: He has changed himself.

SHRI BALRAJ MADHOK: The threat of privilege worked.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH: He must do something for us. Otherwise I will call him khujli Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: This is an august House. This is the Parliament of India. It is not a joke. He should not say like this.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH: I am placing some difficulties.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal): I had sent you a letter wherein I had said that I wanted to raise the issue of 40 ruling Congress MPs sending a letter to the Prime Minister to refer the question of the abolition of privy purses to the Supreme Court for advisory opinion. It is being done with the blessing of the Prime Minister to thwart the efforts of the Home Minister to abolish the privy purses.....

MR. SPEAKER: I have received it just now. I am not going to allow him to raise it, unless I see it. He has sent it while I am sitting here.

SHRI RAM KISHAN GUPTA (Hissar): This is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: There are rules which must be observed. There should be a proper way of doing it.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

UGC (RETURNS AND INFORMATION) (AMENDMENT) RULES, 1970

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI IQBAL SINGH): On behalf of Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the University Grants Commission (Returns and Information) (Amendment) Rules, 1970 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. SO 760 in Gazette of India dated the 28th February, 1970, under sub-section (3) of sec. 25 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956. [Placed in Library See No. LT-3150/70.]

REGISTRATION OF NEWSPAPERS (CENTRAL) AMENDMENT RULES, 1970

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Satya Narayan Sinha.

SHRI IQBAL SINGH: On behalf of Shri Satya Narayan Sinha, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Registration of Newspapers (Central) Amendment Rules, 1970 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. GSR 203. Gazette of India dated the 7th February, 1970 under sub-section (3) of section 20A of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867. [Placed in Library See No. LT-3151/70.]

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (बलरामपुर) :
 अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। आप ने श्री सत्य नारायण सिंह को बुलाया। वह सदन में मौजूद नहीं हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उन्होंने किसी को अधिकार दिया है कि वह कागज रखें? या कि पार्लियामेन्टी अफेयर्स मिनिस्टर जब जिस को चाहें खड़ा कर दें। आप