

Government machinery has failed to take corrective measures in order to arrest the decline in the living conditions of the people. I would like to urge upon the Central Government to implement the Anti-Poverty Programme vigorously and ensure food for the poor people immediately. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that I am going to accommodate as many Members as possible I will ask those who are going to speak on a topic which is just connected to this one. Now Shri Sunil Dutt.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow Shri Nayak after this.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Lokinath I will allow you also.

SHRI SUNIL DUTT (Bombay North West): Sir, this is a very important issue. It is a very important matter and it is about the future of the children of our country. It is not only about the one child who has been sold but it is also about those children who are dying because of malnutrition. There are children who are being used in the factories; there are children who are being abused, misused. And time has come when the Government of India must stand up and respond to this major problem of our country because the children are the future of our country. It is the bounden duty of all the people who are sitting here. How many millions of rupees have been spent over this Before issues. But nobody has discussed about the future of the children of our country. This is a very vital issue. Millions of rupees were spent on this Before issue without any result. Every leader is talking about the Befors and nobody talk about the children, nobody discusses in the House about the children and the future of our kids.

This is a very vital issue because the growth of our country depends on the growth of our children, as the leaders are born out of children.

It is very important that this House must give as much as it has given for bofors, to discuss about the growth of our children and we will discuss about the future of our children.

I again request the Government of India to stand up and relise this problem.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Lokanath Choudhury.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA (Balasore): Sir, the issue patains to Orissa. (*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed two Members from the Congress Party. I think he is from Orissa. Whatever Dr. Kartikeswar says is not going on record.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHRY (Jagatsinghpur): Mr. speaker, Sir, in Bolangir, Kalahandi, Koraput and in phulbani, in these four districts, the child mortality rate is the highest when compared with the whole country. And it is growing every day and people are migrating. It has become a specific anaemic problem. This question has been raised several times in this House. The Orissa Government for developing this area, had submitted a plan to have special authority in which the Central Government should give some money. This matter is going on for the last several years. And as Shri Sunul Dutt said, it has become a major problem. This is a particular area where the children, men and women are being sold just for Rs. 40/-. This is what is happening in that area. So many things are being raised in this House. It is very humane question which affects the lives of many people. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK (Bolangir): Sir, the State Government knowingly is not sending the proposal to the Central Government. What Central Government will do?

SHRILOKANATHCHOUHRY: Sir, the State Government's resources are not enough. This is a tribal area which has been kept backward. So, it is the duty of the Central Government to help that area in a specific way. This matter has been raised several times in this House and it was also raised even in the last decade when shrimati Indira Gandhi was there. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not make a regular speech. You can see how many want to speak.

SHRILOKANATHCHOUHRY: I want to be brief. We are raising this question so that the Government realises the gravity of the situation and reacts to it.

MR. SPEAKER: If you are not brief, many others will get up and your voice will be drowned.

SHRILOKANATHCHOUHRY: Sir, at least the Government must react.

SHRIBASUDEBACHARIA (Bankura): *This is a very important matter. I have given a Calling Attention Notice on this.*

MR. SPEAKER: Now you see, Shri Acharia also gets up now.

SHRILOKANATHCHOUHRY: I agree with you. If you want me to sit down, I will sit down. If the Central Government becomes so inhuman what is the alternative? We have been raising this question several times. But no response is coming from the Central Government. This is a very unfortunate affair. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jena

SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: The adopt programme was going on in Kalahandi district when late Shri Rajiv Gandhi has been to Bolangir district. He announced in a public meeting at Titilagarh that the adopt programme should be extended to Bolangir. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: What Shri Jena says will only go on record and nothing else.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not going to blame neither the Orissa Government nor the Government of India. The question is about the plight of the people there. It is totally a human case. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not make me sermonise everyday in the House requesting you to speak one after the other. Please understand that it is your interest. There are many other who want to raise issues.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You should sit down when I am standing, Shri Lokanathji, the senior Member.

I am trying to help you, you are not helping yourself. Unnecessarily you are asking the Presiding Officer. This is not correct; this is not in your interest. I gave you the chance; you should have spoken very briefly and pointedly. Now Shri Jena.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: The question is, the issue which was raised by the hon. Member from Bolangir has come in the Press that a child of six months old has been sold by his mother for Rs 20. This has become a regular Phenomenon in Orissa for the last ten years. When I was in the Orissa Assembly, we were also raising the same

kind of issue. In Kalahandi Bolangir, Phulbani and Koraput districts, in these tribal areas, this kind of thing is being heard regularly. Nobody takes cognizance of this situation. Due to starvation in Bastar and Koraput districts last year nearly five thousand tribal people died. In the Parliament we raised this matter, but nobody bothered about this. Though the Minister assured this House that a team will go there and it will report to the Parliament and on which Government can take appointment action, but, nobody bothered after that.

Now, I will appeal to you and to this august House; let a Parliamentary Committee go there, see the situation as to what is happening in Bolangir, Kalahandi, Phulbani Koraput and even in the Bastar District of Madhya Pradesh. This is the tribal belt where regularly, because of mal-nutrition and starvation, children are dying. That is why there should be a special package by the Government of India. I am not blaming anybody; just we are blaming our fate. That is why I request you that there should be a special discussion on this, not during zero hour. Please allow us to discuss this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jena, you should be aware of the fact that today itself we are taking up Human Resources Development Ministry's Demands. We have said this with emphasis on the welfare of the women and welfare of the children. You are not aware of it. You are not going to have a discussion for half-an-hour; you are going to have a discussion for six hours. You should be aware of it.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: There should be a special discussion on this.

There was a package given by the Orissa Government to the Government of India. I hope Shri Arjun Singh, who is here, will look into this whole package and special assistance will be given to these areas, so that some relief measures can be taken up.

*Not recorded.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): I wish to draw the attention of the Prime Minister, the Government..... (*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: Only what Shri Naik says is going on record.

SHRI RAM NAIK: I wish to draw the attention of the Government to a horrifying and very serious and barbaric incident... The Members of the House and you yourself... (*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not going on record.

(*Interruptions*)*

SHRI RAM NAIK: I wish to draw the attention of the Government to a horrifying and very very serious and barbaric incident. It is more serious than the Ameena affair where that young girl was sold to an Arab some seven-eight months back. You would have seen in the TV news yesterday that 25 Bangladeshi children have been located by the Mumbai Police. These Bangladeshi children were brought to Mumbai and from there, they were to be taken to Arab countries. They have been purchased. I had gone to Mumbai on Saturday in the evening and I saw those children most of them two years old and four years old. They do not know where their mothers are, where their parents are. It has been alleged that they were to be taken to Arab countries for camel race. I have not gone Arab countries; but I understand what the camel race is. Those kids of two years and three years are roped or tied up on the camel's back and when the camels run, the camels will fight and the children will cry. That is seen and enjoyed. That is what is being said about the camel race.

My contention and my request to the Government is this. There are Immigration Laws. Since the kids have been taken to the children's, Home, Government should ensure their safety. This is the first point.