

At the same time, the State Government has signally failed to create a climate conducive for all these people to return to their villages. No proper security arrangements have been made and no rehabilitation measures have been taken. This is a very serious issue. We spend a lot of time in this House on matters affecting one or two or three people. But here is an issue which affects 1,50,000 people. This is a fit case to be discussed separately on its own under Rule 193. Although it is a matter that deserves to be considered in greater detail, I know that you will give me only two minutes.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to provide an outright grant to the State Government so that proper food, clothing and medicines could be provided to the refugees. The Centre should assist the State Government in improving the security environment so that these people could return to their own villages as soon as possible.

14.03 hrs.

(Mr. Speaker in the Chair)

There has been no military deployment in that area. There are, of course, 38 companies of Central Security Forces which are totally inadequate. The Army has been deployed in other parts of the State, but not in this part for reasons best known to the Government. I think army should be deployed in the affected areas and a situation should be created where these people would feel safe to return to their villages.

Several rehabilitation measures have to be taken urgently. Otherwise, these people would die away in the Camps. Therefore, I seek your indulgence in directing the Government to at least send a Minister to visit the camps in the area. It is a shame and a disgraceful conduct on the part of the Government that not a single Minister has bothered to visit the State of Assam to see the plight of the refugees languishing in the camps in Kokrajhar District for seven months.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMSHAKAL (Robertsganj) : Hon'ble Speaker Sir, there are three cement factories - Dala, Cheenar and Churak are being run by U.P. Government in my constituency. Labourers in these factories has not been paid their salaries that is why they are on strike. And new scales also not been given to them. These labourers are on the verge of starvation. In these factories scams of crores of rupees has taken place and management is involved in it. Therefore, all three factories are going to close down soon. I submit that three months salary should be given to these workers and new pay scales should also be implemented. Besides this the Central Government should assist in running these factories smoothly by providing adequate funds.

*SHRI K.S. RAYADU (Narasapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I invite the attention of the Central Government towards the devastation which has totally destroyed the State of Andhra Pradesh during the recent cyclone. The distinguished leaders of the various political parties have visited the cyclone hit areas personally and thus have to first hand information regarding the damage that has ruined the State. The Hon. Prime Minister and also Hon. Leader of Opposition were moved to tears when they visited the cyclone affected areas. The Hon. Prime Minister has declared it as a national calamity. The State Government has submitted a detailed Report regarding losses suffered which are to the tune of Rs. 6000 crores. While replying to the debate on the floor of the House on 27th of November, Hon. Prime Minister has stated that the Andhra Pradesh Government has submitted a memorandum to the Centre on the losses and the Central Government would soon be deputing a study team to assess the damage. He further stated that the Central Government can extend assistance only after the receipt of the Central team's Report. It is nearly a month since the promise was made by the Central Government. The year 1996 would soon be over and we would be entering 1997. It is really unfortunate that the people who have been subjected to nature's worst fury were kept waiting for the required assistance for their survival for such a long time.

I request the Government to make a statement regarding the likely time by which the study team would submit its report, and the Government's reaction thereto, and the quantum and nature of assistance it would render to the State Government. Since tomorrow is the last day of the current winter session of Lok Sabha, I demand that the statement may please be made before the session is over.

I thank you, Sir, for providing me an opportunity to raise this most important issue concerning millions of cyclone victims in my State.

[English]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : (Visakhapatnam) : I am happy that at last I have got an opportunity. Due to the recession, which is there in the shipping industry, the Hindustan Shipyard Company, which is a very prestigious and the first ship manufacturing company, is incurring heavy loss. Some 11 years back the management requested the Central Government for its restructuring so that the company is able to proceed. Unfortunately, till now the Government of India, the Ministry of Surface Transport has not taken any decision. The Hindustan Shipyard is a prestigious company and it has got a name in the world. This is in a bad shape now. If no action is taken by the Government of India to

Translation of the speech originally delivered in Telugu