

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, October 7, 1982/Asvina 15,  
1904 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the  
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Viral fever and Malaria in Delhi

\* 62. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR  
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to  
state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi  
is facing serious problem from viral  
fever and malaria recently;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for  
the same;

(c) whether it is also a fact that for  
viral flu, there is no prescribed medi-  
cine either for its cure or its preven-  
tion; and

(d) if so, what Government propose  
to do to check the menace from viral  
fever and malaria?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHAN-  
KARANAND): (a) and (b). No, Sir.  
There has, however been some in-  
crease recently in the incidence of  
dengue fever in the Capital which is  
now on the decline. Compared to last  
year, malaria incidence this year has  
gone down significantly.

(c) Only symptomatic treatment of  
the viral fever is possible.

(d) Anti-mosquito measures such as  
fogging operations and anti-larval  
measures, which are effective both  
against malaria vector and dengue  
virus vector, have been intensified in  
the Capital. The surveillance opera-  
tions for malaria under the National  
Malaria Eradication Programme, such  
as collection of blood smear in fever  
cases, their examination and the radi-  
cal treatment in positive cases, have  
been geared up. Adequate stocks of  
anti-malarial, analgesic and anti-pyre-  
tic drugs have been provided to health  
institutions run by Government and  
Local Bodies.

Through the media of Television,  
Radio, Press cinema slides, etc. inten-  
sive health education measures have  
been undertaken advising public what  
they should do themselves for the  
check of the transmission of the  
disease.

MR. SPEAKER: Before I ask Shri  
Choubey to put his supplementary.....

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Mr.  
Speaker, Sir...

MR. SPEAKER: All right, I will do  
it afterwards.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Sir,  
the answer clearly depicts the con-  
tempt with which the Health Ministry  
looks upon the common people of  
Delhi. Thousands and thousands of  
people are suffering from malaria and  
dengue fever. When even many of the  
Hon. Members of Parliament like Shri  
Rajan could not come and many sons  
and daughters are still suffering, the  
Minister has very kindly replied that  
the same is not a serious problem. So,  
I would first like to understand with

how many people being attacked in Delhi with Dengue will pose a serious problem. It is like, Sir, Nero, who had been fiddling when Rome was burning. The Minister, I am sure, has only repeated what some bureaucrats wrote for him. A man elected by the people cannot give such a reply. The Minister only replied what some bureaucrats wrote for him, as if, he accepts the problem as serious, the Government's prestige would come down. Any how, Sir, Dengue attack this year has surpassed all records. Shri A. N. Rai Chowdhury, Director of the National Institute of Communicable Diseases told the C.N.S. the other day that the sample survey conducted by them in Ansari Nagar and Kidwai Nagar on 3,100 inhabitants showed that 225 persons i.e. 7.3 per cent persons of that area were affected by Dengue?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Sir, he is supplementing the Minister's work. The Minister has not done his home-work and he has done his home work.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Sir, I would ask through you how many types of Dengue virus are there in the country? What type of Dengue virus has affected this time? How many persons in Delhi based on the figures of hospitals, outdoor dispensaries and private practitioners have been attacked with Dengue? And in your answer you have stated that mosquito killing operations have resulted in giving you certain gainful results. I would like to know whether you have received complaints or not that the mosquito killing operations which are being conducted by you are not being conducted very seriously and whether you want to try to do something better on this or not?

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: How come that no Minister has got this fever so far?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, there is only one type of Dengue virus and it is called 'Dengue virus'.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: What type of Dengue?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Dengue virus is the only one type.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: It has got no sub-caste. It has only caste.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: It has its own caste. I should say that Dengue virus is a self-limiting fever. The fever lasts for five to seven days irrespective of the fact whether you give or don't give medicine. And there are no deaths due to Dengue fever.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: No deaths, but due to pain one may commit suicide.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a purifying fever.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I have not received a report of such a suicide.

Sir, Shri Choubey has asked about the numbers. When there was a spurt of fever of unknown origin, the National Institute of Communicable Diseases conducted a survey in August; and they have found the numbers due to fever of unknown origin. In May 1982, they have found 626; in June, 1982—720; in July, 1982—675.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Quote numbers.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I am giving you the numbers. And these are figures of fever of unknown origin. He asked about the figures of private medical practitioners and out-door patients. I don't have the figures of private medical practitioners and outdoor patients.

Mr. Choubey has said that this is a note given by the bureaucrats, and that if the Minister is a representative of the people, he would not have done it. Mr. Choubey should know that when I speak, I give the facts to the House, and I have no intention to mislead the House. I have now been informed that though there is only one

type of dengue fever, it has its differences, viz. D-1, D-2, D-3 and D-4. These are technical terms, about which I do not know anything. I do not know.

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): But all cause the same fever.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: But all these cause the same fever, and there is no treatment and there is no drug directly to treat the dengue fever.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: Better not waste money on drugs.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it so only in allopathy or in homoeopathy and ayurveda also? I understand that in homoeopathy, there is a treatment.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I am coming to that. Homoeopaths and ayurvedic scholars have claimed that they have medicines to treat these fevers; and they say they are treating them. But the allopaths, i.e. modern system of medicine people say that they do not have any effective drug for this.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: My second question: I am very glad that ultimately, the Minister agrees. I have a Press report with me which says that there are four types of dengue virus. Anyhow, he has accepted them, viz. A, B, C, D etc. And he has not answered which type is there in Delhi; A, B, C or D. And he says very nicely that whatever type of dengue fever it may be, they get fever, pain etc. So, in every disease, however painful it may be—or not painful—that is the only remedy. I do not know.

I have got another question. The Press report is with me; and I would like the hon. Minister to see it. I will forward it to him. It says that there is a mosquito research centre at Lahore run by Pentagon, carrying on experi-

ments with *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito, which is the exclusive carrier of them. (Interruptions) I do not know. *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito is the exclusive carrier of them.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: That is the name of the vector.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: No; it is the name of the mosquito, not the name of the virus.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He should run a mosquito research training institute.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: This is a part of the experiment with bacteriological warfare agents, including mosquito\*\* a so-called expert on the mosquito research, was in charge of the Lahore Centre. After the whole story came out in the Press, he left Pakistan and came to India.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Bringing the mosquitos.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: One\*\* formerly of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences had been his patron. Government of India, however, did not allow\*\* to stay in India. He left for Dacca, and now is at Kathmandu.

Here also there is a Press report which says that in mid-1981, the CIA introduced this mosquito in Cuba; and 2,73,040 persons were attacked.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: This should not go on record. This should not go on record.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: Very defamatory.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The main question relates to dengue fever in Delhi. The supplementary question has no relevance at all with dengue fever in Delhi. He is unnecessarily referring to a person who is not here to defend him. (Interruption) I

protest, Sir. This should not go on record. (Interruptions) Let him ask a question regarding this. I will reply to him.

**SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:** Whether Government will enquire... (Interruptions)

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND:** And I know why he is asking this question. I will tell that also. Let him ask a separate question. I will tell him.

**MR. SPEAKER:** It is a supplementary question.

**SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:** Sir, what shall go on record, and what shall not go on record, is your desire; and not his desire.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I only want you to put the supplementary question.

**SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:** I want to know whether Government will enquire whether this Mosquito Centre at Lahore is in any way responsible for such virulent dengue attack in our Capital or not.

(Interruptions)

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND:** I can only say that this question is not relevant and does not deserve any answer. (Interruptions)

**SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:** Who will decide? I want to know and request you to please let me know who will decide whether it is relevant or not—you or he? (Interruptions) Can he abrogate the right of the Speaker?

**श्री शंकरानंद :** इसकी रेलिबेंस आप के लिये लिहाज में है तो आप जबाब दे दीजिये नहीं तो कह दीजिये कि इसका कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है।

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND:** What is the question?

(Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER:** Why are you interfering? This is my job.

(Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER:** Has Lahore virus fever got anything to do with this?

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND:** I only said that the question referred to Delhi Dengue fever it has nothing to do with this question.

**SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV:** I have in my family six members and all of them have dengue fever. One of the after-effects of dengue is that the man loses his temper. I think many of the Members have the same. In the coming Asian Games, the effect of dengue is so much in Delhi that there is a fear complex among the foreigners and others about coming over here. In view of that what steps the Government is taking to see what are the symptoms for it and what steps Government is taking? The Parliament House Annexure is meant for giving facilities to the Members of Parliament and their families. I was required by the Willingdon Hospital to take X-ray of the skull of my wife. The expert is there but he refuses to take it; and the doctors are saying that in spite of the repeated requests to the Ministry, they have not given a replacement. Will the Minister kindly look into it and see that it is being done? He should not get annoyed by this simple question.

(Interruptions)

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER:** I should be allowed to put a question on Delhi. What I am going to ask is out of practical experience.

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND:** First of all, let me inform the House that the hon. members should not harbour any fear in their minds that this fever is going to persist till the Asian Games come. This spurt of fever of unknown origin which is Dengue was due mainly to seasonal conditions and early

withdrawal of monsoon and comparatively high day temperature.

(Interruptions)

श्री राम विलास पसवान : आपका रिसेर्च सेक्टर क्या करेगा ? इतनी बड़ी बीमारी फैली हुई है, सारी दिल्ली तबाह है और मिनिस्टर को कुछ मालूम ही नहीं है ।

(व्यवधान)

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: My question does not relate to a criticism. I am going to say something about it. (Interruption).

MR. SPEAKER: Will you not allow me to conduct the proceedings?

(Interruptions)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : नाट एलाउड ।

(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : बैठ जाइये और राज्य का काम चलने दीजिये । आप इस पर डिस्कशन मांग लीजिये ।

(व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed anybody.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri MotiBhai R. Choudhary.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, my question has not been answered.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I will write to you. (Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Since it deals with foreign mosquitoes the External Affairs Minister should say something.

दिल्ली की परिवहन व्यवस्था में सुधार

+

63. श्री मोतीभाई आर० चौधरी :

श्री रवीन्द्र वर्मा :

क्या नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली परिवहन निगम के लिये दिल्ली की परिवहन व्यवस्था को सुधारना संभव नहीं है और दिल्ली परिवहन निगम ने यह बात स्वीकार भी की है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार ने क्या वैकल्पिक प्रबन्ध करने का विचार किया है ?

नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सीताराम केसरी) :

(क) और (ख). दिल्ली जैसे विशाल नगर जहाँ बड़ी तेजी से आबादी बढ़ रही है, वहाँ जनता के लिये यातायात की समेकित बहुमुखी व्यवस्था करना अत्यावश्यक है। बस सिस्टम को अन्य साधनों के माध्यम से पूरक बनाना चाहिये, विशेषकर, उच्च क्षमता वाले रेल जैसे सार्वजनिक परिवहन द्वारा। इस उद्देश्य के लिये दिल्ली परिवहन निगम के संचालन और हाल में शुरू हुई विद्युत परिक्रमा रेल सेवा को समन्वित किया जा रहा है।

श्री मोती भाई आर० चौधरी : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, दिल्ली परिवहन निगम के चेयरमैन ने कहा है कि वे अपने बलबूते पर समस्या का समाधान करने में असमर्थ हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी ने भी समस्या की गंभीरता को स्वीकार किया है, लेकिन इसके हल के बारे में कोई बात नहीं बताई है कि किस प्रकार से इस समस्या का हल किया जायेगा। उत्तर में बताया गया है कि बस सिस्टम को अन्य साधनों के माध्यम से