

(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 (Mayu-
ram).

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 expect-
ed 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 pro-
cedure 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 adopt-
ed by the Central Government to give
relief to the people?

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The Minister of Food and Agri-
culture (Shri Kidwai): (a) The fol-
lowing 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 Rajas-
than, except Bharatpur, 5 Tehsils of
Ganganagar district, some Tehsils of
Alwar and Swai Madhopur district.

Saurashtra.—Districts of Halar,
Ghoilwad, Zalawad, Madhya Sauras-
tra and Sorath.

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

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

(c) The primary responsibility for
these relief measures is that of the
State Governments. A brief note indi-
cating the measures so far taken by
them and by the Centre is placed on
the Table of the House. [See Ap-
pendix, 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 Chakravartty: 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.