

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Tuesday, 20th May, 1952

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBER SWORN

Shri K. Anandan Nambiyar (Mayuram).

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: I have given notice of an adjournment motion.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He knows that, that can be taken up after the Question Hour, not before that. That is neither possible, nor proper.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: I didn't know that.

Mr. Speaker: Members are expected to know the procedure at least from their colleagues. He knows the procedure of giving the adjournment motion. Therefore, it should be presumed that he knows the other procedure also. That is no excuse.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

FOOD AND WATER SCARCITY

*32. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) which States of the Indian Union have reported about the food and water scarcity conditions in their areas, giving the areas affected in each case;

(b) which of these areas have been inspected by any officer of the Central Government and if so, whether any report has been submitted; and

(c) what measures have been adopted by the Central Government to give relief to the people?

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The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) The following States have declared scarcity conditions in the areas noted against each:

Ajmer.—The whole of Beawar Sub-Division and parts of Ajmer and Kekri sub-divisions.

Bombay.—Districts of Ahmedabad, Mehsana, Amreli, Broach, Kaira and Banaskantha.

Kutch.—The whole of Kutch.

Madras.—Districts of Cuddapah, Chittoor, Guntur, Nellore, Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur, Chingleput, North Arcot, South Arcot, Tirchira Palli and Coimbatore.

Madhya Bharat.—Southern Districts.

Punjab.—Districts of Hissar, Rohtak and Gurgaon.

Rajasthan.—All Districts of Rajasthan, except Bharatpur, 5 Tehsils of Ganganagar district, some Tehsils of Alwar and Swai Madhopur district.

Saurashtra.—Districts of Halar, Gholiwad, Zalawad, Madhya Saurashtra and Sorath.

U.P.—Eastern Districts viz. Mirzapur, Banares, Jaunpur, Ghazipur, Azamgarh, Ballia, Basti, Deoria, and Gorakhpur.

(b) All these areas have been inspected by one or other of the officers of the Central Government and a report has been submitted in each case.

(c) The primary responsibility for these relief measures is that of the State Governments. A brief note indicating the measures so far taken by them and by the Centre is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix, I, annexure No. 10.]

Shri S. N. Das: May I know the scope and the forms of help sought by the Part B States from the Central Government?

Shri Kidwai: We have been trying to render all the help that the States have asked for.

Shri S. N. Das: What were the forms of help that each State sought from the Central Government?

Shri Kidwai: Some have asked for grants for relief measures, some for major irrigation works. A statement has been laid on the Table.

Shri S. N. Das: Has migration been reported from any of these areas?

Shri Kidwai: There has been no migration of people from these affected areas to other places in India.

Shri B. Shiva Rao: May I ask whether in view of the excellent work done by the Army in Rayalaseema in regard to water supply, there is any scheme before my hon. friend for extending the use of the Army in other areas?

Shri Kidwai: I do not exactly know if there is any scheme, but we will use the Army wherever it is necessary.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Are we to take it that no reports have been coming from West Bengal about food scarcity?

Shri Kidwai: It is not in the list that I have read just now, and that is all the information that is available just now.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether there is no food scarcity in Mysore?

Shri Kidwai: Not that I am aware of.

Shri N. R. Naidu: When did the Government come to know about the water scarcity in Rayalaseema?

Shri Kidwai: I am not aware.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether it is a fact that materials that will go to improve water supply are not available in sufficient quantity in the State?

Shri Kidwai: I have not received any papers on that subject.

MEDICAL FACILITIES FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

*33. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved of a Contributory Health Service Scheme intended to provide medical facilities to Government employees and their families in Delhi and New Delhi;

(b) if so, the basis and other details of the scheme; and

(c) the time by which the scheme will be executed?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) A short note giving the salient features of the Scheme is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 11.]

(c) As soon as the required staff is recruited and other preliminaries are settled.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: What is the scope of the scheme? Will it cover all the Government servants, or some categories only?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: It includes all Government servants and their families.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: What is the financial implication of this scheme? Will the charges be met by Government, or shared between Government and Government servants?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: It will be shared by the Government and the amount given in contribution.

Shri A. V. Thomas: Is it the intention of Government to extend the schemes to other parts of India?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The hon. Member is aware the Government of India can only extend it where Government of India servants are concerned. In the matter of health, the States are autonomous.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know if in certain categories of Government employees, this medical aid is going to be suspended, and whether any appropriate increase is going to be made in the pay of these employees?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No.

Shri H. N. Shastri: Is it a fact that Government employees so far were given free medical services both for themselves and for their families, and why is it that now it is proposed to take some money or to inflict this additional burden on them?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Uptil now only certain categories of Government servants were given these benefits and what were known as fourth class servants had nothing at all. Under the new scheme, the benefits are going to be extended to everybody.