

दिलाएंगे, इस बात को मानते हुए आपकी बात के आधार पर मैं अपने इस रिजोल्यूशन को वापिस लेता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Does he have the permission of the House to withdraw the Resolution?

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi. Absent. Shri Manoj Bhattacharya.

Need to regulate and control the problem of spurious drug formulations in government hospitals

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Thank you, very much, Sir. It is good that the hon. Health Minister has also come. Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House resolves that the Government should immediately initiate effective legislative and executive measures to stringently regulate and control the menacing problem of spurious, sub standard, sub therapeutic, irrational and obsolete drug formulations being marketed or sold by many pharmaceutical companies, individuals or clandestine agencies, the prices of medicines, adjuvants, diagnostic materials, etc. so that the common people of our country are not deprived of modern scientific treatment regimen, and scientifically make and demonstrate the list of essential drugs in all Government hospitals/clinics/dispensaries."

Sir, at the outset, I will say that it is a sad commentary on our part that we have not discussed such a subject in the past. I am here in Parliament for almost 5-6 years, I have never come across such an occasion when the House had discussed this very important subject which concerns the people of this country, which concerns the ailing people of this country, which concerns the distressed people of this country. It is very unfortunate on my part to note that in the House there are hardly 10 Members; not even 5 per cent of the Members are present over here. I feel that this subject, you will appreciate ...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Quality of the Members is important.

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Naturally, those Members who are there, they must be quality Members. Sir, this issue or the Resolution pertains to a very, very complicated subject which has got a vast ramification on the people's health, the nation's health. That is why, Sir, I will try to begin by saying that two Departments are involved in this issue, one is the Chemicals and Fertilizers Ministry and another is the Health and Family Welfare Ministry. To my mind, Sir, I have raised this issue a number of times in the past that perhaps sometimes there is a gap between these two Ministries. They perhaps do not always coordinate to determine, because the drugs which are required and the disease profile of the people of the country are determined primarily by the Health Ministry and the medicines, the drugs and pharmaceuticals are primarily governed by the Chemicals and Fertilizers Ministry. And, Sir, I would implore upon you that this issue can be discussed at a stretch because if I discuss it for 10-15 minutes and it spills over to next day, it will be a half-baked and truncated discussion. This is a very important issue and I would not like to indulge in a half-baked and truncated discussion. I would like to discuss this matter at a stretch, and I am sure that some other hon. Member will also join. Sir, in one sitting, if we can discuss it, it will perhaps be beneficial and the hon. Minister can also note the points and assure us something and take corrective action, wherever necessary, and the country can get rid of this problem. This problem is a very serious problem. But, this is not an insurmountable problem. We can overcome this problem, once we do have a serious will, a serious determination that the people of this country do not suffer and do not die because of consumption of spurious drugs that their sufferings are not prolonged because of consumption of sub-standard drugs, that their life is not endangered because of consumption of irrational drug formulations, that they are not unnecessarily fleeced and that they are not economically fleeced at the time of distress because of the existence of this sort of drug formulations.

I plead, Sir, this is a great service to the people of this country. Therefore, I implore upon you, let us just adjourn the House now and let us start the discussion in a full-fledged manner at the next available opportunity so that we can really do justice to the discussion. It can be a meaningful discussion. Sir, hardly five or ten minutes are left.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have fourteen minutes more.

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: That is not enough. I would like to discuss it at a stretch. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Minister, do you have to

catch a flight? I also have to catch a flight. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, you please tell me whether I shall continue or I shall do it at a stretch.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, we can continue it next week.

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Next week? Not next week. The very next week. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Let us continue for fourteen minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Sir, I just request you. I do not know whether my friend, Mr. Jairam Ramesh, understands the gravity of the situation. If we start the discussion today, there will be a gap of two weeks. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, there will be a gap of two weeks. Sir, if there is a gap of two weeks, then the discussion will not have the value that it deserves. Sir, my submission before you is that this discussion must be valued. And today, hardly some ten, fifteen Members are there. Perhaps, it can be sensitised better. We can have a better discussion at a stretch, where the Minister can also have the benefit of noting down certain points, which can be of immense use for running the Ministry, for administering the Ministry. I am sure that the Minister is also nodding his head. So, he is also in favour of adjourning the House today and taking up the discussion at a stretch next week. ...*(Interruptions)*... I again request, Sir, because there will be a gap of twelve days. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would like to take the sense of the House. We have another seven or eight minutes. I think, twelve minutes are left. Shall I adjourn the House or shall he continue?

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, next time he should continue because the Minister has to catch a flight, and he wants to have a detailed discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think we should adjourn the House.

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Sir, I thank you very much. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, further discussion on this Private Member's Resolution will continue on Friday, the 1st May, 2005. The hon. Member may continue his speech on that day. So, I adjourn the House now.

The House then adjourned at fifty-three minutes past four of the clock, till eleven of the clock on Monday, the 2nd May, 2005.