

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORT, TOURISM
AND CULTURE**

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I present the *One Hundred and Sixty-first Report (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on the Anti-Hijacking (Amendment) Bill, 2010.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

**Death of 13 pregnant women due to administration of
infected intravenous fluids**

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, one more shocking incident came to light yesterday where 13 pregnant women died within a span of ten days, and five are in serious condition due to the use of infected IV fluids on them. This horrendous incident came to light very late as the first death occurred on 13th February itself.

Sir the incident has occurred in Umaid Hospital in Jodhpur when infected intravenous dextrose and ringer lactose was administered to full-term pregnant women. All the women died after severe hemorrhaging.

On preliminary investigation, it was found that several batches of I.V. fluid were manufactured by Parenteral Surgical India Limited, Indore. Sir, the lab reports confirmed that several batches of dextrose and ringer lactose were contaminated with gram negative and positive bacteria. It is conspicuous as to why the reported deaths have not come to light 15 days. I have no hesitation to say that the authorities and others concerned are trying to bury the whole issue. Sir, in spite of 12 deaths, I fail to understand as to why the postmortem was conducted only on one woman.

Sir, the contaminated I.V. fluids were manufactured in two batches in December and January, and, I am given to understand that more than 45,000 bottles of I.V. fluids have been sold in five States, namely, Orissa, Punjab, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. I am deeply concerned as 60 to 70 per cent of the bottles have already been sold. If the steps are not taken on war footing to recall bottles from the dealers, there is every possibility of more mishaps.

*The Report was presented to Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha on the 18th October, 2010

It is not known how the Drug Controller General of India cleared the drug. It is unfortunate that even after this grave incident and death of 13 pregnant women, the company has not been sealed and the production in the company is still continuing. The officials are still lingering for report to take action against the company.

In view of the above, I request the Government of India and the Ministry of Health to immediately intervene; seize the tainted I.V. fluids in the market, arrest the management of the company and take immediate action. Thank you.

श्री वी.पी. सिंह बदनौर (राजस्थान): सर, यह राजस्थान गवर्नमेंट की बहुत बड़ी कमी है। राजस्थान गवर्नमेंट ने ऐक्शन नहीं लिया है।...(व्यवधान)...

**Constitutionality of 67 per cent reservation for men in
recruitment of teachers and others in Haryana**

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT (West Bengal): Sir, in the very beginning, I would like to say that we are happy that all sections of the House have generally supported affirmative action when it comes to dealing with discrimination against women. Therefore, Sir, today, with that spirit, I am making this submission before this House, and, it is not with any political motive against any particular Government.

Sir, you will be shocked to hear that the position of 33 per cent reservation for women in jobs, which we have been demanding, has been converted by the Haryana Government into 67 per cent reservation of jobs for men. Sir, I have got the copy of the notification, which was issued earlier. It says, "The reservation shall be vertical, that is, 33 per cent in each category of the reservation will be for women, and, 67 per cent will be for men." Now, this is turning justice on its heads, Sir. There is a Screening Committee for recruitment of school teachers in Haryana. The House will be shocked to know that in the Screening Committee to implement this policy, the cut-off marks in the general category for men and women are as follows. In Hindi, for women, the cut-off is 76 per cent, and, for men, it is 71 per cent. In History, English and Sanskrit also, the cut-off marks are less for men and more for women. Even in the 'disability' category of reservation, the cut-off for women is 65 per cent, and, 60 per cent for men. I have got the details of the recruitment. This test was specifically for the