

blocks like Narayanpatna, Bandhugaon, Dasamantapur Bisama, Cuttack, Kolonora and Phulbani districts.

Madam, Koraput and Mayurbhanj districts are Tribal districts in Orissa. The far-flung hamlets of these districts don't have proper medical facilities. Presently available medical facilities are not sufficient to meet the enormous needs of the people. As the communication facilities in the district are not up to the requirement, people are unable to come to the towns for treatment immediately. Hence my suggestion is that a team of doctors may immediately be sent to the affected blocks by mobile vehicles with medicines and other facilities. I also request that if required and needed, steps should be taken to shift the patients immediately to bigger hospitals where better facilities are available. Unless immediate attention is given to check the outbreak of these diseases, things will become worse. Now, in Orissa, treatment for meningitis is available at Barhampur, Sambalpur and Cuttack. Through you Madam, I want to submit to the Government that they should take immediate steps in different district headquarters and sub-divisional headquarters in Orissa to fight these diseases.

There is another submission which I want to make. Malaria as an epidemic has reappeared in the districts of Mayurbhanj and Koraput. I am afraid that if it is not checked properly now, it may take an alarming proportion in two or three years. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to implement the national 'Malaria Eradication Programme' properly in those districts. Thank you.

Inordinate delay in the announcement of Haj programme by Sea

3 P.M.

SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH (Gujarat): Madam, I want to draw the attention of this august House to the fact that there has been an inordinate and unjustified delay on the part of the Ministry of External Affairs in announcing the Haj Programme by sea in 1988. In fact it has caused anxiety and anguish in the millions of Muslims of this country. Madam, the Central

Haj Committee passed a unanimous resolution urging the Union Government to announce the Haj programme by sea last month. The Haj Committee which is constituted under an Act of Parliament has four Members of Parliament and several State Ministers on it. And still the Government has not taken any cognizance of the resolution. Madam, this non-announcement of the Haj programme by sea is fraught with grave dangers and it has already resulted in a mass agitation in the Bombay city and several posters and protestations have appeared in Bombay and other major cities of the country.

Madam, Haj programme by sea is not only affordable but is also convenient to a large section of poor and middle-class Muslims of this country who proceed for Haj once in their life time. Madam, the AD India Haj Conference which met in Goa two months back and attended by the Ministers of the State Governments, including Kerala and West Bengal, had also unanimously appealed to the Union Government to continue the Haj sailings. Therefore, Madam, any decision to terminate the Haj ships will only bring discredit to the Government. The hon. Prime Minister was kind enough to give me a reply on 20th January that the Haj programme by sea and other matters relating to Haj are being looked

into by the Ministry of External Affairs. I, therefore, appeal to the hon. Prime Minister and to the Minister of State for Surface Transport and the Minister of State for External Affairs to please look into the matter immediately and continue the sailings by ship. Otherwise, it will create grave difficulties for the Muslims of this country. Thank you.

SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG (Gujarat): Madam, I associate myself with the hon. Member. Mr. Raoof Valiullah.

SHRI MOHD. KHAT EELUR RAHMAN (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, I also associate myself with the hon. Member.

श्री शफीम अहमद मिददीकी (दिल्ली) :
मैडम, यह शिप के मसले के ऊपर जो यह
मसला है, इसका ताल्लक हिंदुस्तान के उन
लाखों मुसलमानों से है, जो गरीब हैं

और जिनकी जराया आमदनी बहुत कम है। वे इस शिप के मसले के लिए हमेशा से कोशिश करते रहे हैं और हुकमत से कहते रहे हैं। इसलिये मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि श्री बलीउल्लाह साहब ने जो स्पेशल मेशन पेश किया है उसकी तरफ ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये। इस सिलसिले में न सिर्फ दिल्ली के बल्कि पूरे हिंदुस्तान के मुख्यतः इलाकों के मुसलमानों की तरफ से प्राइम मिनिस्टर और दूसरे लोगों को टेलीग्राम भेजे जा रहे हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस मसले को हल किया जाय। इससे लाखों मुसलमानों को फायदा पहुंचेगा और उन मुसलमानों को फायदा पहुंचेगा जिनकी माली जराय मजबूत नहीं है। इस लिये मेरी हुकमत से दर्खास्त है कि इस मसले को हल किया जाय ताकि गरीब मुसलमानों को फायदा पहुंच सके।

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO* (Jammu and Kashmir): Madam Deputy Chairman, I also received several communications from the Muslims of Kashmir and also from Kargil from where our hon. Deputy Minister Shri Sonam Wangyal comes there comes that they 'can afford to go to Haj only by sea. I support my friend Mr. Raoof Valiullah and request you to convey to the Government that a decision regarding Haj pilgrimage by sea may be taken as soon as possible.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I request the State Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to please convey it to the concerned Ministry.

Increase in the incidents of crime against women

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Madam Deputy Chairman. I would like to raise an important issue that crime against women is on the increase in this country for the past two years. Though legislations have been enacted and directives have been issued by the Central Government, the State Governments are not adhering to them, in fact the case of kidnapping, dowry-death and rape are on the increase.

Madam, according to the information available with the Home Ministry, the

crime against women is growing at a fast pace. Madam, in the year 1985, there were 6356 cases of rape, 8440 kidnappings and 837 bride-burnings. According to the information available for 1986. Within a period of seven months, it seems the figure of 1985 has been reached: Madam, I would like to inform the House that Uttar Pradesh leads the list with 323 dowry deaths in 1985, Rajasthan had 1469 kidnappings and Madhya Pradesh had 1428 rape cases. Then, Madam, bride burning cases in Maharashtra number 136, Haryana 99 West Bengal 88. Regarding rape case*, U.P. recorded 888 cases, Maharashtra 675, West Bengal 594, and so on.

Madam, the Central Government enacts laws and gives directives to the State Governments to protect women from oppression. But we find from the information available that after the amendment of the Dowry Prohibition Act the onus of proving that there was no demand for dowry was placed on the person who takes or abets the taking of dowry and it is for him to prove that he was not the culprit and that he was innocent. Under the law Dowry Prohibition Officers had to be appointed and advisory boards had to be constituted. But some of the States have not taken care to appoint these officers and therefore the Act has not been fully implemented in some States.

Secondly, Madam, the Home Ministry had issued instructions that when a married lady dies, the police has to certify that it is a natural death and the parents of the lady and her relatives have to give evidence that it is a natural death. This had to be strictly followed. But these rules have been flouted in some States. Then, Madam: those cases which have been recorded as bride burnings cases are being prolonged indefinitely and therefore it is a common thing to see bride burning cases in various States and these cases are not being quickly disposed of as per the directives.

To check other criminal offences against women, such as rape and illegal sale of girls for flesh trade, it was decided to appoint trafficking police officers who will have the powers to investigate offences which involved more than one State. This would facilitate early detection of offences against women. But there is delay in the appointment-