

In general are conscious of the damage that is being done due to deforestation, indiscriminate felling of trees and employment of greedy contractors, this problem cannot be fully tackled by Government measures alone.

I will not be doing justice if I do not mention this. Some women in Garhwal district—I must commend their example—when the contractors reached the jungle area to fell the trees, embraced the trees and they offered their bodies to be chopped off by the hatchet of the greedy contractors to save their trees. This is a sort of consciousness that is to be created for our flora and fauna and, I hope, with the attention that this Government is now giving to soil erosion and soil conservation and preservation of flora and fauna, this problem will be solved in due course.

MR. SPEAKER: Much more attention is needed now.

श्री सुम.ब. चन्द्र यादव (खरगोन) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय मैं इस बात को बहुत गम्भीरता से लेना चाहता हूँ और मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सदन को भी इस बात को बहुत गम्भीरता के साथ लेना चाहिए। जैसा कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया है, स्वायत्त इरोजन को रोकने के लिए बहुत काम कर रहे हैं, मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ कि स्वायत्त इरोजन दो प्रकार से कंट्रोल होता है—बायोलोजी कंट्रोल और मैकेनिकल कंट्रोल। आप जो मैकेनिकल कंट्रोल कर रहे हैं उस में एक प्रकार से पैसा बरबाद करते हैं उस का उतना फायदा नहीं पहुँचता है। मेरा निवेदन कि यदि आप बायोलोजी कंट्रोल के माध्यम से इस दिशा में कार्य करते हैं तो नेचर का लाभ भी मिल सकेगा। सरकार को इस दिशा में प्रयास करना चाहिये। मेरा सुझाव है कि हर राज्य के स्तर पर एक रिसर्च सेंटर खोला जाए तथा ग्लोक स्तर पर ऐसे अधिकारियों की नियुक्ति की जाए जो कि जनता को उस से अवगत करा सकें। अभी तक किसान तथा साइंटिस्ट्स भी बहुत गम्भीरता के साथ इस प्रश्न को नहीं ले रहे हैं कि किन्हीं भूमि का इरोजन हो रहा है। इसलिए राज्य स्तर पर रिसर्च सेंटर खोले जायें तथा बजट में प्रावधान कर के खण्ड स्तर पर अधिकारी नियुक्त किये जायें जो कि लोगों को इस बात की शिक्षा दे सकें। यदि बायोलोजी कंट्रोल के माध्यम से आप स्वायत्त इरोजन को हल करते हैं तो उस से ज्यादा लाभ मिल सकेगा बजाए इसके कि आप मैकेनिकल कंट्रोल करें।

SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO: I am thankful to the hon. Minister...

AN HON. MEMBER: The hon. Member.

Matters under rule 377

SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO: He might be a Minister also some day, why bother? I am so much used to sitting there that everybody seems to be a Minister. It will take me time to understand that I am on the Treasury Benches.

I am thankful to the hon. Member for the suggestion. All these points are under the consideration of the Government. As I mentioned earlier, there are various schemes already under way for soil conservation and for plantation of trees in the Mimalayan region. We have also got our DPAP programme being implemented. The reclamation of saline and alkaline lands is one of the projects.

MR. SPEAKER: Did you say anything about some incentive for the plantation of trees?

SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO: Incentive will be provided under our new forest policy. That is under consideration. That is another question. I need not go into details now. As I said, we are giving all our attention to this problem. The Prime Minister is very much concerned about the increasing area being eroded and our hills being denuded. Forest will receive a larger share of the Budget, I hope, in future. But the real need is to make the people conscious of it by educating them. More of the chipko type of movement is necessary in the country.

14.43 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) CRISIS OF DRINKING WATER IN BIHAR

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI (Patna): Sir, under Rule 377, I raise the following matter of urgent public importance:—

A serious crisis of drinking water is feared all over Bihar in the coming months. Although the summer is yet to set, in, reports from various parts

[Shri Ramavatar Shastri]

of the States indicate that, in many areas, wells have either started drying up or their water level is going down sharply.

There is little or no water in ponds lakes and rivers. The condition, the impact of last years drought was well-known in advance, but little was done to combat the natural calamity.

Supply of drinking water comes in any relief operation in a famine-hit State. In Bihar, the situation is more alarming. According to official estimates, there are about 25,000 villages and hamlets which have no source of drinking water. They depend on the neighbouring villages.

Judging from the official attitude towards the problem, it would not be surprising if the situation in the State slips out of control.

In view of the serious water crisis in Bihar, I would earnestly request the Government to make serious efforts to tide over the impending water crisis in the State.

(ii) REPORTED SHORTAGE OF LIFE-SAVING DRUGS CAUSING HARDSHIP TO PATIENTS

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh): Sir, under Rule 377, I raise the following matter of urgent public importance:—

Recently there has been acute shortage of important and life-saving drugs like ampicillin trihydrate, chloroquin phosphate, streptomycin, iodine and tetracycline, causing great hardships to patients in public, government and private hospitals due to handicap in medical treatment.

The State Chemical and Pharmaceutical Corporation is facing a serious problem as imported bulk drugs worth several crores of rupees have not been lifted by the industry.

Due to this, several life-saving formulations and vital drugs have

been withheld affecting treatment of blood pressure. T. B., Malaria and post-operative treatment. It is also understood that recent credit squeeze by the banks, the late announcement of entitlement policy by the Government, tightening restrictions on licensing and quality control all over the world, and various other causes have led to this serious situation. This has also led to steep increase in the prices of vital drugs.

The above situation is alarming. The Government must immediately and seriously apply itself to all the problems confronting the chemical and pharmaceutical industry and take immediate steps to make vital and lifesaving drugs readily available and at reasonable prices for public utility. I call upon the Government to inform the House of the steps taken to relieve the above serious problem.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Uttambhai Patel. Not here. Mr. Shailani.

(iii) REPORTED POLICE LATHI CHARGE ON A PROCESSION OF STUDENTS IN ALLGARH ON 17-3-1980.

श्री बलराम लाल शैलानी (हायरस) : अध्यक्ष महोदय मैं नियम 377 के अधीन एक अत्यन्त महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न की ओर सम्मानित मदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

परासों दिनांक 17 मार्च, 1980 को अलीगढ़ में छात्रों के एक शान्तिपूर्ण एवं अनुशासित जुलूस पर वहाँ की पुलिस ने वर्बरतापूर्वक लाठी-चार्ज किया जिस में दर्जनों छात्र बुरी तरह घायल हुए हैं, जिन में अनेक छात्रों की गम्भीर चोटों के कारण हालत नाजुक है। विगत एक सप्ताह से बिना किसी ठोस कारण के जिला अधिकारियों ने नगर के समस्त स्कूल व कालिजों को बन्द करा दिया था और परसों जब छात्रों ने जिला अधिकारियों के इस रवैये के विरोध स्वरूप एक शान्तिपूर्ण एवं अनुशासित जुलूस का आयोजन किया और जैसे ही जुलूस मदार गेट क्षेत्र में पहुँचा तो पुलिस ने बिना किसी पूर्व सूचना एवं चेतावनी के निहत्थे एवं शान्तिप्रिय छात्रों पर निर्दयतापूर्वक लाठी चार्ज किया।

गत 8 मार्च को अलीगढ़ में ही जब कुछ नवयुवक डीजल एवं मिट्टी के तेल के वितरण में हो रही घाघलेबाजी एवं अनियमितता की ओर जिला अधिकारियों को एक आपन देने के लिए