

12.35 hours (Mr. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

Title: Appealed to impart training to the fishermen in Orissa regarding use of the wireless sets to gather information about weather forecast.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (BALASORE): Sir, the Government of India through Punjab Wireless System, Chandigarh and Marine Development Corporation, Delhi had supplied wireless sets to the Government of Orissa to gather information about weather forecast in order to help fishermen who go to the deep sea for fishing. These wireless sets cost around Rs. 50 lakh and they were sent two years ago. But these wireless sets are lying unutilised in the godowns of Department of Fisheries at Chandipur and Kujanga. It is because there is a conflict between the Central Government and the State Government as to who should impart training to the fishermen. Had this training been imparted two years back and had these wireless sets been provided two years back, lives of so many fishermen could have been saved during the last super cyclone.

My appeal to the hon. Minister of Agriculture through the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is that he should not stand on prestige and there should not be any procedural wrangling in imparting training to the fishermen. The Central Government should impart training to the fishermen as the training would never be imparted by the State Government, so that these wireless sets are utilised and the lives of the fishermen are saved at least in the future.