

Apart from this, there is an acute power shortage in that area. Sometimes, power supply remains cut off continuously for three days. About three days back, two young men lost their lives, as they come into contact with live wire. Therefore, it is my humble submission to the Union Government that it should provide compensation of one lakh rupees each to the families of the deceased. I have received 11,000 complaints from my constituency alone. Delhi's bureaucracy has become deaf and they don't respond to the thousands of complaints, they receive. I fear that if the problems of the people of Delhi, especially of those in East Delhi are not solved, they may rise in revolt against the Government. If the Government wants to establish peace in that area, it should immediately hold elections to the Municipal Corporation. As an M.P. I work 19 hours a day. You can imagine the magnitude of the problem. It is my humble submission that the Government should immediately hold elections to the civic bodies, keeping in mind the difficulties faced by the people, especially those living in East Delhi.

Rations are not available in Delhi. Arguments and quarrels are a regular sight before every ration shop. If at all sugar or rice is available, it is full of dust. The situation in East Delhi can only be described as 'Hellish'

Through you, I wanted to bring these matters before the House. I am thankful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak after two months. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Only the statement of Shri Bhawani Lai Verma will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAWANI LAL VERMA (Janjgir): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the last two months fatal and contagious diseases like Gastro-enteritis and Cholera have acquired an epidemic form in almost all the villages of Vilaspur District in Madhya Pradesh. About 5,000

people have been affected by these diseases and 1800 people have already died. Mostly Harijans, Adivasis and those belonging to the lower strata of the society, who live in remote and hill areas are the victims of these diseases. People have stopped going from one village to another and they are even afraid of taking the corpse to the cremation ground. People have stopped performing last rites and are fleeing the villages. Agricultural work has been affected as a fall of fear has engulfed the villages.

The District Administration and doctors are leaving no stone unturned to contain the diseases, but the situation is going out of their control, due to lack of Doctors, other Para-Medical staff, medical equipments, Medicines and transport facilities. The State Government is being constantly informed of the worsening situation, but the situation is getting out of control, as a result of the State Government's indifferent attitude. There is acute shortage of drinking water in many villages and people are dependent upon dirty waters of rivers and ponds. The situation is deteriorating, day after day. The Union Government should provide all assistance to check the situation and also put pressure on the State Government to act swiftly. The situation demands immediate action. Gastro-enteritis has created havoc in many villages of the sakti tehsil... (*Interruptions*) In village Janganj also, many people have been affected by the disease and one person has already died. Similarly, two persons have died of diarrhoea in Dondki. Cholera has claimed five lives in the past four days in village Amandula (*Interruptions*) The number of people dying of this disease is increasing by leaps and bounds. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow some of you today and some of you day after tomorrow.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): You should allow us to raise that question.

MR. SPEAKER : You should have democracy in the House also. All the time you, senior Members, have been speaking, you are not allowing other Members to speak. You should have some consideration for others. Sit down now.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Give us one minute. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : Nirmal kantiji is not going to speak today.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is not going on record. *(Interruptions)\**

*[Translation]*

SHRI BHAWANI LAL VERMA: The people have become so frightened of these diseases, that they dread to lend their shoulder to carry even a dead body to the cremation ground. Even their friends and relatives have stopped visiting them and they don't participate even in the funeral procession, fearing that they may catch the disease. *(Interruptions)*

As per the information provided by the District Health officer, most of the health centers are finding it difficult to check the epidemic, in the absence of transport facilities. No vehicle is available in Primary Health Centre, Akaltara. Even in Janjgir they face the same problem. Even I don't have one, yet we are doing our level best to check these contagious diseases. If vehicles are available, these infectious disease can be controlled quickly and effectively. *(Interruptions)* Everyday, reports are appearing in news papers that one epidemic is spreading, day by day but no effective steps are being taken. The District Health Officer has also informed that the local administration had approached the State Government for funds to prevent these diseases, but the allocation has been inadequate. Apart from

Vilaspur District, these diseases have created havoc in Bastar, Raigarh and other districts. Therefore, I urge the Government to immediately take appropriate and necessary action, so as to provide relief to the affected people *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol): Sir, Durga Puja is the biggest and colourful festival throughout India specially in West Bengal. All sections of the people irrespective of their caste, and religion join hands to celebrate the festival in a befitting manner. Thus they demonstrate their solidarity, fraternity, integrity, love and respect to each other. The Labour Minister of the Government of West Bengal has recommended to all private and public sector management's to pay annual bonus as per previous practice within 8th October 1991, so that the workmen could purchase their necessities before the present high price reaches sky high in the market. So far, I know, none of the public sector units has made this payment. So I would request the concerned Ministers to advise their respective units to make the payment immediately and to avoid unnecessary labour agitation and to save the workmen from the loot of the unscrupulous businessmen. *(Interruptions)*.

*[Translation]*

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, homeopathic medicines are widely used in our country, but in the last few days, their prices have gone up to such an extent that the chemists are charging four times the usual rates. It is mainly because most of the homeopathic medicines are imported and some medicines like

*[English]*

Mother tinctures, Dilution's in various