

श्रीमती जमना देवी बारुपाल : हम राजस्थान के हैं, मैडम ।

उपसभापति : सब लोग एसोसिएट करते हैं, लेकिन देश को हिस्सों में नहीं बांटना चाहिए । समस्या अगर राजस्थान में है या मध्य प्रदेश में है या महाराष्ट्र में है तो वह सब भारतीयों की समस्या है । डा० एम.एन. दास ।

श्रीमती जमना देवी बारुपाल : मैडम, हमारा राजस्थान सबसे गरीब, अकालग्रस्त क्षेत्र होने के कारण हम सभी राजस्थान के सांसद आपके माध्यम से आग्रह करते हैं कि विशेष कृपा करके इसे विशेष दर्जा दिया जाए ।

Need to take strong measures against Drug menace.

DR. M. N. DAS (Orissa): India faces a proxy-war. This war has several ugly faces. Killing of innocent people, at any time, anywhere, is a visible sign of the danger. But, more ominous is the attempt to devitalise the youth and demoralise the nation by smuggling into the country enormous quantities of narcotics, heroin, hashish, brown-sugar, marijuana through merchants of death. Infiltrators and intruders penetrate from across the Line of Control, or the international border. But, from across the porous border on every side of our country, drugs pour in for sale all over India. Drug-peddlers carry on this business in most towns, cities, holy places, tourist resorts, and are invading even rural India. The number of drug-addicts is increasing day-by-day, youth forming the bulk of consumers. Since it is easy to pass on narcotics from one place to another, detection becomes difficult. It has been said that a small match-box can contain more than hundred grains of brown-sugar, each grain being sold at more than hundred rupees. Addicts inject other drugs into their own bodies, to escape the intolerable pain of not taking it at regular intervals almost everyday. Thousands of families are being ruined by the drug-addicts, and they themselves meet untimely, and most painful death. Unless India wakes up to this grave danger, the drug-menace will push the nation towards graver consequences. In some countries, severe punishments, including death penalty, are meted out to drug-peddlers. These merchants of death have no religion, no caste, no nationality, not even identity. Since their only God is money, they are easily lured by money, making them enemies of our country. It is time for action.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA (Rajasthan): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Dr. M. N. Das.

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Maharashtra) : Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Dr. M. N. Das.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Goa) : Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Dr. M. N. Das.

प्रो. रामबख्श सिंह वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैडम, मैं अपने को इससे संबद्ध करता हूँ ।

Need to give immediate attention to increasing health problems

SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA (Gujarat): Madam, my Special Mention relates to increasing health problems. Major diseases like AIDS, T.B, and Diabetes are growing. Age-old diseases like Cholera and Malaria are staging a comeback with stronger and more resistant strains.

Non-communicable diseases, such as depression and heart problems, are fast replacing the traditional enemies. Infectious diseases and malnutrition, in particular, are the leading causes of disability and premature deaths.

Madam, 47 per cent of children, below the age of three years, are suffering from malnutrition; 75 per cent of illness and child mortality are due to water and sanitation problems; 1,200 people succumb to T.B., every day; every fifth blind person in the world is an Indian; 21 lakh Indians are attacked by malaria every year; 40 lakh Indians are already AIDS infected; 38 lakh Indians are HIV-positive; as many as 23 persons are infected with HIV-virus every minute; and 2.5 crore Indians are suffering from diabetes, and are likely to have a cardiovascular disease, kidney failure and blindness. Madam, about 10 lakh children die of diarrhoeal diseases, every year, as a result of unsafe drinking water and living in unhygienic conditions; 4.5 crore Indians are affected by problems relating to bad water quality, by pollution, by excess fluoride, arsenic, iron or salt; and 21 per cent of all communicable diseases in India are water-borne. India loses 20 crore man-days, annually, because of water-borne diseases, resulting in a loss of Rs.366 billion.

All these have profound implications for human resource development in a developing country like India. Health priorities are clear-cut and obvious for the Government to act upon.