

[कुमारी सईदा खातून]

मैं शासन से निवेदन करती हूँ कि अपनी भूल को अविलम्ब सुधार कर इन भूमिगत सेनानियों के प्रकरण जल्द हल करने का कष्ट करे और जो आवेदन की अंतिम तिथि 30 अक्टूबर, 1988 रखी गई थी उसे हटाया जाए तथा महाराष्ट्र शासन के नियमानुसार आवेदन करने के लिए तिथि का बंधन न रखा जाए क्योंकि इन्टीरियर के बहुत से सेनानियों को फार्म भरने की तारीख भी मालूमात नहीं हो पाई थी। इस गलती के जिम्मेदार वहाँ के जिलाध्यक्ष हैं जिन्होंने डोंडी पिटवाकर गांव के सेनानियों तक इस महत्वपूर्ण खबर को नहीं दिया।

अतः मेरा आपसे दुबारा निवेदन है, सरकार से निवेदन है कि मध्य प्रदेश शासन के जितने सेनानियों के प्रकरण लौटाए गए हैं उन्हें तत्काल स्वीकृत करके उन सेनानियों को पेंशन से सम्मानित किया जाए।

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन (उत्तर प्रदेश): मैडम में समर्थन करती हूँ ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI DARBARA SINGH (Punjab):
A very good point has been raised by the hon. lady Member.

श्री भंवर लाल पंवार (राजस्थान): यहां आए हैं, जो सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट में गड़े हैं फार्म, उनको जल्दी से स्वीकृत किया जाए। यह सारे देश के स्वतंत्रता सेनानियों की मांग है।

उप सभापति: मैं आपके साथ सहमत हूँ कि स्वतंत्रता सेनानी एक-एक करके जा रहे हैं इस दुनिया से, इससे पहले कि वे जाएं, सरकार को कुछ निर्णय लेना चाहिए।

श्री दरबारा सिंह: यह फ़ोडम फाइटर्स को ही मिल सकेगी, उसकी विडो को तो इंतजार न करें कि उसको देना पड़ेगा।

Use of AIDS-Infected Injections in Various Hospitals in Assam

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY (Assam): Madam, I would like to apprise the House of a serious matter. A report has appeared in some national and

local dailies and this has caused great resentment in the State of Assam. With 12 vials of Rhiggal serum—an Rh factor rectifier—being injected into pregnant women of Dhubri and Gauhati the dreaded Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is likely to have struck in the North-East. In a consignment of the injection (batch Nos. 44173 and 44174) 12 vials of batch No. 44174 were sold to Medicos Pharmacy, Dhubri, by a Bombay firm, Biogenics (India) Ltd. under chalan No. 11789. The firm also sold a batch of 60 vials and 30 vials of Batch Nos. 44174 and 44173 respectively to Candid Drugs Distributors, Guwahati. Acting on a telegraphic message from Drug Inspector Maharashtra, the Drug Controller of Assam took active steps and he recovered out of 60 only 6 vials. Probably the rest of the vials had already been injected to the people or they have gone to some of the maternity hospitals of Guwahati. Rhiggal is brand name of a drug manufactured by Biogenics (India) Ltd., previously known as Associated Laboratories. It is injected into expectant mothers with an Rh positive blood factor bearing foetuses with Rh negative blood factors. This injection contains the relevant anti-bodies and thereby eliminates the risk to life.

The serum is collected from human donors prior to being commercially manufactured and it now becomes evident that donors for batches 44173 and 44174 had tested positive with Human Immune Deficiency Virus (HIV) authorities. It is reported by PTI that at least eight women in West Bengal were recently given anti-haemophilic globulin injections which carry positive AIDS virus. Altogether 100 vials of the injections manufactured by a Bombay-based firm found their way into the retail outlets of Calcutta and three districts of the State.

Madam, it is appalling to note that a life-saving drug should leave the laboratory without having been screened thoroughly for diseases as lethal as AIDS and is clearly a case of negligence. This

startling discovery proves that the survival of entire population is at stake unless all blood products which contained blood components are carefully screened before putting them into market.

So, Madam, I urge upon the authorities concerned to censure the companies which made such drugs and to take stringent measures against those who are producing the drugs having positive virus of AIDS.

KUMARI SAYEEDA KHATUN (Madhya Pradesh): Madam, I associate myself with this.

SHRI KARMA TOPDEN (Sikkim): Madam, also associate myself with this.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think everybody associates himself with everybody's special mention. Why not one person give all the special mentions and all the Members associate themselves except, of course, Shri Subramanian Swamy?

Evasion of tax by Multinational companies

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA (Gujarat): Madam, I am raising an issue with regard to tax-evasion by certain multinational companies and big business houses. It is reported in the press that Rs. 2800 crores are locked up in the courts because of the litigation resorted to by these big companies and more than 50 per cent of the amount locked up in the litigation battle is due to ITC, formerly it was Imperial Tobacco Company and now it is the Indian Tobacco Company limited. Exact figure worked out is Rs. 1434 crores. Notices have been issued. Demand notices have also been made, matters are going to the court.

The money is still not recovered. Now a very dubious way has been resorted to by this company. First they challenge the excise order and then the matter goes for adjudication. In one case where the dis-

pute was for about Rs. 803 crores, the Director, Anti-evasion, himself was adjudicating the matter. For 300 days he adjudicated in this matter and when he was about to give the order, he was transferred and the case was handed over to another person. Now who is at fault? Whether ITC was at fault or who is the person at fault, we have to locate it and ask them to give the answer.

Secondly, while the matter is in the High Court, if the High Court did not give a stay, the Ministry assumes that a stay should be granted because if they proceed to recover the amount, the factory might be closed. If this argument is applied to everybody, you can never have any Central Budget. Everybody would say, "my factory or my establishment would be closed". This argument has been put forward by whom? By Mr. Ajit Panja. In a letter written to a Lok Sabha Member, Mr. Selvendran, on 22nd February, the Under Secretary makes a noting that recovery may not be done because it may lead to closure of the factory. Immediately, the Deputy Secretary, then Member (Excise), then Revenue Secretary and then Mr. Ajit Panja concur. All these things happen within 24 hours and Rs. 80 crores are blocked like this.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be brief.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Yes, I am very brief and pointed because you can write a book on this but this is a Special Mention.

Now criminal prosecution was to be launched against ITC. Instructions were issued. The Ministry also confirmed to one of our Members, Mr. Virendra Verma, in a letter. But since last two months, nothing has happened; no criminal prosecution is taking place. Is ITC a sick unit? Eight days back they published their balance-sheet. They are making huge profits. It is a multi-national company. They own hotels and they have