

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SONAL MANSINGH (Nominated): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI SULATA DEO (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. Fauzia Khan.

**Poor air quality in the cities of Mumbai and Pune and need for a robust health infrastructure to address the problem**

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, as per the data revealed by SAFAR, India Institute of Tropical Meteorology, IIT-M, the air quality of cities like Mumbai and Pune

have dropped to poor and very poor level. This is the result of the north-easterly and the easterly wind flow which carries pollutants and moisture with it. The pollutants which flow from the Indo-Gangetic Basin and Central India, combined with constant drop in temperature and the cloudy weather throughout the day, have rendered these pollutants to stay within the vicinity of humans, blocking their escape to higher levels in the atmosphere. Usually, when temperatures are high, humidity is less and there is dry weather with greater particle suspension. These pollutants are responsible for the falling of the PM 2.5 concentration to 317 micrograms per cubic meter in Pune and 313 micrograms per cubic meter in Mumbai when the maximum possible limit is 60 micrograms per cubic meter. A more or less similar situation is there throughout the State concerning these affairs. Additionally, it has led the doctors worried about a hike in cases of upper respiratory tract infections, bronchial asthma and heart issues. These pollutants could either be from dust or pollen or from vehicular emissions. Sir, although, at present, it is not in the hands of humans to alter the structure of winds and the climate, a robust mechanism to combat factors that lead to air pollution must be raised. And, the health infrastructure for this need to be maintained to address such issues so that affected people, especially the senior citizens, can avail themselves of the benefit of the same. At the end, I will only say, be a part of the solution and not part of the pollution. Thank you, Sir.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. FAIYAZ AHMAD (Bihar): Sir, I too associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham.

#### **Need for Government intervention to redress the issue of paddy farmers in Kerala**

SHRIMATI JEBI MATHER HISHAM (Kerala): Sir, I am deeply obliged by the opportunity. I would like to draw your kind attention to the impending crisis faced by the paddy farmers in Kerala. The State Corporation had procured Rs.482 crores worth of paddy but, unfortunately, only Rs.45 crores have been paid to them; Rs.437 crores is pending with them. Why this has happened is because about Rs.580 crores is pending from the Union Government to the State and Rs.460 crores from the State Government. Sir, if the paddy farmers are not provided with the money, which is rightfully due, it is pushing them towards the wall and it is very, very unfortunate that the payment is not being made. All I am asking for is that the Union Government should make the payment which is due of about Rs.580 crores. I am not asking for Rs.21,370 crores from State Bank of India. I am not asking for Rs.70,000 crores from LIC. All I am asking is Rs.580 crores which is rightfully due to the paddy farmers of Kerala. Sir, let me respectfully remind that our country's and this Government's priority ought to be farmers and not a company. let me also respectfully remind that our country's and this Government's priority ought to be to ensure that every one out of 140 crore people of the country should not live without food and the priority should not be to make one person the richest in the world. Sir, let me also respectfully remind that our country's and this Government's priority should be to