

SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI KUMAR KETKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO (Punjab): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM (Meghalaya): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

KUMARI SELJA (Haryana): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Financial help for "Mission Bhagiratha" in Telangana

SHRI V. LAKSHMIKANTHA RAO (Telangana): Sir, the newly formed State, Telangana, normally suffers from erratic monsoons that has resulted in drought-like situation in large parts of the State and people suffer for want of safe and sustainable piped drinking water supply free from fluorides.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not supposed to read. This is Zero Hour.

SHRI V. LAKSHMIKANTHA RAO: I am referring, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have no objection.

SHRI V. LAKSHMIKANTHA RAO: The Government of Telangana has started a programme called "Mission Bhagiratha" with an aim to supply pure drinking water to every household in the State and a huge massive programme has been taken up forming Telangana Drinking Water Supply Corporation Ltd., under the Chairmanship of hon. Chief Minister Shri Chandrasekhar Rao. The hon. Prime Minister of India launched this programme on 7th August, 2016 in the Gajwel constituency of Telangana State with an estimated cost of Rs.42,000 crores. While speaking during his visit, he had all the praise for our hon. Chief Minister KCR-led Government because of the Government's achievements in the last 2 years.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, what is your suggestion?

SHRI V. LAKSHMIKANTHA RAO: Sir, in 2016, the NITI Aayog recommended to the Ministry of Finance, Government of India to support Mission Bhagiratha with a grant of ₹19,205 crores in the period of three years for a very genuine cause of supplying drinking water to rural habitation. However, the Ministry of Finance has not considered the Mission Bhagiratha for support under special assistance to the States. This is in line with the Government of India's programme, that is, the Jal Jeevan Mission 'Nal se Jal'. Sir, drawing water from the reservoirs and supplying pure water to the door steps of the House costs ₹ 45,028 crores. In order to do this, they take loan from different organisations, namely, NABARD, HUDCO and commercial banks up to 80 per cent, and the balance 20 per cent is funded through budgetary support from the State Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have to conclude. Make your demand, please.

SHRI V. LAKSHMIKANTHA RAO: Sir, the NITI Aayog had actually suggested to the Government of India to give 90...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not going on record. It gets stopped automatically. That is why, I was reminding you in between.

Green Diabetology

DR. VIKAS MAHATME (Maharashtra): Sir, it is not a thing of pride that India has the maximum number of diabetic patients. Many of them are on insulin. The problem with insulin is that the syringes and needles, which are used for this purpose, are thrown with the home wastes. Not only that, annually, 16 crore insulin syringes are thrown in the home garbage. Secondly, around 55 crore needles are also thrown in the home garbage due to various other reasons, like the old-age patients who are looked after by para-medicals who go to their homes for giving injections, dressing the wounds, and they throw medical waste in the home garbage. So, these syringes, needles and the lancets which are used for checking up the blood sugar, are all thrown into home garbage. To add to this, the cotton, gauze pieces and other things, which are used to clean the wound, specially post-operatively, are also thrown in the household dustbin. Due to this, diseases can get transmitted to all those who handle it like the family members and to the workers who work in the house and also to rag pickers. They are also not aware about all these things. There are rules for the disposal of

*Not recorded.