

Nepal for the construction of the proposed hydels. To solve the flood problem of Uttar Pradesh the water of the Ganga should be brought through canals into Damodar, as was suggested by Shri K.L. Rao.

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA

(Junagarh): Thank, you Mr. Deputy—Speaker, Sir, for giving me time to speak during the zero hour.

I want to narrate and draw attention of the Government to the experience that I had on 4th November, 1991 when I boarded the ship "Tipu Sultan" from Cochin to go to Lakshadweep alongwith my family members. I found the passengers greatly inconvenienced and the crew of the ship was pressurised and forced to take on board unauthorised cargo, which was kept blocking the emergency exit. "Tipu Sultan" is a passenger ship and thus the passengers were left to the mercy of God in the event of an emergency.

The police of Cochin and Lakshadweep is totally inactive and it does not extend any help to the officers of the ship. Such incidents have taken place in the past and the guilty were also punished but it did not have desired result. So, I request and hope that the Government would take positive steps to check loading of unauthorised cargo on passenger ships.

MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI

(Darbhanga): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government through you to a disease, named *Kala-azar*, which has affected at least 30 districts of Bihar, out of which ten districts are worst affected. This disease is spreading like an epidemic in Bihar, and in Darbhanga, from where I come, there were 10 deaths, and 1123 patients in 1987, and the statistics upto October, 1991 available with me today show that the number of patients have risen to 4211 and according to official record 35 deaths have already taken place.

Sir, I know that these are the Government data, but if one goes there and makes enquiries from any social organisation, he

will come to know that in our district alone 200 people have already died till this day. This is a very serious matter which should be viewed with concern. There is acute shortage of medicine in our district, where one thousand five hundred people are hospitalised and this medicine named pentamidine is imported. There is woeful shortage of it in Bihar. I would like to emphasize on the Government that if as a preventive measure D.D.T. is not sprayed in the coming days i.e. in January or February, this disease will not be controlled. This disease is likely to advance into and spread in the neighbouring states like West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh. Therefore, I request the Central Government to take it seriously and not to leave this work to be done by the state Government. Instead it must be taken over by the Central Government in its own hands and got accomplished.

[English]

SHRI G.M.C. BALAYOGI

(Amalapuram): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to draw the attention of the Government of India to the following few points.

I came to know that recently Rs. 2 crores have been misused in the Scheduled Caste Finance Co-operative Society of Mahaboobnagar District of Andhra Pradesh which amount was allotted to the benefit of Scheduled Caste people. This incident happened while purchasing the cattle-field lands to the Scheduled Caste people. Not only this. There are a number of instances happening like this in the country.

Another important thing is there are several instances in which funds allotted to the Scheduled Caste people's welfare are being diverted to other departments. In this connection I request the hon. Minister of Welfare Shri Sitaram Kesriji to look into the matter urgently and take immediate action by sending an Official Committee to probe into this scandal.

I am very sorry that the funds allotted for the welfare of the Scheduled Caste people

are being misused and diverted to other Departments. How can you expect the development of socially and economically backward people in the near future?

With these words, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to the irregularities in the timing of the Doordarshan programmes for the past five days. The scheduled time of telecast of the News Bulletins, both in Hindi and English, is 2040 hours and 2130 hours respectively. But there was a delay of 2-3 minutes. One 3rd December, the News started at about 21.35 hours. This shows the carelessness of the Doordarshan authorities. They are wasting the valuable time by losing many minutes. If the important News Bulletin is delayed, it shows the carelessness on the part of the Doordarshan authorities.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Very important issues are being allowed by the Chair! (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN: I therefore request the hon. Minister to enquire into this matter.

Next, regarding the telecast of Parliamentary Proceedings, I would like to say one thing. Regarding telecast of the proceedings, only the Members who are allowed to speak are projected. But so many Members are raising their hands. We happen to be the unfortunate Members because we are not getting television coverage. We are getting telephone calls from our constituencies whether we are attending Parliament or not. Therefore, in order to avoid this situation, I request that they should project those unfortunate Members also, who are raising their hands. They should get an opportunity. We are not able to catch the eye of the Chair. Therefore, I request that this matter should be sympathetically considered.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): Sir, I want to raise an im-

portant matter of public importance. One of the former Ministers belonging to the Congress Party was murdered in the early hours of today in his residence at Hanumakonda in Andhra Pradesh. Further, yesterday, one Railway Driver was kidnapped and day-before-yesterday, in Adilabad in Andhra Pradesh, a train was burnt. In Andhra Pradesh, the Naxalite menace is increasing. Therefore, I demand from the Government that Paramilitary forces should be deployed in the affected areas and save the people from this menace of the Naxalites. In particular, politicians and other people should be saved from the clutches of the Naxalites. Many people have been kidnapped. Even the Police Officers are kidnapped. The law and order situation is deteriorating. 13 Districts have been affected by this menace. In Andhra Pradesh, there is no Government. There is a parallel Government run by the Naxalites. The Government should look into this matter immediately.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jajpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whatever hon. Member is saying is not correct. There is no naxalite problem but money lenders are torturing the people belonging to weaker sections and the tribals. Whenever tribal people press for their rights, their movement is suppressed branding them as naxalites. Big landlords, capitalists commit atrocities on the tribals there and still their cause is espoused by these people in this House.

[*English*]

SHRI RAM NAIK: The population of Mumbai is now more than one crore. Mumbai does not produce any agricultural food. Maharashtra is always in a continuing stage of shortage. You would have seen from the yesterday's Starred Question that Maharashtra Government has indicated that they are not going to open even a single new fair price shop. This is mainly because of the fact that there is acute shortage of food in fair price shops. There is scarcity of food and I am afraid that there will be food riots in Mumbai if the Government does not take