

[Shri K. Kunjambu]

exploiting hitherto untapped waters, diversifying fishing and acquiring vessels with appropriate gears, have not been achieved. Why then should the scheme be revived ?

There has been a hue and cry in the past, especially from Kerala and Gujarat, over the undesirable presence of chartered vessels near coastal waters. The Coast Guards and the State Government will confirm the most harmful effects of the presence of chartered vessels in the Indian ocean, endangering the interests of lakhs of fishermen, and threatening our security.

Therefore, may I request the Government of India not to re-introduce the scheme of chartering foreign vessels.

[Translation]

(vi) Demand for measures to end Junior Doctors' strike in Sir Sunderlal Hospital of Banaras Hindu University

SHRI JAINUL BASHER (Ghaziपुर) : Sir Sunderlal Hospital of the Banaras Hindu University has been closed for the last about two months due to the strike by the Junior doctors and, thus, the medical services are not available there. Sir Sunderlal Hospital is the only hospital for the people of eastern Uttar Pradesh and for the people of its bordering areas of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh where the facilities of every kind of expert doctors and treatment of diseases are there. Due to the closure of this Hospital, the poor patients suffering from serious ailments have been deprived of treatment in this area.

This is not the first strike of the Junior doctors in Sir Sunderlal Hospital. Such strikes have been taking place there for the last many years and the Hospital used to remain closed for months together. This situation has been brought to the notice of the Government a number of times but without any results.

I would, therefore, request the Central Government to intervene in the matter at the earliest so that the medical services are resumed in the Hospital. Besides this, it is essential that a High Level Committee is appointed to look into the

problems leading to strikes time and again and the prevailing mismanagement in the Hospital and submit its recommendations so as to bring radical improvements in the situation.

[English]

(vii) Need to establish a Central Institute of Brackish Water Aquaculture at Muttukadu, Madras

DR. A KALANIDHI (Madras Central): About 97 acres near Muttukadu, on the Madras-Mahabalipuram Road was handed over by Government of Tamilnadu to the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute. In the VI Plan, the CMFRI had earmarked sufficient funds to develop a part of this area which has already been done and taken up the rest in VII Plan. In 1970, when the Headquarters of the CMFRI was shifted from Mandapam Camp to Cochin, there was an assurance that ICAR would strengthen its fisheries activities in Tamilnadu and nothing would be more appropriate than establishing the Central Institute of Brackish Water Aquaculture at Muttukadu, Madras. The State having lost the Headquarters of one Institute would certainly provide all necessary infrastructure facilities for the new institute at the above location. The Government should give serious consideration to this as Brackish Aquaculture that is Coastal Aquaculture, is very important for Tamilnadu where already a good amount of base line work has been carried out on Prawns and Prawn Culture, fin fish culture and Oyster Culture, etc. The Institute shall have a budget of Rs. 3 crores to begin with and once initiated will bring in more funding both National and international and would develop into a centre of excellence. This institute would be an asset not only to Tamilnadu but also to the nation and manpower development will also be a priority area of activity of the Institute. In view of the proximity of the location of the city of Madras, this Institute will grow from strength to strength by the proper planning by the Central Government and ICAR. It is requested that funds required for this Institute shall be earmarked by the Planning Commission as this location is very ideal to establish such an Institute.