

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by hon. Member, Shri Sanjay Singh: Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Shri Ritabrata Banerjee (West Bengal), Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Shri Ajit Kumar Bhuyan (Assam), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Shri P. P. Suneer (Kerala), Shri Mohammed Nadimul Haque (West Bengal), Shri Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya (West Bengal), Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha (Bihar), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shri Prakash Chik Baraik (West Bengal), Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu), Shri Imran Pratapgarhi (Maharashtra) and Shri A. A. Rahim (Kerala).

Now, Shrimati Sagarika Ghose, "Need for robust blood transfusion laws for those battling Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Anemia."

### **Need for robust blood transfusion laws for those battling Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Anemia**

SHRIMATI SAGARIKA GHOSE (West Bengal): Sir, the country faces serious shortages in the supply of healthy uninfected blood. Many are in danger of serious health risks of contracting diseases from infected blood through blood transfusions. Blood banks are under enormous pressure and often fall short of healthy blood. The country requires 14.6 million units of blood annually, yet faces a shortfall of around 7 million units each year. This is extremely worrying as countless lives, particularly those infected with Sickle Cell Anemia and Thalassemia, depend on access to safe uninfected blood. There have been reports of shortages of the life saving drug for Thalessemics: Desferal. India has 1,50,000 individuals diagnosed with Thalassemia major who depend on regular blood transfusion for their very survival. Blood transfusion services are fragmented and contain many inefficiencies. Those who are fortunate enough to receive transfusions sometimes contract HIV. There is a notable and growing reluctance in India for citizens to donate blood. It is vital to spread awareness and to educate people on the benefits of blood donation. If we donate blood, we become healthier. The donor's health can improve after blood donation by the stimulation of new blood cell production and maintenances of healthy levels of iron. By way of parenthesis, I can say that the device of Zero Hour allows us to raise these urgent peoples' issues. \*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the subject.

---

\* Not recorded.

SHRIMATI SAGARIKA GHOSE: \*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record. You speak on the subject. Only that would go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please speak on the subject, Sagarikaji. You know that if you speak on the subject, that would go on record; otherwise, not.

SHRIMATI SAGARIKA GHOSE: Yes, Sir. Through you, I want to request the Government to focus on the urgent need for a comprehensive new national blood law that emphasizes voluntary blood donation and implements stringent blood screening protocols including NAT. This would significantly reduce the risk of contracting HIV and Hepatitis through infected transfusions of blood. Unless this is done, those requiring blood transfusions would continue to face life threatening risks.

A stark example of this was when 23 children contracted HIV because they were given infected blood through blood transfusions. Access to safe blood is a cornerstone of modern healthcare playing an essential role in the care and survival of countless citizens.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by hon. Member, Shrimati Sagarika Ghose: Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala), Shri Ritabrata Banerjee (West Bengal), Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Shrimati Mausam B Noor (West Bengal), Shri Ravi Chandra Vaddiraju (Telangana), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Shri Pramod Tiwari (Rajasthan), Shri Anil Kumar Yadav Mandadi (Telangana), Shri Mohammed Nadimul Haque (West Bengal), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu), Shri A. A. Rahim (Kerala), Shri P. P. Suneer (Kerala), Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha (Bihar), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shri Imran Pratapgarhi (Maharashtra), Shri Prakash Chik Baraik (West Bengal) and Ms. Dola Sen (West Bengal).

Now, Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde, "Demand for policy to promote ethanol production from Mahua flowers."

### **Demand for a policy to promote ethanol production from Mahua flowers**

**डा. अनिल सुखदेवराव बोडे** (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से महुआ के फूलों से एथेनॉल के उत्पादन के लिए प्रोत्साहन और नीति की विनती कर रहा हूँ। महुआ भारत भर

---

\* Not recorded.