

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