

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED NON-AVAILABILITY OF SUR- GICAL ITEMS IN HOSPITALS IN THE UNION TERRITORY

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY (Uttar Pradesh) : Sir, with your kind permission I wish to bring to the notice of the Minister of Health that for want of surgical items like anesthetic gas cylinders surgical operations are not being performed in all the hospitals in the Union Territory. This is also the condition in many of the State capitals and elsewhere. This report has also appeared in the Times of India on 21st December 1980. I would like the Minister of Health to investigate the matter and see that these surgical items so essential for performing surgical operations are provided to the hospitals. It is reported that out of fifteen gas cylinders only four to five per week are provided for the surgical department. Gas is very essential for a surgery. I would like the Health Minister to go into this also. This is also the condition in almost all the hospitals at State capitals, district headquarters, everywhere. Oxygen cylinders are not available at all with the result surgical operations are not being conducted properly. I would request the Minister to see that immediate steps are taken by the Health Ministry in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not know whether the Health Minister is going to make a statement. It is not a case of

“जराहत बेतमकपाशी, जराहत बा नमकपाशी।”

श्री जे० क० जैन : (मध्य प्रदेश) सभापतिजी, इसका मतलब समझा दीजिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: A poet said that an operation should be done जराहत बे नमकपाशी surgery without sprinkling salt into the wound; otherwise, जराहत बा नमकपाशी it will be surgery with salt being sprinkled into it,

That is to say, anesthesia is necessary
Therefore, you take action.

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED DETENTION OF SOME INDIAN NATIONALS IN PAKISTANI JAILS

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gujarat): Mr. Chairman, I rise to refer to a problem which is essentially a humanitarian problem and which has been persisting for several years now. I am relating to the missing Indian nationals or rather Indian nationals who are imprisoned in Pakistan. And I notice that on 12th April the Minister of External Affairs replied to an Unstarred Question in this House in which he said, “According to our present information 280 Indian nationals are said to be in Pakistani jails. This number includes 138 names conveyed to us by the Pakistani Government.” Then, in reply to another Unstarred Question in the other House the Foreign Minister said, “According to the information received by the Government of India from various sources forty officers belonging to our Defence Services who took part in the 1971 Indo-Pak conflict are believed to be detained in Pakistan.” There is also a list of these 40 missing personnel that was attached, of those who, according to the Government’s information and according to the information that is with the kith of these personnel are detained in Pakistan. There are some letters with their relations. Sir, I am referring to this because this is a matter which has to be viewed irrespective of any Government. When our Government was there, we tried to pursue this; this Government has also pursued it. I think the Prime Minister is herself taking an interest in the matter and just after Mr. Agha Shahi visited India Mrs. Gandhi wrote to Mr. Suri, who is the father