

by the 9th Finance Commission, the State would have been entitled for additional transfer of Rs. 2,102 crore. Further more, the Commission has not recommended the plan deficit grant. Orissa alongwith Bihar and Uttar Pradesh has been identified as a State with high fiscal stress. Even then, it is a matter of regret that the Commission has recommended debt relief of a meagre amount of Rs. 17.50 crore only during the period 1995-2000.

In view of such an unfavourable recommendation of the 10th Finance Commission, the request of the Orissa Government to write off as a special dispensation of Rs. 2,100 crore from the outstanding debt of the State Government needs reconsideration by Government of India.

**(iv) Need to take up mining of Iron ore in Mountain Ranges in Sambuvarayar District, Tamil Nadu**

\*SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (Tirupattur) : Thiruvannamalai's Kauthi hill and mountain ranges nearby in Thiruvannamalai Sambuvarayar district are found to have large deposits of quality iron ore. As early as in 1960, the geological experts of both the Centre and the State have identified the deposits that could give quality steel. This iron ore deposits could contribute to the raw material needs of the country and we may also export them. This would help us to overcome the problem of inadequate supply of raw material. We can increase production. Taking into consideration all these factors, we must make use of the iron ore deposits found in and around Thiruvannamalai in a big way that will be useful to the country. This will help the nation to increase production and may give rise to employment opportunity in Thiruvannamalai Sambuvarayar district. I wish the Union Government takes up this project soon. Both for mining and setting up a processing plant, enough Government land is available there. Since my district and the surrounding region are industrially backward, Union Government should take up immediate steps. I request the Union Government to take suitable action to build infrastructure facilities there. If need be both Finance and Industry Ministries should draw-up an action plan to give impetus to industrial growth in industrially backward areas like my constituency which have rich and vast deposits of ironore and other natural mineral wealth.

**(v) Need to declare Dumariaganj in Siddharth Nagar, U.P. of flood affected area and provide immediate economic assistance to U.P. Government to combat flood situation.**

[Translation]

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI (Dumariaganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the floods have affected my constituency

\* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

Dumariaganj in Siddharth Nagar district again on 13.8.96 and earlier it was flooded on 14.7.96 as a result of which large scale loss of life and property was suffered and roads got breached. We have hardly recovered from the vagaries of the earlier floods, two thirds of my district again was affected by the floods second time. The Naugarh, Basi, Etawah and Dumariaganj tehsils were totally inundated. There are reports of loss of human life and cattle. More than 200 villages have been submerged. Roads are breached, Communications have been disrupted. More than 25,000 hectre land has been affected but no assistance has come from the State Government. The flood affected people are not getting the supply of wheat, kerosene, salt matchboxes etc. in sufficient quantity. Depsite repeated request from the district administration initial assistance of about Rs. 15 lakh has not reached the district.

It is therefore requested that the Uttar Pradesh Government should be directed to make financial assistance available without delay and the Central Government should send a study team to assess and prepare a report of the loss suffered. The district should be declared as flood prone area and permanent measures should be taken for controlling the floods.

12.41 hrs.

[English]

At this stage, Shri Ilyas Azmi and some other hon. Members sat on the floor near the Table.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KANSHI RAM (Hoshiarpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I may be given an opportunity of speak something. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, Mr. Kanshi Ram, you cannot speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Sir, you can hear both the sides. You may hear Samajwadi Party first and then the BSP leader. Otherwise, the House cannot function in this manner... (Interruptions)

12.43 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Ilyas Azmi and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow him. Take your seats.  
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please resume your seats now. Otherwise, I will have to suspend you. Please go back now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing doing. You will not get publicity. This incident is there to attract publicity. Do not look at the Press Gallery. You are looking at the Press Gallery so that your name comes in the newspapers tomorrow. This is our Members of Parliament !

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back now. Enough is enough. Please go back. I have to suspend you for the rest of the Session, if you do not go back now. Go back now. No, nothing doing. You cannot speak from here. Go back. Do you want suspension? Do not behave like this. The whole country is laughing at us. The whole nation and the whole world is laughing at us. This is how honourable Members behave - leaders of the people of India. You are the leaders of the people of India. Carry on! this is your House and not my House. This is your House. You carry on! I will sit here. There will be no lunch break if you do not go back. I will sit here upto six O'Clock without lunch break, if you do not resume your seats.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, you will sit but we will not sit for an unlimited period. The Members of the Ruling Party must behave themselves, otherwise, we would walk out...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, I agree with you. The Members of the Ruling Party are expected to behave more responsibly. This is not the way. I agree with the view expressed by the hon. Member.

(Interruptions)

12.46 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev and some other hon. Members left the House.*

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly ask them to go to their places. The Members should be afforded an opportunity to express their viewpoints on the matter which is agitating their minds. This Lok Sabha is meant for this purpose.

MR. SPEAKER : That is right. If all the Members rise how can the discussion take place.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Please ask them to resume their seats...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am telling them to go back.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot talk to these people like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please read the rules. Please go back. You cannot speak from here.

(Interruptions)

12.48 hrs.

*At this stage, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy and some other Members went back to their seats.*

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : They are the allies of opposition and you are in the treasury benches.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen now.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you would recollect...(Interruptions). If we are not allowed to speak in this House we will not sit here. If they want to speak please give them an opportunity, we are prepared to listen but they should also be prepared to listen to us. You please ask them to speak. Please ask Shri Pappu Yadav why is he making a noise.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Pappu Yadav, do you want to speak? If you want to speak Please speak from your allotted seat.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we do not want to discuss the issues being raised again and again. We do not want to afford an opportunity to the opposition to speak by allowing a discussion on Ramesh Chandra Committee report again. I have nothing special to say about this report. I only want to submit that Kanshi Ram ji had already raised this issue in this House. It will not be appropriate to raise this issue again. You had not permitted raising this issue during the meeting you had called before the commencement of this session. We will oppose discussion on this report second time because these people want to send wrong message outside this House, we oppose it because we are committed to that Party. We respect the leader of the opposition and I assure him that we will sit silent when he speaks but it is not proper to try to suppress our voice. Sir, we respect you that doesn't mean that we will sell our self-respect and be a mute spectator. It is not proper to raise the same issue again. Therefore, I would request you not to allow this issue to be raised again in this House. I have nothing more to say. I will conclude with the words that if this matter is sought to be raised again we will definitely react to that.

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS (Sitapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry for what has happened in this House. We are fully committed to democratic traditions. You will have to find out from where it all started. I had come to your chamber and you had assured me that this matter cannot be raised in this House because we have many other big problems like Kashmir. But still these Members have started raising slogans here by subverting the traditions, democratic norms and without assessing its consequences...*(Interruptions)*. You are concerned for Uttar Pradesh. Election are going to take place in a month and the results will be before you. A Party is time and again instigating them to make noise. It appears...*(Interruptions)*\*

SHRI ATAL BIHAR VAJPAYEE : Sir, this is wrong.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Why can't you be polite? This will not go on record. I will expunge it.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he should withdraw his words.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : That is not the way.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : He doesn't know how to use a word. He must apologise...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you have objection then I withdraw my words.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : He has withdrawn the words.

*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SHYAM BEHARI MISHRA (Bilhaur) Mr. Speaker, Sir, he must apologise.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he must withdraw his words.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. I will now give my ruling.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I think the hon. Member should know how to speak on the floor of the House. This is not correct. And, I don't think he can speak any further. Please sit down.

\* Not Recorded

The matter is very simple. The question is, at one point of time the Chair has given some ruling on this issue. I will go through the ruling of the Chair but whatever is the ruling of the Deputy-Speaker, it stands.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, it is enough.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : He must apologize.

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : He has withdrawn the word.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have given my ruling. Nothing more than that is required.

SHRI K.S. RAYADU (Narasapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister, and the hon. Minister of Water Resources to the issue of Almatti dam.

Almatti reservoir will delay the release water into Andhra Pradesh. It will virtually disrupt the agriculture and power generation in Andhra Pradesh to the extent it is dependent on the river Krishna.

It is in clear violation of the Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal award. The Central clearance given to this project is a gross impropriety and it is done without taking into consideration the views of the State affected. It may also be pointed out here that the Central agencies are continuing with their approvals.

Andhra Pradesh will receive very late inflows of water which will adversely affect the agricultural operations in more than 30 lakh acres of land in the command areas of Nagarjuna Sagar and Krishna delta. Delay in inflows of water to Andhra Pradesh will adversely affect hydel power generation at the Srisailem and Nagarjuna Sagar projects. Karnataka cannot generate power at the cost of food in Andhra Pradesh.

Our hon. Chief Minister, Shri Chandrababu Naidu is making efforts to stop the construction work at Almatti dam by requesting the hon. Prime Minister, the Chief Minister of Karnataka and the Central agencies.

In view of the circumstances, I demand that the Government of India should order immediate suspension of all works at Almatti dam. The Government of India should cancel all clearance given to the upper Krishna project. The Government of India should constitute an expert committee to ascertain the factual position and to solve this problem.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Krishna is an inter-state river. It originates in Maharashtra, flows into Karnataka and then into Andhra Pradesh. There had been a Commission appointed to decide on the share of water of these three States and an award had been passed. That well-known award is

called Bachawat award. All the three States are bound by the decision given in the Bachawat award. The State of Karnataka had commenced construction of the dam at Almatti across river Krishna as per the terms of the Bachawat award. We have never violated the Bachawat award. ...(*Interruptions*).. This is the direct result of the unholy alliance between the Telugu Desam (Chandrababu Naidu) and the Janata Dal. The Janata Dal Government which is being supported by the Telugu Desam party is trying to infringe upon the terms of Bachawat award. They want to deny Karnataka the rights vested in it under the terms of the Bachawat award. We are not violating any of the directions given under the Bachawat award.

13.00 hrs.

The TMC and DMK are having unholy alliance and are just trying to get more water from river Cauvery. The TDP are trying to extract their pound of flesh from this Government by having an unholy alliance. So, this is the net result of unholy alliance. Because of their alliance, we cannot be subjected to any such threats. The State of Karnataka is well within its rights to stand for justice. The Government of India should honour the Bachawat Award. It should strictly see that the terms of the Bachawat Award are duly implemented. This kind of game plan should not be allowed to go on.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (Shimoda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not one who would unnecessarily make accusations against another neighbouring State. After all, we are all brothers. We have to keep up our good relations. We are living in the Indian Union. How can we forget that? After all it is a matter relating to sharing of water only. It is not a case where Karnataka will say that it will not give even a drop of water to another State. It is a lower riparian region. It is also not a case of Andhra Pradesh where it will say that Karnataka should not touch even a drop of water. The same is the case in respect of Cauvery water also. We have been pressing the Government of India a lot for the last several years regarding finalisation of guidelines for the National Water Policy. Still the guidelines for the National Water Policy have not yet been finalised by the Government of India. Unless these guidelines are finalised, the problems cannot be solved. These matters cannot be settled even by a court of law or by a tribunal. We have been seeing such matters that are already pending before the court. I do not want to take the precious time of this august House by narrating the detailed aspects of this problem.

We have accepted the quantum of water as mentioned in the Bachawat Award. They have also accepted it. At far as Almatti is concerned, the only matter which is still remains to be settled is the raising of the height of the dam and so on. Similar version has been given by our Karnataka State in respect of certain projects that are in progress in Andhra Pradesh. There are matters that are to be settled by sitting across the table.

I heard recently that the Government of India have now asked a non-official Committee to go into the legal aspect of the matter. These matters cannot be tackled through political means. These relate to the technical aspects. Moreover, they have to be brought under legal ambit also. How can the Government of India take up all these issues without giving a legal frame? Whatever may be the reason, the result flows through each of these States viz., Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and others. What I feel is that let us not unnecessarily add fuel to the fire. Therefore, my appeal to you is that let this matter be settled between these two States only. Let not the Central Government interfere in the matter. After all Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are capable of settling their own issues.

A point was raised by an hon. Member on the other side that the work should be stopped there. A similar point was raised by an hon. Member from Karnataka. My suggestion is that let the Chief Ministers of these two States aided by their technically qualified people sit and settle the issue. In case they do not do that, then what I feel is that the Government of India should play their part. Till then, only the two concerned States should sit across the table and settle the issue.

The only point that I would now like to make here is....

MR. SPEAKER : No, please. I am sorry.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : ...about the drinking water element to the Madras city.

MR. SPEAKER : No, you cannot have a debate on this issue. I am sorry.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : Sir, I do not want to take much time of the House.

Sir, in the course it could not yet struck up. That point is also there. Therefore, Sir, I would request you to please give an advice to all the concerned to sit across the table and thrash out the issue. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada) : Sir, this is a question which affects both the States. Both the people of Karnataka and Andhra have been very good neighbours. This Almatti issue has become a very emotional issue and an end has to be put to this controversy as soon as possible.

Sir, the matter arose because of the Karnataka Government's attempt to raise the height of the dam from 515 metres to 528 metres. At per the original approval of the Planning Commission, the storage capacity of this dam should have been 42 TMC only. Now after the raising of this dam, the storing capacity will go up to 227 TMC. The utilisation, according to the Bachawat Award should have been 173 TMC, which will go to 442 TMC now.

There are apprehensions in Andhra Pradesh, being a lower riparian State, that in a year when the rainfall

is less. 34 lack acres under the Krishna Delta area will dry up and not a drop will come if the dam height is raised...*(Interruptions)* Let me complete..*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, it is only to enable the hydel power project. We do not want to impound more water...*(Interruptions)* Sir, wrong information should not be given to the House ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Let me complete, first...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : The height of the dam is being raised only to enable the hydel power project to go on. We do not want to impound more water...*(Interruptions)* Correct facts should be placed before the House.

SHRI P. UPENDRA : Sir, now several attempts have been made to sort out this issue amicably. A number of Members of Parliament met the hon. Prime Minister and requested him to take the initiative to solve the problem because he knows the background of the whole case. But unfortunately he could not take the initiative and the matter was treated as an internal affair of the United Front.

They appointed four Chief Ministers to look into the matter, I do not know under what authority they were appointed. The four Chief Minister again appointed an official team, including the officials of the Planning Commission and CWC, which they were not supposed to do. Then the Prime Minister withdraw these two Members from there and it became completely an unofficial team. They then went to Bangalore. The were turned down by the Karnataka Government without visiting the dam. All this *tamasha* has taken place and matters are going from bad to worse.

We do not want to politicise this issue. We want an early settlement of this issue. The apprehensions of the people of Andhra Pradesh are genuine because we are a lower riparian State. We do not want to deny the legitimate share of the Karnataka Government or the Karnataka people. They should have their own share. But they should remove these apprehensions of the Andhra people. Why are they increasing the height of the dam which is not necessary at all? Why have they increased the power potential to 1100 M.W. by which again they have to maintain water at a particular level? All these are very ticklish issues and only technical experts have to go into this.

The hon. Prime Minister should take the initiative and should send a team of CWC, monitor the whole thing and find out what is really happening ...*(Interruptions)* The Karnataka Government says that they are not raising it. MLAs from Andhra Pradesh have gone there visited the site and found that height of the dam has been raised. Therefore, these have to be settled at an expert level. I only wish that the Prime Minister should take the initiative and not treat it as a party

affairs. They should treat it as an affair of the Government of India. A tripartite agreement should be made between the Government of India, Government of Karnataka and Government of Andhra Pradesh and settle it amicably before the matter gets worse.

We do not want to strain the relations between the two neighbourly States. We want that the interests of both the States be protected and particularly the apprehensions of Andhra Pradesh people be removed. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.10 p.m.

13.08 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Ten Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.16 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Sixteen Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

*(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)*

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Home Minister.

#### STATEMENT BY MINISTER

##### Amarnath Yatra

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, and hon. Members, I wish to express my regret that due to some unavoidable delay in arriving back from Srinagar last evening, it was not possible for me to make this statement yesterday as I had planned to do. I am sorry for this.

Hon. Prime Minister has already apprised the House yesterday of the background of this year's Amarnath Yatra and the salient features of the logistic arrangements which made to cater to an unprecedented number of prospective yatis, as also the relief and rescue operations carried out by the State authorities, with the assistance of the Army and the para-military Forces, in the wake of the tragic calamity that befell the yatra. The untimely snowfall - I should say - at higher reaches along the yatra route had exposed the yatra to extreme cold, which, combined with the exhaustion of high altitude trekking and shortage of oxygen, caused serious health hazards among the aged and the not so healthy yatra. Torrential and incessant rains in the State resulted in unprecedented land slides at several places between Jammu and Banihal on the National Highway and the yatra route from Anantnag to Pahalgam at two places. I regret to say that this had resulted in completed snapping of the only road communication link between Jammu and Pahalgam.