

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is not important? Everything is important. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Husain Dalwaiji, this is not the way. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, over-billing and extortion by corporate hospitals and also pocket expenditure. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, especially, it is being noticed that in many corporate hospitals, even after death of patients, dead bodies are being detained until remaining part of the Bill is paid which is leading to agitation and hooliganism in several corporate hospitals. Sir, my suggestion to this House is this. In our State of West Bengal, Madam Mamata Banerjee, being the Chief Minister and the Health Minister, started the West Bengal Health Regulatory Commission. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is it that you wanted to suggest?

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, we have the West Bengal Regulatory Commission which looks into all these types of things. The patients who are deprived by corporate hospitals get a forum to lodge their complaints regarding over-billing, out-of-the-pocket expenditure...

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, you don't want to make any suggestion or demand.

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, my suggestions is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You tell the House what you want to suggest or bring to the notice of the Government.

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, I want that this type of Health Regulatory Commission, which exists in the State of West Bengal, should be made in each and every State to regulate the corporate hospitals and control the over-billing practice, out-of-pocket expenditures, and extortion by the corporate hospitals.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a good suggestion. You should simply make your point by citing that this has been done here and it should be followed by other States too. Now, Shri Amar Patnaik.

Revision of coal royalty for Odisha

SHRI AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government of India fixes the rate of royalty on coal and other major minerals for the States. What we have found is that the Government of India last revised the royalty on coal in April, 2012. Normally,

they have to revise these rates every three years, in which case, it should have been revised in April, 2015. As you know, Sir, in the State of Odisha, like in many other States, there is environmental degradation on account of extraction of coal. Our hon. Chief Minister had made a request to revise the rate of coal royalty from existing 12 per cent to 20 per cent. However, this has not yet been done, despite the fact that this was placed before the Central GST Council. It says that Clean Energy Cess has been imposed. But, as you know, the 'cess' goes to the indivisible pool. So, the State Governments do not get anything from it. So, through you, I would like to bring it to the notice of the Union Minister that the royalty on coal needs to be expedited and needs to be done at the earliest, so that the State Governments, particularly a State like Odisha that depends on very limited resources as far as revenue is concerned, are benefited through this system.

SHRI RANJIB BISWAL (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRI SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRI MANISH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

Problems due to drinking of saline water in the country

श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): सभापति महोदय, पिछले दिनों सदन में जल-संकट और उसके प्रबंधन को लेकर काफी गहन चर्चा हुई थी। देश में अनेक हिस्से ऐसे हैं, जहां जल तो है परन्तु प्रदूषित है, जो एक प्रकार से जहर के समान है। यूनिसेफ की एक रिपोर्ट के अनुसार देश भर के 719 जनपदों में से 336 जनपद ऐसे हैं, जिनका पानी पीने के लायक नहीं है। हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश में 49 जिले ऐसे हैं, जिनका पानी एक प्रकार से जहर के समान है, विशेष तौर से उत्तर प्रदेश के एटा, मैनपुरी, फिरोजाबाद, मथुरा, हाथरस और आगरा जनपदों के हजारों गांव ऐसे हैं, जिनका पानी या तो खारा है अथवा उसमें fluoride, iron और nitrate की मात्रा मानक से बहुत ज्यादा है। वहां के लोग प्रदूषित होने के कारण खारा पानी पी नहीं सकते, स्नान नहीं कर सकते, वस्त्र नहीं धो सकते, जानवर पानी पीते नहीं और जानवरों में अनेक प्रकार के रोग उत्पन्न हो रहे हैं। पशु-पक्षी या तो मर गए हैं अथवा वहां से पलायन कर गए हैं। खेती की उर्वरा शक्ति बहुत क्षीण हो गई है। वहां के हजारों गांव ऐसे हैं, जिनका पर्यावरण पूरी तरह से विषाक्त हो गया है। जिन गांवों का पानी खारा है अथवा जहां पानी में fluoride, iron और nitrate की अधिकता है, बाहर के लोग उन गांवों में अपनी लड़कियों की शादी करने से कतराते हैं। हजारों गांवों की लाखों महिलाएं ऐसी हैं जो 2-2 और 3-3 किलोमीटर दूर से जल लाती