

as per Dr. Thakur's directions.

[English]

The State authorities are being informed that the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has accepted the findings of the trial conducted by Dr. Thakur for taking appropriate administrative action regarding the duration. The drug is available in adequate quantities at all levels of Health services in Bihar. Only proven drug resistant cases need be given Pentamidine. Supplies of Pentamidine reach Calcutta. I am really thankful to Dr. Thakur who has done a very valuable and commendable work in the field of Kala-Azar. We hope that we will be able to take up this issue with the State Government of not only Bihar but also with all the State Governments in the country where there are cases of Kala-Azar.

Sir, a number of suggestions have been made by hon. Members also. I want to assure them that we will definitely take action as Shri Madhav Reddiji, Shri Paswanji and all other hon. Members have suggested. They have suggested about the number of actions to be taken. We are going take action on those lines also. Anxiety has been shown by our hon. Members belonging to Bihar, West Bengal and others also. We are concerned about it. We will take concrete action to eradicate Kala-Azar.

[Translation]

I would once again thank all the hon. Members, especially Dr. Thakur for performing such a grand task. We are not only considering but are making research about it also. Whatever Dr. Thakur has done in this regard deserves appreciation and I feel that if we provide vaccine and medicines to the poor tribal people at a low price then we will certainly be able to prevent it in the near future and cure it properly. Therefore, I would like to thank Dr. Thakur through you.

12.56 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Need for strict implementations of order banning certain drugs

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, though fixed EP combination drugs were banned on June 15, 1988, they still continue to be available across the counter in many drug shops. In Maharashtra, consumer group had to approach the High Court to force the Government to get the drug withdrawn. This shows that there is a gap of many weeks between the ban on a drug and its withdrawal from the market, during which chemists make a fast-buck playing on the gullibility of the public. It is also seen that while the fixed dose Estrogen-Progesterone drug is banned in tablet form, it still remains available and sold in injectible forms. Thus the very reason why the drug has been banned remains flouted. There is conspicuous lack of earnestness in implementing the ban on dangerous drugs. The Government can achieve the aims of such ban on irrational drugs and harmful ones only when it simultaneously forces the manufacturers on severe penalty to withdraw their stocks from the market.

- (ii) Need to formulate Master Plan for development of Inland Navigation in Orissa

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK (Jagat-singhpur) : Sir, the State of Orissa is endowed with rivers, lakes and creeks with perennial flow. At present, the usage of the waterways has been limited to operation of some passenger launch services in the Chilka Lake, Chandabali, Aradi and Rajanagar. The proposal for the introduction of launch services on Satpada-Nuapada route is under the consideration of the Government. Still there is tremendous scope for introduction of launch services on some other routes like Balimela Reservoir and from Chandbali to Talchuna in the river Brahmani. The State Government of Orissa has requested the Inland Waterways Authority of India to approve and sanction funds for survey of navigational potential in Mahanadi from Dholpur to Cuttack and for development of Orissa Coast Canal. It is requested that it should