

and more people are venturing out of their houses to visit different places of tourist interest. Almost all the countries in the globe are vying to tap their tourism potential as it is not only a means of earning the precious foreign exchange but also for generating much needed employment opportunities. Our country is also not lagging behind in promoting the tourism sector in a big way and it is a welcome step. But I am worried of the dark side of the moon.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI DATTAMEGHE) IN THE CHAIR]

Media reports and NGOs working in various States have pointed out that in the name of adventurous tourism, girl child trafficking and drugs abuse are going unabated at most of the centres of tourism importance, be it in Goa, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Orrisa, etc. for one reason or the other. We cannot and should not doubt all the tourists for such trafficking and abuse but reports suggest that some tourists from abroad, who were apprehended with girl child, are again seen at the very tourist places which reflects very poorly on the local administration, which does not keep a tab on such tourists. Similarly, drugs are also available at these places in abundance. Of course, locals are providing the girl child and drugs, but the same has to be prevented.

I, therefore, demand from the Central Government to prevent girl child trafficking and drugs abuse with a heavy hand at the places of tourist importance. If need be, bring forward a legislation to check the menace with different punishments. Thank you.

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA (Gujarat): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I associate myself with this issue.

MS SUSHILA TIRIYA (Orrisa): Sir, also associate myself with this issue.

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with this issue.

Concern over discrimination in selection of players in Indian Cricket Team

श्री समन पाठक (पश्चिमी बंगाल): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार का ध्यान भारतीय क्रिकेट की खामियों की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ। मान्यवर, भारत में क्रिकेट एकता का प्रतीक है। यहां पर क्रिकेट हर भारतीय के दिल में बसा है। यह पड़ोसी तथा अन्य देशों से दोस्ती

बढ़ाने में भी सहायक रहा है, लेकिन हाल ही में इस खेल के संबंध में कई विवाद उठ खड़े हुए हैं। विशेषकर साउथ अफ्रीका में भारतीय क्रिकेट की नाकामी का कारण योग्य खिलाड़ियों की अनदेखी करना भी बताया गया है। खिलाड़ियों का चुनाव विवादहीन होना चाहिए।

मेरा खेल मंत्रालय से अनुरोध है कि खिलाड़ियों के चयन में पारदर्शिता सुनिश्चित की जाए। खिलाड़ियों के गलत चयन से भारतीय क्रिकेट पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ रहा तथा क्रिकेट टीम के खराब प्रदर्शन के कारण जन-भावना को आघात पहुंचा है। अतः यह आवश्यक हो गया है कि खिलाड़ियों का चुनाव क्षेत्रीय अथवा सामुदायिक भावना से ऊपर उठकर किया जाए।

Concern over spread of Malaria in Assam

SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA (Assam): Sir, as malaria has become irresistible in Assam, the Centre has to be more serious to this problem. Recently in the months of October and November, 2006, sudden outbreak of malaria caused death of 18 people in Parbotjora area. In BTAD Assam, thousands of people are affected and languishing in various health centres where there are no doctors and medicines. Parbotjora is a forest area having around 50,000 population, but no health centres have medical staff and medicines. The Government should send doctors, and make medicines available as per the requirements. The modern treatment system is being challenged by this disease in the entire State and its adjoining areas. The doctors are unwilling to serve in rural areas. As a result, 80 per cent of PHCs have no doctors and medical staff in Assam. Ninety per cent rural hospitals have no blood testing facilities. The Government should not be failing in its duty to carry out spraying of DDT or taking other preventive measures before the epidemic starts. The NGOs are actively rendering service in fighting against malaria. But paucity of funds is a major hurdle in conducting awareness campaign and supplying medicines for poor people. Therefore, the Government is urged upon to take strong measures to combat the chronic disease by removing fund problems in the State, making medicine and doctors in rural areas available. The Government is also urged upon to establish adequate numbers of sample testing centres in various PHCs under special consideration so that early detection and prevention can be done.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Moinnul Hassan. Not present. Shrimati Supriya Sule. Not present. Shri T.S. Bajwa.