

dent institution, namely, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. So, from all these different types of hospitals and institutions, have they taken steps to see that proper tabulation and assessment is made of the sources from which all these patients have been brought, so that the areas concerned could be properly dealt with both from the preventive aspect and the curative aspect ?

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT : As far as the question of keeping large stocks or adequate stocks in hospitals is concerned, this vaccine does not keep long. If you keep it in large quantities, it deteriorates and becomes ineffective. But in the Kalavati Saran Hospital where this incidence has been seen, there was adequate vaccine. It is not as if when information is received we start rushing about and getting this. There has been a regular plan not only for import but for local production and for distribution. So far as import is concerned, some Bombay firms have been given recently some licences also, and two importers DeCruz Corporation, Bombay, and Chandramohan, Ltd., Bombay, have been importing. The DeCruz Corporation had advertised in the newspapers, particularly in South India, where there was a heavy demand for vaccines sometime ago, that the vaccine was available with them in adequate quantities.

About the class of persons or the areas from which these patients are drawn, I am afraid I am not able to say whether we will be able to immediately give this information. It will need research—

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I wanted to know whether there is any system for regularly assessing the areas from which the patients are coming, because they may not be always slum areas.

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT : The Haffekine Institute people have been invited precisely to carry out this survey, but whether it is done normally, I am not able to say.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri H. M. Patel,

SHRI H. M. PATEL (Dhandhuka) : I have no question to ask ; so long as his pertains only to Delhi, all relevant questions have been answered.

MR. SPEAKER : He is the first gentleman in my experience who has said that he is satisfied. (*Interruption*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : May I ask one question ? अक्षय महोदय, सवाल यह है कि लडको को पहले ही टीका क्यों नहीं लगाया जाता है जब बोमार हो जाते हैं तब टीका लगाने की बात होती है ।

12.14 hrs.

RE : SITUATION IN WEST BENGAL

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM (Tiruchirapalli) : Sir, I want to invite your attention to a very serious matter about the situation in West Bengal. There is a serious condition in respect of the refugee camps. The seriousness can be well understood from this fact. The Chief Minister of West Bengal is a very sober and reasonable gentleman. He has sent an SOS to the Government of India, threatening to resign, if proper help is not forthcoming quickly. The house expects the Prime Minister to make a statement immediately. May I know whether any responsible minister would make a statement on this ?

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah) : I support him. I have received a telegram from Mr. Mohammed Ismail, M. P. saying :

“Inhuman torture let loose by the Industrial Security Force on Durgapur workers..”

MR. SPEAKER : You should have given some notice about it.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE : Calling attention has been refused. Will you allow the calling attention ? An abnormal situation has developed there. There is stoppage of work and 55 men injured.

MR. SPEAKER : I can not assure him anything now. There should be proper notice.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior) : About the refugee problem, we have given notice asking for a short duration discussion. The situation is serious.

MR. SPEAKER : I hope you will convey the feelings of the House to the Prime Minister.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING, AND HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT) : So far as the health side is concerned, I am ready to give the information.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore) : The House will not be meeting till Monday. The newspaper report says that cholera epidemic has broken out on a mass scale.

MR. SPEAKER : He was asking about the resignation threat by the Chief Minister.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : Apart from press reports, we do not have any other report. We shall certainly try to find out what exactly is the position. If it is desirable, we shall come forward with a statement.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Today ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : I cannot say that. The Prime Minister is going tomorrow to West Bengal and she will attend to this problem.

श्री मटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह बड़ी गम्भीर बात है। अखबार वालों के पास वह सारी खबर हैं लेकिन मंत्री जी के पास कोई खबर नहीं है। अब अगर 5000 शरणार्थी हैं जे से मर गये हैं तो यह खबर तो सरकार के पास होनी चाहिए।

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : I was talking about the resignation.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : In today's *Statesman*, it is said on the front page : "Centre to decide on refugees today.

Mr. Jagjivan Ram, who was in Calcutta yesterday, will be back here tomorrow. He will give Mrs. Gandhi and other leaders his assessment of the refugee situation and the problems created by the spread of cholera. The Prime Minister will thus be able to indicate the Centre's thinking when she visits Calcutta on Saturday."

Sir, before a decision is taken on the question whether the refugee problem has to be tackled by the Centre or the State should share the responsibility, this House should get an opportunity to discuss it. We are not concerned with the Chief Minister's threat to resign. We should have a proper discussion here on this problem before a decision is taken.

श्री विभूति मिश्र (मोतीहारी) : बाबू जगजीवन राम यहां इस अवसर पर हाउस में मौजूद हैं और वह कलकत्ते हो कर अभी लौटे हैं तो वह बतला सकते हैं कि वहां पर रैफ्यूजीज की क्या हालत है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जिन्होंने प्रोपर नोटिस दिया है वही पूछ सकते हैं। माननीय सदस्य इस तरह से बिना बुलाये बीच में कैसे खड़े हो गये ?

श्री विभूति मिश्र : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अब हिन्दुस्तान में कोई ऐसी गम्भीर बात हो जाय तो हम उस पर अवश्य कहेंगे। जगजीवन बाबू अभी पश्चिमी बंगाल से होकर आये हैं वह बतला दें कि क्या हालत है। अभी हाउस में जगजीवन राम जी का नाम भी आया है और बतलाया गया कि वह कलकत्ते गये थे तो अब चूँकि वह इस अवसर पर मौजूद हैं तो यह उचित ही है कि वह यहां पर खड़े होकर हाउस को वहां की हालत के बारे में बतलायें। हमको सूचना मिलनी चाहिए क्योंकि यह एक बड़ी गम्भीर बात है। आखिर हम पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर चुन कर यहां आये किस लिए हैं।

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM) : I was in Calcutta and I had a discussion with the Chief Minister, the

Deputy Chief Minister and Shri Tarun Kanti Ghosh. The influx of refugees is very large. They are spreading throughout West Bengal. They have reached a large number. They have reached near the Dum Dum airport and they are trying to enter the city of Calcutta. Naturally, the West Bengal Government is very much concerned about that—the mixing up of the refugees with the population there. Of course, so far as the responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the refugees is concerned, naturally it is that of the Central Government. We are not shirking that responsibility. We will have to look after that. What the West Bengal Government want is that the refugees in the camps should be kept in such a way that they do not mix with the people and create law and order problem. Because, the feeling in the country is so much pro-Bangla Desh that any speech against Bangla Desh or pro-Pakistan will naturally create tension in the country and the Bengal Government is very much concerned about that. About the resignation and other things, I am not aware of them. They did not mention anything. We discussed how to devise ways and means to meet the situation.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What about the cholera epidemic among the refugees ?

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM : We did not discuss that. That is for the Health Minister and the Rehabilitation Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : I have fixed a Calling Attention Motion on this.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contd.) : Sir, I have written to you about this. This has appeared in the press. I have received numerous telegrams from different areas that already cholera epidemic has broken out and it is spreading to the different districts. Already the four districts of 24 Parganas, Malda, West Dinajpur and Nadia had a toll of at least 5,000 and it is spreading. Sir, you say you have admitted the Calling Attention. According to the procedure that is followed in this House it is possible to take up the matter today at 5.30 p. m. The matter is very urgent and important and we must know from the government what they are doing. Thousands of people are losing their lives and we hear from Radio Australia, from New Zealand and we read in

the Times that many countries are sending vaccines. Yet, this Government do not come out even with a statement. The matter is very urgent. Tomorrow is Saturday and so it could be taken up only on Monday. Already, 5,000 deaths have taken place. I would suggest that the matter should be taken up today itself. . (interruptions) This government has no right to continue in office . . . (interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He cannot go on speaking like that every time.

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT : Sir, I can understand the concern and anxiety of this House. We are faced with a serious situation and the influx of refugees goes on increasing rapidly

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Not merely influx but there is the epidemics.

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT : This epidemics is because of the large number of people coming in. If the influx is at this rate, not only medicines but nothing could be supplied. That is the point I am trying to make. Since yesterday afternoon I have been in constant touch with our Officers in Calcutta. We have made every possible arrangement. They said they immediately need saline bottles. We have made arrangements. Immediately 10,000 bottles will be delivered to them. There is a stock there itself. Only testing has to be done, which takes a little time. Then they need molar lactate. That is also being arranged. They have adequate arrangements for medical supplies. Regarding mobile hospital we have alerted everybody and another mobile hospital is being sent. Then, teams of doctors and nurses are also being sent. We needed vehicles for transport of medicine and patients and so on. For that also we have made arrangements with Defence and Railways. Therefore, so far as these things are concerned, every human effort is being made.

But I have information, as I began by saying, that hundreds of people—I do not say, all of them—when they cross in a famished and hungry condition, fall down dead literally. I have been trying to contact everybody concerned and they say that the condition in which they come is such that they are otherwise also hardly able to survive. That is the

[Shri Uma Shanker Dikshit]

position. Therefore, we must see it in the proper perspective.

So far as the health side is concerned, that is, providing additional teams of doctors, nurses, attendants, medicines, drugs, vehicles, mobile hospitals—by mobile hospitals I mean that we put up a large tent and then we shift it to some other place—in these matters, no human effort will be spared. That is all I can say.

SHRI PILOO MODY : (Godhra) : Have you any information whether they are falling down dead because of exhaustion or malnutrition or some disease ?

SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT : It is very difficult to say. They are coming at such a rapid rate that there is nobody there to contact or examine every person that comes along. It is an impossibility to do so.

12.26 hrs.

CLARIFICATION BY MEMBER RE : A NEWSPAPER REPORT

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : With your prior permission, Sir, I am rising to make a clarification.

In the newspapers of June 2, 1971, a news report has appeared regarding the letter addressed by some MPs to the Prime Minister requesting her to use her good offices with the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir to get the externment order against Sheikh Abdullah and his two colleagues withdrawn. In the newspaper reports my name has been mentioned as one of the signatories on behalf of the PSP.

I wish to clarify that in view of the controversial politics pursued by Sheikh Abdullah which is harmful to Kashmir's irrevocable integration with India, I have not signed the letter addressed to the Prime Minister. At the same time I wish to clarify that if my name has appeared as one of the signatories, it is a *bona fide* mistake on the part of those who collected the signatures.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : (Gwalior) : This contradiction should have been issued outside the House. The House has nothing to do with the statement. If Members of Parliament issue statements to the press, it has nothing to do with the House.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : On a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, your point of order is correct.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : It should be expunged.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I entirely agree with the views of Shri Dandavate, but this is not the place to make a contradiction.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : He can issue a contradiction to the press but this forum should not be used for that.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The signatures were collected in this very House. (Interruption)

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No, no.

MR. SPEAKER : This relates to something which happened outside the House. If the signatures are collected in this House, they are not on record. Everything is done by hand or silently, Nothing is spoken here.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Even the collection of signatures is not correct.

MR. SPEAKER : It is without our knowledge.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, I am not in the habit of violating the rules of procedure. Therefore I met you in your Chamber and said, "If you give me the permission to make the clarification, then only I will rise in the House". Only after your explicit permission I rose to make the clarification.

MR. SPEAKER : It is my mistake.