

cities, the concept of putting dishes antenna in multistoried buildings for direct reception is catching on.

Beaming Madras programmes through satellite is technically feasible because: Original INSAT programme provides for permanent as well as portable earth stations at Madras.

Therefore, once the Government decides to permit Madras TV to relay programmes through satellites and release one channel in INSAT for this purpose, this could be effected almost immediately.

I strongly condemn the callous attitude of the Central Government to the urgent need of Tamil Nadu and request steps to fulfil the demand.

OUTBREAK AND SPREAD OF ENCEPHALITIS IN TAMIL NADU AND ANDHRA PRADESH

SHRI T. R. BALU (Tamil Nadu): Madam Deputy Chairman, I rise on an important issue which is persistently threatening the country particularly Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, i.e. the brain fever, otherwise called as the Japanese B. Encephalitis. This viral brain fever has so far claimed the lives of 185 children in Tamil Nadu. The districts of South Arcot, Tanjore, Chingleput, North Arcot, Pich Ramanathapuram, Tinneveli, Salem and Dharampur are the most affected areas. In all 386 children in 277 villages have been affected. As far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, the dreaded disease has claimed 360 lives of children in Kurnool, Guntur and Prakasam districts.

Madam, the disease carried by mosquitos is marked by fever which grows in intensity, pain in head and back, stiff neck, unconsciousness and even paralysis or sudden death. The virus, carried by qulex mosquitos multiplies in the blood of pigs after the animals are bitten by the mosquitos. The preventive vaccine available in Japan which costs Rs. 30 per vial, would be supplied only by orders and that too, due to ban order of the Indian Government, the drugs could not

be imported. This state of affairs has to be viewed rather seriously and the ban order on import of medicine shall be removed immediately, so that the lives of the children could be saved in time. In November 1978, the epidemic swept through the States of Assam, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, and as many as 1300 fatalities were recorded. In 1981 again in the month of November parts of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka came under the lethal influence of the viral fever. A high incidence of the disease was reported from Anantapur, Kolar, Tumkur, Tirunelveli and Tiruchirappalli districts in the three States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. Hence I request the Treasury Benches to kindly look upon this situation and the danger that has been posed to this country due to this disease since 1978. Nearly nine years have passed. It is rather unfortunate that neither the Central Government nor the state Government have made serious efforts to fight the disease. That shows the careless attitude of the Government. I request the Health Minister, through you, Madam to make a statement on the steps taken to eradicate encephalitis. Thank you.

REFERENCE TO THE NEED FOR PROTECTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF BODH STUPAS IN MADHYA PRADESH

श्री केशव प्रसाद शुक्ल (मध्य प्रदेश)
माननीय उपसभापति महोदया, मैं आपकी-
प्राज्ञा से केन्द्रीय शासन का ध्यान एनि-
हासिक एवं पुरातत्व महत्व के बोद्ध
स्तूपों की ओर आकर्षित करता हूँ।
मध्य प्रदेश के रीवा जिले के त्योथर
नहमील के ग्राम देउर कोठार के पहाड़ी
क्षेत्र में जो रीवा इलाहाबाद राजमार्ग नं०
26 पर रीवा में 60 किलोमीटर पर
स्थित है वहां पर तीन बोद्ध स्तूपों के
अवशेष प्राप्त हुए हैं। यहां प्राप्त
शिलालेख में पता चला है कि तीनों स्तूपों
शुंग वंशीय शासक धनमूर्ति (240 ई० पू०)
आर वाघपाल द्वितीय (210 ई० पू०) के