

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You are also not ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: The hon. Chairman is not personally reading these notices. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Demand to take appropriate steps to solve plight of Indians abroad

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, many young Indians leave our country to pursue higher studies in USA, Australia, South Africa, Canada and U.K. through proper visa process. Their parents sell homes, take loans for funding their wards' foreign travel. Nearly 1,00,000 Indian students go to USA and 4,00,000 students from Asia go to Australia to pursue higher education and provide services, skills to support booming economy in the respective countries. But, what we are watching everyday is the increasing racial attacks on Indians. We have seen such problems in USA, UK, Dubai due to competition with locals there. Now, we are facing problems in Australia, South Africa, in addition, we have problems due to the Indian diaspora conditions in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, etc. Our students are feeling insecure, unsafe and their parents are worried and getting their children back thinking that the Government is not doing enough to protect lives of Indian citizens. This is a serious social, educational, diplomatic and probably economic crisis that no one is taking seriously. The foreign Governments are not acknowledging the gravity of the problem, or, their own culpability and not taking any serious action to solve it.

Sir, I, therefore, request the Government to immediately take up the matter with concerned countries and seek the assurance from them that a slew of steps, including increased patrolling and setting up of a hotline have been taken to ensure the safety of Indians abroad so that these unfortunate incidents should not recur.

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA (Jharkhand): Sir, I associate myself with it.

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with it.

MS. MABEL REBELLO (Jharkhand): Sir, I also associate myself with it.

SHRI R.C. SINGH (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with this subject.

**Demand to take appropriate steps to control soaring prices
of essential commodities in the country**

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the recent spurt in the prices of vegetables, dal, sugar and edible oil is alarming. This comes on top of significant rise in the prices of rice and wheat in the country last year. With a deficient South-West Monsoon, the price situation of all essentials in the country is fast turning from an alarming situation into a precarious one.

Sir, with limited supplies, India is marginally self-sufficient on many essential commodities. With the spectre of drought looming large, we could be falling short on food grain production as well as those of fruits, vegetables and other food items. That in turn dynamites the assiduously built 4 per cent growth story in the farm sector, which in turn torpedoes the overall growth plan of 7 per cent of

the Government. Crucially, with demand fast exceeding supplies, the prices of these commodities are bound to increase.

The Government has been failing to curb the massive speculation that has been yet another cause of this spurt in the price of essentials. Several market players have intervened both in the spot markets and futures markets, wherever such intervention in futures market is possible and build up huge positions. This has suddenly perked the demand for these products and in turn has been a further trigger for the price rise. I urge the Government to clarify on the steps taken on tackling the near drought like condition prevailing in the country, bringing down the inflation of essential commodities, notably food items, curbing speculation in these items of mass consumption, reviving the Essential Commodities Act and completely scrapping the futures market.

SHRI S. ANBALAGAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with this subject.

Concern over scarcity of pure drinking water in the country

डा. प्रभा ठाकुर (राजस्थान) : उपसभापति जी, जल हर मनुष्य की मूलभूत आवश्यकता है। सभी इस बात से परिचित हैं कि हर प्राणी, वनस्पति, कृषि या मनुष्य के जीवन के लिए हवा के बाद पानी ही पहली जरूरत है। हवा, जल तथा सूर्य का प्रकाश मनुष्य तथा अन्य प्राणियों को उनके जीवन के लिए प्रकृति की देन है।

अतः हर मनुष्य का उन पर जन्मजात अधिकार है, किंतु, अफसोस की बात है कि आज बोटलों में बंद मीठा और स्वच्छ पेयजल, दूध से अधिक महंगे दामों पर बिक रहा है, जो आम आदमी या गरीब ग्रामीण आदमी नहीं खरीद सकता।

अतः देश के अनेक क्षेत्रों में लोग अशुद्ध अथवा फ्लोराइड युक्त जल तक पीने के लिए विवश हैं, जिसके कारण कई लोग अकारण अनेक प्रकार की बीमारियों के शिकार होकर पीड़ा भोगते हैं, जिसकी महंगी चिकित्सा भी वे ठीक प्रकार से कराने में समर्थ नहीं होते हैं।

अतः मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि समुद्री जल को मीठा बनाने वाले कारखाने समुद्री तटों के आसपास स्थापित किए जाएं। मेरी जानकारी के मुताबिक एक लीटर समुद्री जल को पीने योग्य मीठा तथा स्वच्छ बनाने में लगभग 80 पैसे की लागत आती है। यदि यह सही है तो सरकार स्वयं ऐसे कारखाने लगवाए तथा आम आदमी को डेढ़ या दो रुपए की कीमत में एक लीटर स्वच्छ पेयजल उपलब्ध कराए ताकि आम आदमी अनेक बीमारियों से बच सके तथा स्वच्छ जल पी सके।

Demand to make yoga and naturopathy accessible to every village

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास (छत्तीसगढ़) : उपसभापति जी, भारत की अधिकांश आबादी ग्रामों में रहती है और बड़ी संख्या में यहां के लोग गरीब हैं। आधुनिक चिकित्साएं ज्यादातर बड़े नगरों व कस्बों में उपलब्ध हैं। इनमें परीक्षण व इलाज बहुत खर्चीला होता है। गरीब लोग इतना खर्च नहीं कर सकते। सभी जानते हैं कि योग व प्राकृतिक चिकित्सा में दवाओं का उपयोग नहीं होता, पर जीवन शैली में सुधार लाकर, प्रकृति प्रदत्त हवा, पानी, मिट्टी आदि का उपयोग करके सरल चिकित्सा होती है। मुझे ज्ञात हुआ है कि वर्तमान में इनके लिए अलग आबंटन नहीं होता एवं देश में केवल 3 केन्द्रों ने सरकार की सहायता का उपयोग किया है।