

a case of sabotage. I would urge the hon. Minister to take this House into confidence and apprise this august House of the steps taken by O.N.G.C. to contain this fire.

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to raise a very important matter before you. (*Interruptions*) I thank you for expressing grief and sorrow for the victims of UttarKashi on the very first day of session. With a deep sense of remorse, I would like to point out that the Government has not taken the Uttar Kashi and Garhwal earthquake as seriously as it should have been taken. When on earthquake rocked Bihar in 1934 stalwarts like Mahatma Gandhi and Rajendra Prasad worked for the earthquake victims. Mr. Speaker, Sir, a team of Scientists of Indian Agricultural Research Institute had visited that area and I wish to draw the attention of the House and yours towards their report which was published in the newspaper. Shri Arjun Singh is present in this House and the report given by the agricultural scientists who had visited the earthquake site is as follows:

[*English*]

"In the report submitted to the Agriculture Ministry, these teams have pointed out that the farmers in these areas urgently needed financial and material help to repair and reconstruct their fields (terraces) and water channels. They also need seed and other inputs to grow crops in the coming season, the time for the *Rabi* planting having already run out..."

"The UttarKashi region is dotted with natural water channels. This water is used also for irrigating crops by carrying it to the fields through diversion channels. The movement of boulders in the wake of the earth-

quake had disturbed most of these water channels..."

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, these are two recommendations which have been made by the research scientists of Indian Agricultural Research Institute. As such I want to draw the attention of the entire House towards this aspect that a special kind of houses are constructed in the earthquake prone hilly areas and the specialist in the construction of houses in hilly areas is Lorry Baker who stayed there. Through you I want to tell the Government that Lorry Baker is at present staying in Trivendrum. I want to submit that in view of the difficulties being faced in the agricultural work, the Government should pay attention to it and utilize the expertise Larry Baker for constructing special houses. I request Shri Arjun Singh to assure this House that this work will be undertaken because it is a work of public importance.

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (Araria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, wheat sowing season is going on in Bihar and fertilizers and other imports are very much needed during sowing season. Without fertilizers and seeds cultivation of wheat cannot be done on one hand certified seeds are not made easily available to the farmers, on the other the crisis of fertilizer is so acute that it seems that wheat cannot be grown in Bihar in this season. As such, I urge the Government to make available adequate quantity of fertilizers and seeds to Bihar.

[*English*]

SHRIP.G.NARAYANAN (Gobichettipalayam): The Supreme Court has struck down the Karnataka ordinance and upheld the Tribunal's Interim award. The verdict of the Court is unambiguous and clear. However, the Karnataka Government has chosen to file a review petition which is against the

harmonious existence of States under a federal structure. Our Chief Minister always wants to maintain cordial relationship with Karnataka. When the Karnataka Government asked Tamil Nadu Government to cooperate in tracking down Shri Veerappan, the Sandalwood smuggler, though he shot dead a DFO of Karnataka Government, we readily assisted the Karnataka Government with all possible assistance. We had sent high level officials of Forest, Police and other departments to assist the Karnataka Government. From our side, we wish to be cordial towards Karnataka. The Karnataka Government on the other hand defies the Centre, defies the Supreme Court. To uphold the federal structure of the Constitution and to maintain harmony among States, the Centre must immediately gazette the Interim Award without waiting for the disposal of the review petition. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Jayalalitha is also arriving in Delhi with an all-party delegation to request the Prime Minister to notify the Award without any further delay, after the return of the Prime Minister from abroad.

SHRI B.AKBER PASHA (Vellore): Mr.Speaker, Sir, this is with respect to the Cauvery Water Dispute. Though the hon.Minister is going to speak about it, I would like to make a point. Water is a basic thing and the Tamil Nadu people are suffering without the drinking water. Just because of the geographical conditions, the Karnataka Government is not allowing adequate water to Tamil Nadu and people there are suffering without drinking water.

When I had been there for election campaigning, I could see that each tap had 100 vessels waiting for the water. All that they wanted was only the drinking water. They did not want big things like the formation of an industry, getting a college and things like that. All that they wanted was the drinking water facilities. And it is uncharitable on the part of the Karnataka Govern-

ment to deny the water. Now the Supreme Court has allowed it. I request the hon.Government to react immediately and see that justice is given to Tamil Nadu.

SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI (Bellary): Mr.Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a matter of great importance about the decision of the Supreme Court regard to Cauvery Water Dispute.

As you know the decision of the Supreme Court will create tension and confrontation in both the States and may lead to a worse situation which is not good for the people of both the States. In view of the present situation, I humbly appeal to the Central Government, particularly the Prime Minister, to call a meeting of both the Chief Ministers and urge upon them to have an amicable settlement.

In the meantime, I would impress upon the Central Government not to publish the Interim Order as passed by the Tribunal until the final judgement is pronounced.

Once again, I humbly appeal to both the Chief Ministers urging them for an amicable settlement immediately for the sake of the concerned States and to maintain the federal structure of the country. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI G.MADE GOWDA (Mandya): I also want to speak.

MR.SPEAKER: I have not allowed you.

SHRI G.MADE GOWDA: Why?

MR.SPEAKER: You cannot ask me 'why'.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore): Now in the Cauvery Water Dispute, the advice of the Supreme Court is

before us. In fact, what I would like to say is we are really happy that the concerned Minister Shri Vidya Charan Shuklaji is going to make a statement before this House in the post lunch session. Now, the ball is in the court of Central Government. As has already been made out, this problem has got two or three aspects. The Government of Karnataka has already decided to file a review petition before the very Tribunal and it will oppose the verdict of the Supreme Court. The second point is that even to fix the modalities for sharing the water as per the interim order of the Tribunal, a Commission will have to be constituted by the Central Government. The modalities that are to be followed by that Commission will have to be placed before both the Houses of Parliament and they will have to be discussed. There is every likelihood that both the Houses of Parliament may ultimately reject the proposal pertaining to the modalities for sharing of water that are made before it. So, at least at this juncture, the Central Government will have to formulate a National Water Policy. Therefore, my earnest request to the Government of India before the Minister makes and statement is that the Government must come out with a National Water Policy to settle this dispute once for all.

My friend has already said that the Government of Tamilnadu is prepared for an amicable settlement. It is a welcome gesture. The Government of Karnataka is also prepared for an amicable settlement. Now the Central Government will have to take the initiative to call the Chief Minister of both the States and let the Prime Minister make both the Chief Ministers sit together and amicably settle the dispute once for all. Even if the matter is pending before the Tribunal or at the Supreme Court, nothing prevents the Central Government from arriving a negotiated settlement. My humble request to the Government is to intervene in the matter and see that a negotiated settlement is arrived at.

The people of Karnataka will be faced

with so many problems if the Government is forced to implement the interim order as it is. So, earnest request to the Government is to intervene in the matter and settle the dispute amicably.

MR.SPEAKER: I am told that the Minister is going to make a statement on this.

SHRI G.MADE GOWDA (Mandya): Sir, please allow me a minute.

MR.SPEAKER: You have already endorsed what Madam has said. The very fact that you are standing up shows that you care for this problem. You may meet me in the Chamber later and I will tell you how to go about it.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister for External Affairs through you a matter of grave concern to the people of Malabar region in Kerala. The entire Malabar region is depending on the Regional Passport Office, Calicut for the issue of passports. Unfortunately, in spite of the fact that there are more than one lakh applications pending for disposal for want of staff, the External Affairs Ministry has not done anything for helping the passport officials there. Many people are anxiously awaiting for the passport and everyday there will be not less than 5,000 people surrounding the passport office for clearance of their passports. Many of them also anxiously waiting to get their employment visas and jobs but the passports are not being given. Even now only about hundred passports are not being given. Even now only about hundred passports are being cleared a day but more than one lakh applications are pending before them. It is a very serious situation and I request the Government, especially the Leader of the House to take up the matter with the other concerned Ministers and get the things done and to redress the grievances of the people of Malabar region.