#### Fourteenth Loksabha

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Participants: Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari,Ramadass Prof. M.,Rawat Shri Bachi Singh,Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan,Sonowal Shri Sarbananda,Reddy Shri Suravaram Sudhakar,Suman Shri Ramji Lal,Deo Shri Bikram Keshari,Swain Shri M.A. Kharabela,Rao Shri K. Chandra Shekhar,Singh Ch. Lal,Jha Shri Raghunath

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Title: Further discussion on the resolution moved by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal on the 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2005 regarding steps for balanced and equitable development of all parts of the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House shall take up Item No. 9: Further discussion on the Resolution moved by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal. Mr.Sonowal was on his legs last time. He may continue now.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL Mr. Chairman, Sir, on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2005 I was deliberating on the need to restructure the Indian Constitution. I suggested that time has come to completely review our Constitution to usher in a truly federal India. The present highly centralised political system of management has undoubtedly failed to ensure equal growth and development of each part of the country. I expressed my view that the imbalanced growth of our country is a definite cause of political unrest in some parts of the country. The necessity to restructure our Constitution should be earnestly attended to.

Sir, I also agreed that the present Constitution has denied the States their right to carry out their own course of governance and development. The content of planning and the pace of development are dictated to the States by the highly centralised system. I had no hesitation to assert that the Planning Commission has succeeded in making some States more equal than others. Today here, I wish to add some more observations in support of my Resolution.

The regional political parties have taken roots in our country. People are supporting regional parties in a significant way. The national parties rightly

acknowledge the growth of the regional parties. It can be certainly interpreted as a vote against the highly centralised system. The national parties have always advocated the need of a strong Centre. However, the common man feels that his hopes and aspirations are not fulfilled by a strong Centre. This feeling is growing and is bound to grow more.

The present Constitution also allows the strong Centre to adopt discriminatory attitude towards selected States. My State, Assam, has been repeatedly subjected to political discrimination. Let us recall that the Congress party led by Pandit Nehru was prepared to leave out Assam to merge it with East Pakistan. Our great Assamese leader late Gopinath Bordoloi persuaded Mahatma Gandhiji against the plan, and Assam remained a part of India. The deliberate policy of discrimination against Assam has been pursued even till today. The Armed Forces Special Powers Act is applicable in Assam to shoot and kill innocent persons in the name of containing extremism.

The recent incident of killing of Shri Ajit Mohanta by the Indian Army and also the killing of nine number of innocent villagers by the police forces at Kakopathar, Tinsukia district are the burning examples how the Constitutional management system of the country is violating the fundamental human rights of the people of Assam. This House must also express its serious concern about how the common people after Kakopathar's incident spontaneously coming to the streets from all over Assam under the broad day light to register their protest democratically against the inhuman action of the Government forces and also to raise the slogan in favour of ULFA. This, I feel, is a clear indication of people's sheer frustration and loss of confidence over the present Constitutional system. The IMDT Act was enacted to reduce the small Assamese nationality to a minority by the unabated flow of illegal migrants from Bangladesh. After a legal fight of five years, the hon. Supreme Court scrapped the IMDT Act. Now, the Centre is amending the Foreigners (Tribunal) Order 1946 to bring back the provisions of IMDT by backdoor. This is the latest most glaring example of discrimination against Assam. The purpose of the Central Government has remained the same.

The objective is to out-number the indigenous Assamese by the Bangladeshis and their descendants over a period of, say, 20 years. The Centre is pursuing policies in complete

disregard to the voices of the people of Assam. Such arrogant attitudes are possible only in a highly centralised system of governance.

Sir, the extremist groups are operating in different parts of the country. However, the Armed Forces Special Powers Act is applicable only in Assam and other North Eastern States. The people of the North Eastern Region unanimously have been raising their voice against this Act. Even the Prime Minister officially announced on 1.11.2004 that Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958 is draconian and anti-human rights. This Act, therefore, deserves to be repealed on lines of POTA. I repeat that along with uneven economic growth rate, discriminatory and arrogant attitude of the Central Government are responsible for provoking thousands of youths to take to arms. The present Centre-State relations are detrimental to empowering the States.

Every State has the potentiality to grow economically on its own and also on a sharing basis to be guided by the spirit of federalism. The States must be allowed their rights over their resources. The present policy of draining out resources from one State to enrich other States is bound to generate more discontentments in the near future. Only when individual States become economically sound and strong, shall India be strong as a whole.

More populous States should not dictate policies to harm less populous States. A restructured Constitution has become imperative to encourage all the States to become equal partners in the building a prosperous India.

I hope that the views that I have presented here will echo in the political thinking of other hon. Members of this House. Let us evaluate the reality created by the

present Constitution. A huge country should have the wisdom to have a thorough relook at the present Constitution.

I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to initiate the discussion on the need to restructure our Constitution to ensure balanced and equitable development of all parts of the country.

### MR. CHAIRMAN: Resolution moved:

"That this House expresses its concern over the regional imbalances created by the lack of development of different parts of the country and urges upon the Government to take urgent steps for the balanced and equitable growth of different parts of the country, particularly the remote areas, in order to strengthen the federal structure of the country."

चौधरी लाल सिंह सभापित महोदय, मेरे भाई सर्वानन्द सोनोवाल द्वारा जो संकल्प पेश किया गया है, उस पर आपकी मेहरबानी से मुझे बोलने का मौका मिला। मैं उनकी बात का समर्थन करता हूं। मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि इसमें कोई शक नहीं कि हिन्दुस्तान ने बहुत तरक्की की है लेकिन वह तरक्की यकसां नहीं हो पायी। यदि अलग-अलग स्टेट्स को लिया जाये तो उनमें भी कम्पीटिशन है। किसी स्टेट ने ज्यादा तरक्की की है, तो किसी स्टेट ने कम तरक्की की है। स्टेट के बाद यदि आप क्षेत्र में जायें तो जिस क्षेत्र की डोमिनेशन रही, उसका डेवलपमेंट हुआ और जिसकी डोमिनेशन नहीं रही, उस क्षेत्र का डेवलपमेंट नहीं हो पाया। इसका हमें तजुर्बा है क्योंकि इसे हमने भुगता है। जिस तरह से इस देश की डेवलपमेंट होनी चाहिए, वह नहीं हुई है।

मैं पूछना चाहता हू कि एक आम आदमी या एक छोटे से गांव को हमने र्वा 1947 से लेकर आज तक क्या दिया है या उसके लिए हम क्या कर पाये हैं ? यदि हम हिन्दुस्तान के गांव की तरफ मूव करते हैं जिसे हम रीयल हिन्दुस्तान कहते हैं, तो देखते हैं कि आज उनकी हालत बहुत खस्ता है।

#### 16.00 hrs.

आप किसी गांव में चले जाएं तो वहां आपको प्राइमरी स्कूल मिलेगा, उसी के पास वहां एक कमरा होगा और वहां दो टीचर होंगे। वे भी टर्न पर आएंगे और एक टीचर पांच-पांच क्लॉसेज इकटठी पढ़ा रहा होगा। कभी दूसरी क्लॉस, कभी तीसरी क्लॉस और कभी चौथी तथा पांचवीं क्लॉस को पढ़ा रहा होगा। कोई भी क्लॉस न फस्ट आएगी न सैकेंड आएगी और हिन्दुस्तान के बच्चों को बहुत बड़ी एजुकेशन देने की बात आप कर रहे हैं। आज तक मेरा अनुभव क्या रहा है। वह मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं। प्राइमरी से लेकर हायर सैकेंडरी स्कूल तक आप चले जाएं, जो गांव के प्राइमरी एजुकेशनल इंस्टीट्यूशंस हैं, उनकी बड़ी गंभीर हालत है। वे अंडर स्टॉफ हैं, अंडर स्ट्रक्चर हैं। आप देखेंगे कि उनके पास कुछ भी मूलभूत सुविधाएं तक नहीं है। उनके पास न बोर्ड है, न स्लेट है, न चॉक है और न स्टॉफ है। जब उसके पास कुछ भी नहीं है तो उन बच्चों का कम्पीटीशन इन शहरों के बच्चों के साथ कराने जाते हैं। गांवों से लोग शहरों की तरफ कैसे माइग्रेट हुए ? अगर वहां का कोई व्यक्ति छोटा सा पटवारी भी लग जाता है, कोई क्लर्क लग जाता है तो वह शहर को भागता है क्योंकि गांवों में न सड़क है, न बिजली है, न पानी, न स्कूल है, न अस्पताल है। वहां गांवों में कुछ भी नहीं है। अगर गांवों में बिजली चली गई तो बिजली आने का नाम नहीं होता। अगर ट्रांसफॉर्मर जल गया तो महीनों तक ठीक नहीं होगा। लेकिन शहर में बिजली एक मिनट के लिए भी कैसे जा सकती है ? शहर में पानी एक सैकेंड के लिए भी कैसे बंद हो सकता है क्योंकि वहां बिजली है, वहां पानी है, वहां यूनिवर्सिटी है, वहां कॉलेजेज हैं, वहां मेडिकल कॉलेजेज तथा डेंटल कॉलेजेज हैं और सारी सड़कें, गलियां पक्की बनी हुई हैं तथा वहां पार्क तथा गाड़ियां हैं। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि दिल्ली की मेट्रो पर जितना पैसा खर्च किया गया है, उतना पैसा पूरे जम्मू-कश्मीर के एक साल के बजट में भी उतना पैसा नहीं मिला। मेरा कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि अगर आप किसी पहाड़ी इलाके में चले जाएं, अगर आप डोडा, उधमपूर या कठुआ के इलाकों में चले जाएं तो वहां आप देखेंगे के लोगों के पास नहाने के लिए साबुन तक नहीं है। वहां उनके पास कपड़े ऊपर भी फटे हुए मिलेंगे और नीचे भी फटे हुए मिलेंगे। नीचे से लेकर ऊपर तक वहां सब फटेहाल मिलेंगे। सर्दी में वे ठंड से ठिठुरते रहते हैं। उनके पास सर्दी से बचने के लिए स्वैटर तक नहीं है, कम्बल तक नहीं है।

एग्रीकल्चर का हाल देखें तो वह और भी बुरा पाएंगे। एग्रीकल्चर में सबसे पिछड़ा हुआ आप पाएंगे तथा जिसकी ग्रोथ रेट ज़ीरो है। गांवों में हॉर्टिकल्चर ज़ीरो प्रतिशत पर पहुंच गया है। जहां तक इंडस्ट्री का सवाल है, गां वों में इंडस्ट्री नहीं लग पाई और इंडस्ट्री लगी भी तो शहरों में लगीं। गांवों में रॉ-मैटीरियल है, लेबर है लेकिन इंडस्ट्री नहीं है। गांवों में फॉरेस्ट एकदम नंगे कर दिये गये, वहां से पानी भी छीन लिया गया। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि जो आज हम विकास की बात कर रहे हैं और काफी पुराने जमाने से करते आ रहे हैं। हम कहते हैं कि हम शहरों का विकास करेंगे। गांवों से लोग भाग-भागकर शहरों में आ रहे हैं।

**16.03 hrs.** (Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav *in the Chair*)

हम कहते हैं कि गांवों में इतनी जनसंख्या हो तो हम उसे अर्बन डैवलपमेंट में लाएंगे। लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि बड़ी जनसंख्या वहां होगी जहां सब तरह की सुविधाएं होंगी। आप देखिए कि गांवों का आदमी, पिछड़े वर्ग का आदमी, एससीएसटी, माइनॉरिटी का आदमी या जो ओबीसी है, जो बैकवर्ड एरिया के लोग हैं, वे वहां से बैनेफिट लेकर शहरों में घुस गये और फिर शहरों में रश हो गया, वहां भी पोपुलेशन हो गई और शहरों में उनके बच्चे पढ़ गये। गांवों में रहने वाले गरीब का बच्चा, किसान का बच्चा, ठाकुर का बच्चा वह उसके साथ कभी कम्पीट नहीं कर सकता क्योंकि वह शहर में पहले से बैनेफिट लेकर पहुंच गया है। जो शहर में पहले से पहुंचे हुए लोग हैं, उन्होंने वहां से पहले ही बैनेफिट ले लिया। मुझे अफसोस है कि आज भी रोड़ी तोड़ने वाला जो मजदूर है, ...(व्यवधान)

श्री बिक्रम केशरी देव (कालाहांडी) : क्या आप एक मिनट के लिए यील्ड करेंगे ?

चौधरी लाल सिंहः नहीं। ...(व्यवधान)

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Will the hon. Member yield for a minute?... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is not yielding. Please take your seat.

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you yielding?

CHAUDHARY LAL SINGH: No, Sir... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions) \*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your name is in the list of speakers. You can speak when your turn comes.

... (Interruptions)

चौधरी लाल सिंह: अगर यह अपनी बातों का जवाब मुझसे चाहते हैं, तो हम अलग से बैठकर बात करेंगे। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारे राज्य में तीन रिजन जम्मू, कश्मीर और लद्दाख हैं। इन तीनों रिजंस की अपनी-अपनी बोली और अपना-अपना कल्चर है। जब डोमिनेशन की, बराबरी की बात करते हैं तो धरातल पर खरी नहीं उतरती। वहां 1947 से लेकर अब तक एक ही हिस्से से चीफ मिनिस्टर्स बनते आए हैं। इसीलिए वहां क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन की बात होती है। मैं इसीलिए बैलेंस की तरफ सरकार का ध्यान केन्द्रित करना चाहता हूं। अगर हम लोग वास्तव में विकास चाहते हैं, तो गरीब लोगों को, दूर-दराज रहने वाले लोगों को भी सुविधाएं देनी होंगी और उनकी तरफ विशो ध्यान देना होगा। मेरे अपने संसदीय क्षेत्र में कई जगह 86 किलोमीटर तक का रास्ता पैदल है। वहां लोग

बीसियों और पचासों किलोमीटर तक पैदल चलते हैं, कोई कनेक्टिविटी नहीं। फिर कैसे वहां का बच्चा शहर के बच्चे के साथ प्रतिस्पर्धा कर सकता है, जबिक शहर में रहने वाले बच्चे के लिए स्कूल है, पैसा है, ट्यूशन है और गांव में रहने वाले बच्चे के लिए न स्कूल है, न पैसा है, न ट्यूशन है और न ही यूनिफार्म है। इस कारण शहर का बच्चा कम्पीट कर जाता है और हमारा बच्चा पीछे रह जाता है। यही कारण है कि हम एक साथ सब क्षेत्रों का विकास नहीं कर पाए, जिससे क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन पैदा हो गया है। हम एक शहर को ले लेते हैं और वहां विकास की सब सुविधाएं मुहैया कराते चले जाते हैं। जैसे दिल्ली को ले लीजिए। यहां हर साल मजदूरी, दिहाड़ी और व्यापार के लिए करीब चार-पांच लाख लोग

आते हैं। यही हालत मुम्बई और कोलकाता की है। जब गांवों में नौकरी नहीं होगी, मजदूरी नहीं होगी,

## \*Not Recorded

व्यवसाय नहीं होगा, तो फिर वहां से शहरों की ओर पलायन तो होगा ही। इसे रोका जाना चाहिए, क्योंकि इस कारण गावों से बुद्धि का इरोजन हो गया है।

अभी जैसा मेरे भाई ने कहा कि पूरे देश का विकास नहीं होने का यह सबसे बड़ा कारण है, यह बिल्कुल ठीक बात है। इस हालत में हमारा लोकतंत्र कैसे मजबूत रह सकता है, इस पर भी आपको सोचना होगा। आज आप देखें कि सबसे ज्यादा वोट गांवों में ही पड़ते हैं। जो गरीब है, जो आम आदमी है, वह सबसे ज्यादा तादाद में वोट डालता है, लेकिन शहर में रहने वाले व्यक्ति न तो खुद वोट डालते हैं और न उसकी घरवाली वोट डालती है, फिर भी सारे लाभ उन्हीं को मिलते हैं। उनकी बिजली बंद नहीं होगी, उनका पानी बंद नहीं होगा। उनके लिए सड़कें पक्की होंगी और पार्कों का निर्माण होगा। इसलिए समग्र विकास तब तक नहीं हो सकता, जब तक मन से हम यह काम नहीं करेंगे।

हमने घोाणा तो कर दी कि राट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी स्कीम 2 फरवरी से पूरे देश में लागू होगी और 15 दिनों में जिसे काम नहीं मिलेगा, कार्ड नहीं मिलेगा, वह शिकायत कर सकता हैं। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि आज 24 फरवरी है, इस दरिमयान कितने लोगों को कार्ड दिया गया और रोजगार दिया गया। मेरी जानकारी के मुताबिक किसी को भी कुछ नहीं मिला है, जबिक हमने पांच-छः महीने तैयारी करके यह कानून बनाया था।। सारी योजनाएं उन्हीं लोगों तक महदूद रहती हैं, जो इसे पसंद नहीं करते। जब गांव के विकास की बात आती है, तो इन लोगों को तकलीफ होती है। उनकी तो यही मंशा रहती है कि शहर कैसे विकसित हों, जबिक शहर पहले से ही विकसित हैं। अब क्या उन्हें हम चांद पर ले जाना चाहते हैं या आसमान पर टांगना चाहते हैं कि शहरों का और विकास हो। लेकिन जो जमीन में धंसे हुए हैं, उनकी तरफ ध्यान नहीं दिया जा रहा है। हम उनकी तरफ ध्यान पैदा करते हैं इसिलए मेहरबानी करके उनकी तरफ ध्यान दें। मेरी आपसे रिक्वेस्ट है कि आप उनकी तरफ ध्यान जरूर दीजिए, जो लोग गांव में रहते हैं, जो गांव हैं, पिछड़े हुए हैं और गरीब हैं, उन्हें रिजर्वेशन भी चाहिए। एक बार आदमी किमश्नर बन गया, अब उसके बच्चे को कौन सा रिजर्वेशन देना हैं। उसको किस बात का रिजर्वेशन

देना हैं। उसका रिजर्वेशन कैंसिल हो जाना चाहिए। जो आदमी अमीर हो गया, उसको किस बात का रिज वेंशन चाहिए। रिजर्वेशन किसको चाहिए, जो अंडरडेवलेप्ड है, थर्ड वर्ल्ड में है, हम थर्ड वर्ल्ड में हैं। जब फर्स्ट वर्ल्ड के लोग ही आगे-आगे बैठेंगे, तो देश का कुछ नहीं हो पाएगा। दिमाग फर्स्ट वर्ल्ड में है और हम थर्ड वर्ल्ड की बातें करते हैं, हम यह देखते है, इसलिए मैंने सुबह कहा था कि कई लोग महदूद हो जाते हैं, आपके अपने एरिया में हिंदुस्तान की तरफ ध्यान नहीं जाता है। मेरी आपसे रिक्वेस्ट है कि मेहरबानी करके देखा जाए, जो अंडरडेवलेप्ड हैं, जो रियल इंडिया हे, जो गांव हे, जो वोटर्स हैं, जिन्होंने हमको और आपको यहां बैठाया है, उसके लिए हम क्या कर पाएंगें।

श्री बची सिंह रावत 'बचदा' श्री सर्वानंद सोनोवाल जी ने जो 16 दिसंबर को संकल्प प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं उसका पूरी तरह से समर्थन करता हूं और उन्हें बधाई देता हूं कि आज एक महत्वपूर्ण संकल्प, जिस पर आज लोकसभा के सामने विचार चल रहा है। रीजनल इनबैलेंसेज पर यह सभा चिंता करती है और इस प्रकार का प्रस्ताव आया है और वास्तव में देश के भीतर विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में इतना अधिक असंतुलन है और विशाकर जो सुदूरवर्ती रेगिस्तानी क्षेत्र हैं, पर्वतीय क्षेत्र हैं, तटीय क्षेत्र हैं और बड़े राज्यों का जो दूरस्थ ग्रामीण क्षेत्र है, वह हमेशा से विकास के कार्यक्रमों से अछूता रहा है और अभी तक विकास की मुख्यधारा से जुड़ नहीं पाया है। मैं उत्तरांचल से हूं और वह संसदीय क्षेत्र पूरा का पूरा पर्वतीय क्षेत्र है और लगभग 15 हजार किलोमीटर के क्षेत्रफल में यह फैला हुआ है। इसके कारणों पर मैं विचार करता हूं कि आखिर यह क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन क्यों हुआ और इसको कैसे दूर किया जाए और यदि दूर न किया जाए तो इसके क्या परिणाम हो सकते हैंi अभी श्री सर्वानंद जी के द्वारा यह उल्लेख आया या अन्य स्थानों से उल्लेख आता है कि जहां-जहां रीजनल इन्बैलेंस पैदा होता है, विकास की दौड़ में हम पीछे रहते हैं, औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में भी औद्योगिक विकास नहीं होता, शिक्षा का पर्याप्त प्रचार-प्रसार नहीं है, सड़कों का अभाव है, इससे उस क्षेत्र से पलायन होता है और जो बचे हुए हैं, जिनकी पलायन करने की क्षमता नहीं है या अन्य कहीं रोजगार उपलब्ध नहीं होता है, तो उससे ये जो उग्रवादी तत्व है, नौजवान जिसमें बेरोजगारी रहती है, तो एक अनरेस्ट पैदा होता है, आंदोलन शुरू होता है और फिर उसके बाद वह उग्रवाद की ओर बढ़ेगा। आज उत्तरांचल के निकट नेपाल में माओवाद के अभिशाप को भुगत रहे हैं, लेकिन उसकी परछाईं, चूंकि यहां भी नौज वान बेरोजगार हैं, इसलिए उसकी परछाईं उत्तरांचल क्षेत्र में और वहां से लेकर उत्तर प्रदेश और पूरे बार्डर के एरिया में भी पड़नी शुरू हुयी। माओवादी संगठनों की छिट-पुट घटनाए बढ़ने लगी हैं। यह सब राट्र के हित में नहीं है। ये सारी घटनाएं होती हैं। आज जैसा नार्थ-ईस्ट में है, जैसा श्री लाल सिंह जी ने विाय रखा कि कैसे धारा 370 के तहत डिस्टर्ब्ड एरिया घोति किया, उसको सबसे पहले 24 हजार करोड़ रूपए का पैकेज दिया। नार्थ-ईस्ट के लिए अलग से व्यवस्था दी है। पहले भी मैं इस बात का उल्लेख कर चुका हूं कि जो सेंट्रल हिमालय, यानि हिमाचल प्रदेश और उत्तरांचल प्रदेश, ये सभी मध्य हिमालय के क्षेत्र हैं और अभी तक ये शांत क्षेत्र हैं। मेरा सवाल यह है कि हम इधर क्या तब ध्यान देंगे, जब सड़कों के मामले में, अन्य विकास के मामले में, उद्योग-धंघों के मामले में यह उग्रवाद की ओर जाए, फिर इसे डिस्टर्ब्ड एरिया घोति करें। उसको अभी हीलिंग टच कहा गया कि जहां-जहां उग्रवाद है, वहां-वहां हीलिंग टच के नाम पर धनराशि भी देंगे, पैकेज भी देंगे, मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि ऐसी स्थिति क्यों आएi आज जब देश में 10वीं पंचर्वीय योजना चल रही है, योजना आयोग है, तो योजना आयोग की ओर से प्राथमिकता तय होनी चाहिए कि जो देश का सर्वाधिक पिछड़ा हुआ क्षेत्र है, उनको प्रायरिटी पर लिया जाए। इसके लिए एक एक्सरसाइज ह्यी थी कि उन राज्यों को लिया जाए, लेकिन जो विकसित राज्य थे, उनकी ओर से विरोध आया कि हमारा कसूर यह है कि हम विकसित हुए हैं, इसिलए हमारा एलोकेशन कम किया जाए, तब फिर अगले फेज में आया कि जिले छांटे जाएं और राट्रीय सम विकास योजना सामने आयी। राट्रीय सम विकास योजना का जो इंप्लीमेंटेशन हुआ है, बड़ा दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है, मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र में आज चार जिले हैं, जबिक पहले एक ही जिला था, एक पर्वतीय जिला, एक जिले के दो जिले बनाए गए, कालांतर में दो जिले के चार जिले हो गए। उसमें से सबसे छोटा जिला जिसके चार विकास खंड हैं, जबकि कुल 26 विकास खंड हैं, उन चारों को तो सम विकास योजना में ले लिया गया, यह बहुत अच्छी बात है, लेकिन बाकी के तीन जिले उपेक्षित रहे। उसको 45 करोड़ रूपए मिल गए और उनको एक भी पैसा नहीं मिला। काम के बदले अनाज देने की योजना आई है और वह भी उसी जिले में आई। अन्य तीन जिले वंचित रहे। अल्मोड़ा, पिथौरागढ़ आदि तीन जिले और हैं, चम्पावत् छोटे जिले में है, वह हो गया। रोजगार गारंटी की योजना आई और वह भी उसी जिले में आई। कहने का आशय यह है कि जब वह भौगोलिक रूप से पूरा पर्वतीय क्षेत्र है और सारी की सारी व्यवस्था वही है तो हम चार विकास खंडों की बात कर रहे हैं। 26 विकास खंड है। 22 ब्लॉक फिर भी बचे हैं। इनका नम्बर कब आएगाi वहां की सड़कों का विकास कब होगा, सिंचाई और विद्यालयों का प्र ाबन्ध कब होगां बड़े शिक्षण संस्थान जो हैं उनकी कल्पना की जा सकती है कि वे कभी होंगे भी या नहींi कुल मिला कर आज यह कहा जा सकता है कि 59 साल बीत गए। मैं इसमें एक विाय पर जरूर ध्यान आकर्ति करना चाहुंगा कि जो एसजीआरवाई, एआईबीपी, त्वरित सिंचाई लाभ परियोजना है या डीआरडीओ द्वारा जो योजनाएं संचालित हो रही हैं, उनमें भी खामियां हैं। यहां ग्रामीण विकास मंत्री जी उपस्थित हैं। उनके संज्ञान में यह बात लाना चाहता हूं। चार वर्ों से उसका एलोकेशन हो रहा है। उसके मुताबिक 20 परसैंट पेय जल के स्रोत के संवर्धन पर खर्च होने हैं, 20 परसैंट पेयजल संरक्षण पर खर्च होने हैं। 40 परसैंट निकल गए। वही स्रोत हैं और लगातार खर्च करने के लिए पैसा वही पहुंच रहा है। वे उसे कहां खर्च करें। नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि उस पैसे का दुरुपयोग हो रहा है। एलोकेशन का सही तरीके से उपयोग नहीं हो रहा है।

सिचाई के गूलों का भी प्रश्न है। चार वााँ से माइनर इरिगेशन द्वारा जो गूल बन रहे हैं, वही गूल फिर बन रहे हैं। गूलें पहले की बनी हैं। उन्हें फिर से बनाया जा रहा है। एक-एक जिले में 10-12 करोड़ रुपए पहुंच रहे हैं लेकिन कितना काम करना है, वास्तव में आवश्यकता है या नहीं। भारत सरकार की तरफ से जो मानक तय हो गए, उससे उन निधियों का सदुपयोग नहीं हो रहा है बल्कि दुरुपयोग हो रहा है। बरसाती नालों के ऊपर गूलें बन रही हैं। उनका कोई रिजल्ट दिखायी नहीं दे रहा है। ग्राम प्रधान को सारी

जिम्मेदारी सौंप दी गई है। सर्व शिक्षा अभियान के तहत विद्यालय बनेगा तो साढ़े 6-7 लाख रुपए का प्रधान जी को बनाना है। गांव में 10-12 लाख रुपए की गूल बनानी है तो ग्राम प्रधान जी को बनानी है। गांव के भीतर एमपीलैड के तहत विकास काम करने हैं तो ग्राम प्रधान जी को करवाने हैं लेकिन ग्राम प्रधान एक्सपर्ट नहीं हैं। सारी ठेकेदारी ग्राम प्रधान जी के हाथ में दे दी गई है। इससे परिसम्पत्तियों का टिकाऊपन या गुणवत्ता नहीं है। मैं अपने संसदीय क्षेत्र की जानकारी दे रहा हूं। विद्यालयों के उद्घाटन होते हैं लेकिन पता लगता है कि बरसात का

पानी छत से विद्यालय के भीतर चला गया। इस दिशा में विकास का कार्यक्रम संतुलित भी होना चाहिए। भारत सरकार से निधियों का प्रवाह जब राज्यों की ओर होता है तो उनकी मॉनिटरिंग या नियंत्रण होना चाहिए। ग्राम प्राधान जी के खिलाफ दंड का प्रावधान नहीं है क्योंकि वे सस्पैंड भी नहीं हो सकते हैं। नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि जहां विकास का असंतुलन है और जहां साम्यपूर्ण तरीके से विकास के कार्यक्रम नहीं हैं, वहीं निधियों के दुरुपयोग की घटनाएं लगातार सामने आ रही हैं। अद्यतन सारा मामला सामने आया है।

मैंने यहां पहले एक प्रस्ताव भी मूव किया था। बारम्बार मांग रहती है कि क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन का एक कारण यह है कि योजना आयोग में पर-हैड के हिसाब से एलोकेशन करने का जो क्राइटीरिया है, उस पर फिर से विचार किया जाए। वहां जनसंख्या कम हुई है और पहले से ज्यादो घटी है क्योंकि रोजगार की तलाश में लोगों ने पलायन किया है। वहां की प्रत्येक गांव की आबादी के अनुसार सड़क बननी चाहिए क्योंकि वहां सड़क की आ वश्यकता है। पर्वतीय क्षेत्र में प्रति किलोमीटर सड़क की लागत मैदानी क्षेत्र की सड़क की तुलना में दुगुनी, ढाई गुनी या तीन गुनी है। इसके अलावा अन्य निर्माण के लिए समान रूप से धनराशि दी जा रही है लेकिन ट्रक के मैटिरियल का लोड, चाहे वह सीमेंट हो, लोहा हो या अन्य सामग्री हो, 200-300 किलोमीटर तक ट्रांसपोर्ट चार्जिज़, फ्रेट चार्जिज़ इतने हो जाते हैं कि कॉस्ट दुगुनी या ढाई गुनी हो जाती है। वहां के लिए पैसा स्टेट या जिले के हिसाब से मिलना चाहिए, पर हैड के हिसाब से नहीं मिलना चाहिए। लेकिन जो डेवलपमेंट होती है वह एरिया की होती है इसलिए इस तरीके से जो टिकाऊ परिसंपत्तियां हैं वे नहीं बन पाती हैं। वहां बड़े निर्माण कार्यों के लिए पैसा तो आता है लेकिन पैसे की लागत कम पड़ जाती है और स्टेट की ओर से उसमें और कमी हो जाती है।

मैं उत्तरांचल से संबंध रखता हूं इसलिए इस परिप्रेक्ष्य में दो या चार विाय रखना चाहता हूं। उत्तरांचल का निर्माण इसी सदन से और सबके सहयोग से हुआ था। हमें बहुत अभिलााा थी कि उत्तरांचल बनेगा और उत्तरांचल का निर्माण हुआ। उत्तरांचल 9 जनवरी, 2002 को अस्तित्व में आया। इसके तत्काल एक वा के भीतर इसे विशो श्रेणी के राज्य का दर्जा प्रदान किया गया। इस राज्य में इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर को डेवलप करने के लिए, औद्योगिक विकास और औद्योगिक समृद्धि के लिए 7 जनवरी, 2003 से 7 जनवरी, 2013 तक, दस साल का उद्योग पैकेज दिया गया। इस पैकेज की मंशा थी कि वहां के बेरोजगागरों को रोजगार मिले और उत्तरांचल, जो नया राज्य बना है, वहां बड़े उद्योग-धंधे लगें और ऐसा वातावरण बने जिससे राज्य अपने पैरों पर खड़ा हो सके। दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि वा 2000 से लेकर आज हम वा 2006 में हैं, जो भारत सरकार ने दस साल का पैकेज दिया गया था उसे काट दिया गया। मुझे दुःख होता है कि पिछली एन.डी.ए. सरकार ने जो दिया था, उसे छीन लिया गया क्योंकि यह तो अन्नदाता के हाथ में है, चाहे वह दे, न दे या छीन ले और इस तरह से छीनने का काम हुआ। इससे वहां की इन्डिस्ट्रियल प्रोग्रेस को बहुत बड़ा आधात पहुंचा है।

इस राज्य को स्पेशल कैटेगिरी का दर्जा दिया गया था, जिसमें यह शामिल था कि 90 परसेंट भारत सरकार देगी और उत्तरांचल के विकास के लिए 10वें प्लॉन में 9500 करोड़ रुपया रखा गया था। इसके अलावा यह भी तय हुआ था, चाहे ग्रांट मिनिस्ट्री की हो, प्लानिंग कमीशन की हो, आऊटसोर्सिंग से हो, चाहे वह ग्रांट एशियन डेवलपमेंट बैंक से आए, दुबई से आए, फॉरेन कन्ट्रीज़ के किसी भी फाइनेंशियल इंस्टीट्यूशन्स से आए या मार्किट से आए, अगर वह डेवलपमेंट में खर्च होगा तो उसका 90 परसेंट भारत सरकार देगी। लेकिन अब जो मौजूदा वित्तीय वी चल रहा है, इसमें भारत सरकार ने निर्णय लिया है कि जो वहां की डेवलपमेंट में जो खर्च हो रहा है, उसमें जो खर्च आऊटसोर्सिंग से होगा उसे राज्य सरकार वहन करेगी जबिक राज्य सरकार के पास अपने रिसोर्सिस नहीं हैं। वहां जब हमारी सरकार थी, तब साढ़े तीन हजार करोड़ रुपए एशियन डेवलपमेंट बैंक से लिए गए थे और लगभग तीस लाख अमेरिकन डॉलर का कर्ज दुबई से लिया गया था। इसी तरह से अन्य फाइनेंशियल एजेंसियों से 27 हजार करोड़ रुपए का कर्ज उत्तरांचल सरकार ले चुकी है। वहां जो व्यय हो रहा है वह दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों में न हो करके कनैक्टिड क्षेत्रों में हो रहा है। वहां का ठेका बाहरी कंपनियों को मिला हुआ है। वहां केंद्र सरकार के असहयोग के कारण बड़ी कठिनाई आ रही है।

सभापित महोदय, प्रधानमंत्री ग्रामीण सड़क योजना एक बहुत बड़ा सपना था। हम माननीय मंत्री जी संज्ञान में पहले भी यह बात लेकर आए थे और पुनः लेकर आ रहे हैं कि एक हजार की आबादी सबसे पहले चरण में थी और पांच सौ की आबादी उसके बाद वाले चरण में थी। पर्वतीय और जनजातीय क्षेत्रों के लिए एन.डी.ए. सरकार ने विशा प्रावधान किया था कि 250 की आबादी होने पर सड़क बनाई जाएगी। लेकिन महामिहम राट्रपित जी के अभिभााण में भारत निर्माण का उल्लेख किया गया है, जिसमें कहा गया है कि 500 की आबादी पहाड़ी क्षेत्र और जनजातीय क्षेत्र के लिए है। ग्रामीण विकास मंत्री जी, डा. रघुवंश प्रसाद जी इस मामले में बहुत संवेदनशील हैं, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि पर्वतीय क्षेत्र के जो राजस्व गांव हैं, जिनकी आबादी 250, 300, 350, 400 और 500 है, 500 से अधिक आबादी वाले गांवों की संख्या 20 प्रतिशत भी नहीं है। पर्वतीय क्षेत्र में 1000 आबादी वाले राजस्व गांव पांच परसेंट भी नहीं हैं। अगर 500 का मानक रखा गया और 250 का मानक, जो पहले था उसे हटा दिया गया तो वहां के अधिकांश गांव आजीवन सड़क से लाभान्वित नहीं हो सकते इसलिए इस पर पुनर्विचार होना चाहिए। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस पर रिस्पांड करेंगें।

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्री देश भर में हजार की आबादी वाले समतल इलाके और हिली तथा ट्राइबल इलाकों में पांच सौ की आबादी तक के गांवो को हम चार वााँ में जोड़ेंगे और जब यह हो जायेगा तब आपने जो सौ की आबादी वाली बात कही, वह काम शुरू होगा। लेकिन भारत निर्माण कार्यक्रम टाइम बाउंड है, जहां समतल में हम एक हजार से ज्यादा की आबादी वाले इलाकों को जोड़ेंगे, वहीं पहाड़ी और ट्राइबल एरियाज के पांच सौ आबादी वाले इलाकों को जोड़ेंगे।...(<u>व्यवधान</u>)

सभापति महोदय आगे जवाब आयेगा। जब माननीय मंत्री जी जवाब देंगे, उस समय यह सब आयेगा।

श्री बची सिंह रावत 'बचदा' अगर यह होगा तो आपको बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। लेकिन तब तक पता नहीं क्या रहेगा। चार साल के बाद क्या परिस्थिति आये। लेकिन वह मानक हट गया है, इसके कारण बहुत बड़ी शंका और भय बना हुआ है। चूंकि हिमालय क्षेत्र इतना विस्तृत क्षेत्र है और इसमें से ढाई सौ का उल्लेख हट गया है, इसलिए सब चिंतित हैं। इसका अगर कोई लिखित पत्र वगैरह मिल जाएगा तो हम लोगों को एक सांत्वना मिलेगी। मेरा अनुरोध है कि इस दिशा में आप जरूर देखें।

अब मुख्य बात यह है कि रीजनल इम्बैलेन्सेज पैदा क्यों हुए? इनके पैदा होने के बहुत से कारण हैं, जिनका मैंने उल्लेख किया। मानकों के कारण, दूरी के कारण ये पैदा हुए। लेकिन इसमें एक सबसे बड़ा कारण राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप है। जब-जब इसमें राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप हुए हैं जैसे फलां व्यक्ति आज पोजीशन में हैं, कोई पा वरफुल मंत्री है या उसके पीछे कोई खड़ा है और क्षेत्र विशे। में जो उसकी कांस्टीटुएंसी हैं, उसके भीतर कहीं कोई डी.आर.एम. का ऑफिस खुलना है तो वहां वह ऑफिस खुलने पर झगड़ा चल रहा है कि यह कोलकाता में खुलना चाहिए। लेकिन उसने कहा कि यह धनबाद में खुलेगा। यह तो मेरी मिनिस्ट्री है। इस तरीके से वह वहां चला गया। कहीं कोई दूसरा पावर में हैं, उसने कहा कि यह कारखाना कहां खुलना है, यह पब्लिक अंडरटेकिंग है। उन्होंने कहा यह इनकी कांस्टीटुएंसी में लगना है। इसका सबसे बड़ा उदाहरण अभी रायबरेली और अमेठी का है। मैं अखबार में पढ़ रहा था कि वहां के लिए छः सौ करोड़ रुपये की योजनाएं घोति हुई हैं। जबिक हमारी अपनी कांस्टीटुएंसी में कहीं एक पैसे की योजना भी घोति नहीं हुई। अखबारों में तो यहां तक आया कि श्री मणिशंकर अय्यर जी को इसलिए हटना पड़ा, क्योंकि उन्होंने पेट्रोल का इंस्टीट्यूट अमेठी में खोलने से मना कर दिया था, इसलिए उन्हें सजा मिली। इस तरह का जो राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप है, यह बंद होना चाहिए। देश में योजना आयोग है, राज्य का योजना आयोग है, जिले का नियोजन विभाग है, यह उसके अनुरूप होना चाहिए। जब तक इसमें राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप की गुंजाइश रहेगी, तब तक हम जैसे जो सामान्य सांसद हैं, जो दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों से आये हैं, हमारा क्षेत्र इसी तरह से उपेक्षित होता रहेगा और यह क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन बना रहेगा।

**सभापति महोदय** डवलपमैन्ट में राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप नहीं होना चाहिए, यह ठीक है। लेकिन भााण में और पोलिटिक्स में आप राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप कर रहे हैं।

श्री बची सिंह रावत 'बचदा' : यह मैंने एक उदाहरण के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया है, क्योंकि यह सब अखबारों में आया था। बाकी उत्तर प्रदेश ऐसे ही रह गया। उत्तर प्रदेश के बारे में में ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहता। लेकिन हमारे उत्तरांचल में 30 किलोमीटर में दो मैडिकल कालेज खुल गये, इनमें एक हल्द्वानी में खुला और दूसरा जो वहां के स्वास्थ्य मंत्री थे, उन्होंने 29 किलोमीटर की दूरी पर दूसरा मैडिकल कालेज खुलवा दिया और हमारे ऊपर के चार सौ किलोमीटर के इलाके को कुछ नहीं मिला। हमारे माननीय सांसद बाबा जी यहां बैठे हैं, उनके क्षेत्र में तीस किलोमीटर की दूरी पर दो-दो मैडिकल कालेज खुल गये। लेकिन हमारे पूरे चार सौ किलोमीटर के एरिया में लिपुलेक और तिब्बत बॉर्डर तक न कोई मैडिकल कालेज है और न कोई अस्पताल है। वहां के लोग कहां जाएं। अगर ये चीजें संतुलित की जाए तो उनका स्वागत होगा। समग्र देश एक साथ खड़ा हो, तभी वा 2020 तक जो विकिसत भारत की परिकल्पना है, उसे हम जनसहयोग, संतुलित विकास और समग्र विकास से पूरा कर सकेंगे। यह संकल्प आज राद्र हित में लाया गया है। माननीय मंत्री जी और सदन के सभी माननीय सदस्य अवश्य इससे सहमत होंगे और यदि यह एकमत से पारित हो सके तो वा 2006 का जो बजट सत्र चल रहा है, उसमें यह एक बहुत बड़ा कार्य पूरा होगा। आपने मुझे बोलने का समय दिया इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूं।

सभापति महोदय : श्री सुनील खान - उपस्थित नहीं

श्री रामजीलाल सुमन सभापित जी, श्री सर्वानन्द सोनोवाल जी द्वारा जो संकल्प सदन में प्रस्तुत किया गया है, वह देश के विभिन्न भागों में विकास के अभाव में जो क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन पनपा है, उससे संबंधित है और यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूं। मुझे विश्वास है कि इस प्रस्ताव पर सार्थक चर्चा के बाद सरकार इस दिशा में सकारात्मक प्रयास जरूर करेगी। जहां तक प्रयासों का सवाल है, राज में कोई भी रहा हो, लेकिन क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन का मुद्दा प्रत्येक पंचर्वीय योजना का एक अनिवार्य घटक रहा है और इसके बाद भी जो अपेक्षित परिणाम निकलने चाहिए, क्षेत्रीय विामता को दूर करने का जो काम मुस्तैदी के साथ होना चाहिए था, वह हमारे देश में नहीं हुआ है। यह निश्चित रूप से अत्यधिक गंभीर समस्या है और अगर समय रहते हमने इस समस्या पर ध्यान नहीं दिया तो इसके बड़े घातक परिणाम हो सकते हैं।

सभापित महोदय, देश के कई प्रदेश बहुत विकिसत हैं और कई प्रदेशों की हालत बहुत खराब है। अगर 20 प्रदेशों को उपर से लें तो उत्तर प्रदेश की आबादी 16 करोड़ से ज्यादा है, लगभग 17 करोड़ है। 20 प्रांतों में से उत्तर प्रदेश 17वें स्थान पर, उड़ीसा 18वें स्थान पर, झारखंड 19वें स्थान पर और बिहार 20वें स्थान पर है। दिल्ली सबसे सम्पन्न राज्य है और बिहार सबसे गरीब राज्य है। यह गैर-बराबरी पटनी चाहिए। इस संबंध में देश के उपराद्रपित, श्री भैरो सिंग शेखावत जी का बयान काफी अहमियत रखता है कि गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे जीवनयापन करने वाले यदि 26 करोड़ लोगों को देश की मुख्य धारा में नहीं जोड़ा गया तो ये किसी बड़ी क्रांति को जन्म दे सकते हैं। आज जिन सवालों पर सदन में हम लोग चर्चा करते हैं, जिनकी वजह से सदन चिन्तित रहता है - चाहे आतंकवाद, अलगाववाद या नक्सलवाद हो, अगर हम देखें तो उसके मूल में अगर कोई समस्या है तो वह क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन है। बेरोजगारी, बेबसी, लाचारी, शिक्षित बेरोजगारों को काम नहीं और जब लोगों को ऐसा लगता है कि उनके साथ इंसाफ नहीं हो रहा है, इंसाफ के सब दरवाजे बंद हैं तो यही वह समय होता है कि जब व्यक्ति हिंसा की तरफ जाने को बाध्य हो जाते हैं तो इस समस्या पर निश्चित रूप से गंभीरता के साथ काम करने की आ वश्यकता है।

असल और बुनियादी सवाल यह है कि हमने जो देश के विकास का रास्ता चुना, देश को तरक्की पर ले जाने का जो मापदंड बनाया, वे नीतियां बुनियादी तौर पर गलत थीं। इस 15 वीं के आर्थिक उदारीकरण के दौर में गरीब आदमी को क्या मिला, बेरोजगारों को क्या मिला और जो उपेक्षित इलाके थे, वे ज्यादा उपेक्षित हुए हैं और जो सम्पन्न इलाके थे, उनकी सम्पन्नता और बढ़ी है। पिछली छिमाही में विकास दर 8.1 प्रतिशत रही है और यह विकास दर अधिकतर आई टी और टेलीकॉम के क्षेत्र से बढ़ी है। देश में दस करोड़ बेरोजगार हैं, जिनमें से तीन में से दो लोग गांव के हैं।

सभापित महोदय, महत्वपूर्ण बात यह है कि हमारे जो परम्परागत उद्योग थे - हथकरघा, कुटीर उद्योग और सबसे अहम् सवाल यह है कि इस देश में जितनी बेदर्दी से कृति की उपेक्षा हुई है, उसी के चलते यह घातक परिणाम हमारे सामने आ रहे हैं। अगर उन सब सवालों पर हमने ध्यान नहीं दिया, अपने परम्परागत उद्योगों को नहीं पनपाया, कुटीर उद्योगों को संख्क्षण नहीं दिया और खेती, जो सबसे अधिक रोजगार देने वाला क्षेत्र है, इस क्षेत्र को संख्क्षण नहीं दिया तो मैं नहीं समझता कि देश में कोई अच्छे परिणाम नहीं निकल सकते । अभी हमने

ऐलान कर दिया कि खुदरा बाजार में विदेशी पूंजी निवेश होगा। देश के बड़े-बड़े घराने खुदरा बाजार में आकर कूद पड़े। मैं पूछना चाहूंगा कि आप गरीब व्यक्ति के साथ कहां से इंसाफ कर रहे हैं, जो छोटे दुकानदार हैं और फुटकर विक्रेता हैं, वे बेरोजगार होंगे। यह जो नीतियां और काम हमारे देश में हो रहा है, यह निश्चित रूप से किसी भी कीमत पर गरीब के पक्ष में नहीं हैं, इसलिए इन सब चीजों पर सरकार को गंभीरता से ध्यान देना चाहिए।

वित्त मंत्री जी ने पांच हजार करोड़ रुपए का पिछड़ा राज्य अनुदान निधि स्थापित की है। यहां श्री रघुवंश जी बैठे हैं, मैं उन्हें बताना हूं कि वह निधि स्थापित हो गई है, लेकिन उसके खर्च करने के मापदंड अभी नहीं बने हैं। मेहरबानी करके उसके खर्च करने के मापदंड जब बनें तो उसमें यह जरूर सुनिश्चित होना चाहिए कि जो पिछड़े अंचल हैं, पिछड़े उपेक्षित क्षेत्र हैं, अगर उन पर आप ध्यान नहीं देंगे तो इस निधि का कोई मतलब नहीं है।

सभापित महोदय, मैं अंत में यही कहना चाहूंगा कि जैसा मैंने कहा यदि सरकार देश में वास्तविक ि वकास करना चाहती है, वर्तमान आर्थिक और राजनैतिक नीतियों पर अंकुश लगाना चाहती है तो पहला सवाल यह है कि जब तक हमारे देश में पूंजी पर कम एवं श्रम पर आधारित उद्योग नहीं लगाये जायेंगे, तब तक किसी भी कीमत पर देश की 100 करोड़ से ऊपर आबादी की बेरोज़गारी की समस्या से नहीं लड़ा जा सकता है। इसलिये मेरा सरकार से अनरोध है कि वह इस पर गम्भीरता से सोचे कि जिन चीजों से इस देश में क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन बढ़ा है, उनके भंयकर परिणाम हो सकते हैं जिसकी पूरी जिम्मेदारी सरकार पर होगी।

सभापति महोदय, श्री सोनोवाल जी ने जो संकल्प प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं पूरे सदन के साथ उसका समर्थन करता हूं

श्री रघुनाथ झा माननीय सभापित महोदय, इस सदन में एक महत्वपूर्ण विाय पर चर्चा हो रही है कि देश में जो क्षेत्रीय असंतुलन है, उसे कैसे दूर किया जाये। इस पर सरकार की ओर से बजट में हर साल और पंचर्वीय योजनाओं में अपना संकल्प व्यक्त किया जाता है लेकिन अत्यंत ही दुख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि आज दस पंचर्वीय योजनायें हो गई हैं लेकिन क्षेत्रीय असमानतायें कम होने का नाम ही नहीं ले रही हैं।

सभापित महोदय, जब देश आजाद हुआ, योजना आयोग का गठन किया गया जिसके अध्यक्ष प्रधान मंत्री होते हैं। पं. जवाहर लाल नेहरू ने योजना आयोग की प्रथम बैठक की अध्यक्षता की थी। उन्होंने अपने भाण में इस बात का जिक्र किया था कि योजना आयोग का काम देश की पांच साल की योजना बनाकर त्वरित गित से देश के विकास का नक्शा बनाना है और उसे विकसित करने का प्रयास करना है और दूसरा, महत्वपूर्ण काम यह है कि देश की क्षेत्रीय असमानताओं को दूर करने के लिये अपना ठोस काम करे।

सभापति महोदय, अभी हमारे मित्र श्री रामजी लाल सुमन आपके समक्ष अपनी बात रख रहे थे। मैं उनके द्वारी कही बातों का पूर्ण रूप से समर्थन करता हूं लेकिन इस बात को भी कहूंगा कि देश में क्षेत्रीय असमानतायें रखने में इस देश की केन्द्र सरकार की भूमिका रही है। देश के उन उपेक्षित इलाके, पिछड़े इलाके, आर्थिक दृटि से कमजोर इलाके, अशिक्षित और गरीब रहे, उन इलाकों पर केन्द्र सरकार ने क्या खर्च कियाi हमारा पेसा दिल्ली, कोलकाता, चैन्ने और मुम्बई को बनाने में रहा। आपने देखा होगा कि किस तरह बैंकों द्वारा भेदभाव किया जाता है। आप खुद बिहार से आते हैं। रिजर्व बैंक और वित्त मंत्रालय की जो गाइडलाइन्स हैं, उनका पालन नहीं किया जाता है और हमारा पैसा यहां खर्च कर दिया जाता है। वहां का पैसा दूसरी जगह इस्तेमाल कर दिया जाता है। अफसोस की बात यह है कि हमारे राज्य में हर साल बाढ़ आती है, सुखाड़ होता है जिससे करोड़ों रुपये की बर्बादी होती है। इसी तरह दूसरे राज्यों में भी होती है। न केवल हमारे राज्य में बल्कि दूसरे राज्यों में भी इनफ्रास्ट्रक्चर ध्वस्त हो जाता है लेकिन हमारे राज्य को कोई विशा मदद नहीं मिलती है। दस साल पहले गरीब लोगों के 9 लाख मकान ध्वस्त हुये थे। हम बहुत खुश हुये, जब माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने दो लाख मकान गरीबों के बनाने के लिये अनुदान दिया। हम उनका स्वागत करते हैं लेकिन हम वर्तमान सरकार को बरी नहीं कर सकते जब कि हम उनके समर्थक हैं। हम उनसे अपेक्षा करते हैं कि इस बार भी वे कुछ करेंगे। गत वी भी बजट पेश किया गया था और इस र्वा भी आने वाली 28 तारीख को बजट आयेगा। उन्होंने 170 जिलों को पिछड़ा इलाका घोति किया जिसकी चर्चा भाई रामजीलाल सुमन ने भी की। उसमें बिहार के 36 जिले हैं। इनके इंटर मिनिस्टीरियल ग्रुप की क्या सिफारिशें हुई, उसने क्या रिपोर्ट दी या नहीं दी, वह रिपोर्ट कहां पड़ी हुई हैi एक र्वा के अंदर वह खर्च होना चाहिए था जबकि एक पैसा भी खर्च नहीं हुआ और वित्त मंत्री जी ने बड़ी चालाकी से उसको पचा लिया। हम वित्त मंत्री जी से कहना चाहते हैं कि इस वी का जो बजट भााण देने जा रहे हैं, उसमें गत र्वा के बजट भााण के साथ हम लोगों का जो हिस्सा होता है, उसको देने का भी काम करें, अन्यथा क्षेत्रीय असमानताएं रहेंगी। हमारी मांग है कि आप हर क्षेत्र में उदारता दिखाएं, चाहे प्रधान मंत्री ग्रामीण सड़क योजना हो या सम विकास योजना हो। यहां हमारे ग्रामीण विकास मंत्री बैठे हैं। ये गरीब इलाके से आए हैं और सारी चीजों को देखते हैं। .ये बड़े सफल ढंग से अपने विभाग का संचालन कर रहे हैं। हम इनसे पूछना चाहेंगे, सरकार से पूछना चाहेंगे कि सम विकास योजना का कार्यान्वयन कैसे हो रहा हैं। महोदय, आप खुद सांसद हैं, हम भी सांसद हैं और मंत्री जी भी हमारे सामने उपस्थित हैं। क्या उसमें हम सांसदों से राय ली जाती हैं। किस तरह से उस पर ब्यूरोक्रैसी हावी है यह आप देखते हैं। हम भी जनता के प्रतिनिधि हैं। हम नहीं कहते कि किसी को कम या किसी को ज्यादा देने का काम करें, उसको कलैक्टर देखे, दूसरे पदाधिकारी देखें, योजना आयोग देखे। ऐसी व्य वस्था करनी चाहिए जिससे उस योजना में उस क्षेत्र के सांसदों का इनवाल्वमैंट हो। भिन्न-भिन्न राज्य सरकारें ि वभिन्न प्रकार से भारत सरकार की योजनाओं को लागू करती हैं। आपने सम विकास योजना में बिहार के 15-20 जिलों को छोड़ दिया था। अब नई सरकार बिहार में आई है। उस योजना के लिए पहले ही सरकार ने तय किया था कि जितने छूटे हुए जिले हैं, राबड़ी देवी की सरकार में भी तय हुआ था कि इसको हम दे देंगे। इसको हम अपने राज्य के फंड से पोति करेंगे लेकिन वर्तमान सरकार जा रही है और उद्घाटन कर रही है। इस तरह की व्यवस्था को मिटाने के लिए, केन्द्र सरकार ग्रामीण विकास विभाग के ज़रिये, दूसरे विभाग के ज़रिये यह करना चाहती है।

हमारे यहां नेशनल हाईवेज़ का सवाल है, बिजली का सवाल है। आप अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं कि नेशनल हाईवेज़ बिहार में बने, उनके फोर लेनिंग की घोाणा हुई और कहा गया कि फोर लेनिंग में 40 प्रतिशत राज्य सरकार दे, इनवैस्टर लाए। बिहार जैसे गरीब राज्य में इनवैस्टर कहां से लाएं, कौन वहां जाएगां करोड़ों रुपये का टैन्डर कोई लेगा तो सोचता है कि उसमें काम करने के लिए गांव के कौन लोग जाएंगें। इसलिए बड़े पूंजीपतियों के ज़रिये उस काम को कराने का काम कर रहे हैं। हम दुख के साथ कहना चाहते हैं कि इस भेदभा व को दूर करना चाहिए। उपराट्रपति जी ने अपने भागण में ठीक कहा कि क्रांति जन्म ले सकती है, लेकिन हम कहते हैं कि क्रांति शुरू हो गई है। आप भी वहां से आते हैं, आप इसको जानते हैं।

आज नेपाल के ज़िरये तस्करी हो रही है, बार्डर खुला हुआ है। आपकी आर्थिक रीढ़ को तोड़ने की कोशिश हो रही है। सारे क्रिमिनल और अपराधी नेपाल के रास्ते हमारे यहां आ रहे हैं। नेपाल से सटे हुए जो इलाके हैं, चाहे उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार या बांगाल के हों वहां इस कारण बड़ी परेशानी होती है। हम लोग बार बार कहते हैं तो मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि यह रक्षा मंत्रालय का काम है। कभी कहते हैं कि गृह विभाग करेगा। कोई भी करे मगर सरकार रोकने की कोशिश तो करे। अभी कुछ दिन पहले गृह मंत्री जी ने जवाब देते हुए कहा कि हमने हर जगह एसएसपी को पोस्ट किया है। हम देख रहे हैं कि छः महीने तक हमारे इलाके में एसएसपी कहीं घूम नहीं सका। जब सड़कें नहीं हैं तो कैसे घूमेगा, कैसे बार्डर की रक्षा होगीं।

महोदय, बिहार के लोगों ने इस देश के लिए बड़ी बड़ी कुर्बानियां दी हैं। उसी इलाके में रहकर राट्रपिता महात्मा गांधी ने देश की आज़ादी की शुरूआत की थी और लघु उद्योग तथा कुटीर उद्योग के द्वारा गरीबों का विकास करने का संकल्प लिया था। बिहार अपने बारे में कभी कुछ बोलता नहीं है, लेकिन जब बोलता है तो देश डोलता है। मैं आपसे निवेदन करूंगा कि सरकार बिहार की गरीबी, बेबसी और बरोजगारी को देखते हुए विशे। ध्यान दे और इसे देश के अन्य राज्यों के समकक्ष आने का मौका दे। अभी श्री रामजी लाल सुमन ने बताया कि हम बीसवें स्थान पर हैं। हम कैसे बीसवें स्थान पर आ गएं। जब हमारे साथ झारखण्ड था, तब आपकी क्या नीयत थीं। बड़े-बड़े उद्योग-धन्धों के मुख्यालय आपने कलकत्ता और दिल्ली में बना रखे थे, जैसे टाटा की फैक्ट्री हमारे यहां होती थी, लेकिन हेडक्वार्टर मुम्बई में होता था। बोकारो, हटिया, सीसीएल, बीसीएल जितने भी कारखाने हैं, वे हम से अलग हो गए हैं। झारखण्ड का इलाका अलग हो गया है। आप बिहार को कुछ रायल्टी देते, लोगों की बराबर मांग रही है कि मूल्य आधारित नीति बनाइये, आपने नहीं बनायी। उसी तरह से बड़े-बड़े मुख्यालय, सेल टैक्स, इनकम टैक्स, एक्साइज राज्यों को नहीं दिए। इसी तरह से राज्य के विकास को आपने कम करने का प्रयास किया है, हमें उसकी भरपाई मिलनी चाहिए। बिहार के बंटवारे के सवाल पर हम लोग साथ खड़े थे और हमने सदन को दो दिन बंद करवाया था। प्रधानमंत्री और गृह मंत्री ने कहा कि एक राज्य को गरीब और दूसरे राज्य को धनी नहीं बनाएंगे। श्री नीतिश कुमार आज बिहार के मुख्यमंत्री हैं। हम साथ थे और एक जगह बैठ कर तत्कालीन प्र ाधानमंत्री श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी को योजना दी थी। हमें कहा गया कि हम इसकी भरपाई करेंगे - क्या आज तक कोई पैसा हमें दिया गया हैं। वह पैसा कहां चला गया, हमारा हिस्सा कहां चला गया। सारी माइंस वहां चली गईं, जंगल वहां चले गए, सारी नदियां, सारे शिक्षण संस्थान, टेक्निकल एजुकेशन वहां चली गई। हमारे बिहार में कुछ नहीं है। इस आधार पर केंद्र सरकार को बिहार के साथ विशा व्यवहार करना चाहिए। हमें ख़ुशी है कि केंद्र सरकार ने अपने न्यूनतम साझा कार्यक्रम में इस बात को स्वीकार किया है कि बिहार के संदर्भ में और देश में जहां भी असमानताएं हैं, उन्हें दूर किया जाएगा। हम मांग करते हैं कि यहां बैठे हुए सरकार के प्रतिनिधि देश के प्रधानमंत्री और वित्त मंत्री को हमारी भावनाओं से अवगत कराने का काम करेंगे, बिहार के विकास के लिए धन देने का काम करेंगे तथा उस धन का उपयोग कैसे हो, इस पर भी विशो ध्यान देंगे।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ हम, जिन्होंने यह प्रस्ताव पेश किया है, उनके प्रस्ताव का हम समर्थन करते हैं।

SHRI K.S. RAO Sir, we have all agreed to live in a federal system. The basic reason is that in spite of different religions, different castes, different regions and different ambitions, we all believe that pooling of the resources will help us in better development of the nation as a whole and the areas in which we are living. This will also bring security to all of us, reduces expenditure on several fronts, etc. But, unfortunately, because all things were not taken in total sincerity, there were regional imbalances, which are growing day by day. That is why, as my predecessors have said, I wholeheartedly support this Resolution which is put forth by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal.

Basically, the reason why the regional parties are also coming up is this. It is very easy to provoke people if there were to be disparities in a very big way. That is the reason why, even for example, in Andhra Pradesh if there were to be a demand for a separate Telangana Region, some leaders are interested in their own ends. When people are coming, obviously, it means that there is a feeling in their mind that the development is not as expected by them, not in one year but over a long period of five to ten decades.

Similar is the case in various other States. If this were to continue, where is it going to lead us? It will lead us to the same old country where the developed countries

will take advantage of the situation. So, it is for the federal Government to take the initiative to see that these things will not be repeated and the gaps are filled.

All of us agree that Bihar, Chhattisgarh, parts of Uttar Pradesh and Orissa are under-developed States. We all want that a special package must be given to the States more particularly to see that there is some kind of production or manufacturing activity. It is not just by doling the funds. Allocation of funds to a particular State is to ensure that the people are motivated there and they are provided with some work so that they can generate wealth and realise how they are backward, and how they are falling behind the other parts of their own country. That is not being done. In some parts, the Government doles out some money simply because they are backward. It does not go into the details as to how that money is being used, whether it is really being used for development there or it is being swallowed by somebody. That also is to be taken care of. If the Central Government were to think that it is not their job to see whether the State Governments use it badly or in a useful manner, then the same situation will continue forever. Unfortunately, I can understand a legislator trying his best to get more funds for his own constituency. A Member of Parliament asks for more funds for his constituency to ensure that he can satisfy the people there and get their laurels. But, Sir, when I come to the Centre and become a Minister in the Central Cabinet, my view should not be to develop my own constituency and my own State. If I think in terms of developing my own constituency and my own State, in spite of being a Central Minister, I cease to be a Central Minister, that means I do not deserve to be a Central Minister. Unfortunately, these trends have become prevalent in these days also in the Central Government. That is to be curbed. I sincerely request almost all the Central Ministers to think for the nation as a whole and certainly not to go by their own States, their own regions and their own constituencies.

In this context, I wish to mention that today when the Railway Budget was presented, most of our Members from Andhra Pradesh, above Party lines, felt that injustice has been done to Andhra Pradesh. Since Independence Andhra Pradesh has been totally neglected in the field of Railways. We all agree to it. All of us are very sober, very obedient and we do not quarrel with each other or quarrel for every issue. But, that should not be taken as a weakness. If that were to be taken as a weakness, these things will keep on accruing and finally we will just blast. That is not good for the nation. It is not particularly for Andhra Pradesh, it applies to every State. There

must be rationality. The duty of the Government of India is to see as to which part of the country is lagging behind. It is its duty to see for what reason it is lagging behind and how to correct it. It is also its duty to see whether it requires some funds for putting some industry there, for carrying our some activity there or for agriculture.

Why are we living in a federal State? Bihar has got coal. Some State has got iron ore, and some other State has got water resources. The areas where water resources are there, let them improve in that direction. Let the area, where there is coal, improve in the field of coal. But, unfortunately, each State quarrels with the other State for river water and never allows the water to be used fully. It is because of the disputes between the States that the water is getting wasted and flowing into the sea. Otherwise, billions of acres of land could have been cultivated and there would not have been shortage of food-grains in this country any time. It is not only that, we could have exported food-grains to several countries in Africa and other parts of the world. We could have earned a lot of foreign exchange. We could have flourishing food-processing industry. We could have improved our economy. It is not only between States, if for example the gap were to be increased between rural areas and urban areas, what will be the consequences? Already, people are migrating from rural areas to the urban areas. Slums are developing like anything. Poverty is there.

Naturally, the disparity between rich and poor creates animosity between one section and the other. That leads to lack of peace, violence, criminality, terrorism and naxalism. What are the reasons? These are all because of the disparities between region and region, between area and area and between State and State.

Sir, this is a very serious matter raised by my colleague. I am of the definite opinion that we should all take it seriously and we should not think in a narrow way and we should not think of having our own Panchayat President. Suppose a Central Minister thinks in a narrow way and says: "I will create this for my own constituency. I will put it in my own area." Then, what will happen to others? All the people have to live together. Obviously it is not one man. I agree that we are all human beings. There can be a feeling that one can do something for his own area. He can do it but it should not be in such a manner that all others would agitate. The difference can only be marginal. Suppose if a particular area is backward, then you identify that area and get a special package for that area from the Government of India with the consent of the Parliament. Then, there will be no heart-burning. When all of us agreed to live in

federalism, all of us would be ready to give a federal package to a particular area with the consent of everybody. How can anybody say 'no' to that? But that is not being done. These tendencies are very bad and these have to be corrected.

I would like to express an opinion through you, Sir, that it should not be taken lightly because it is a Private Member's Resolution. This must be understood by every Member. Yes, as a Member I fight. If I become a Minister and do the same thing, then what is the point? All of us must have some ethics, some moral values and some vision. We must know what would be the consequences tomorrow.

Sir, while supporting and appreciating the Member who has brought this Private Member Resolution, I would only request the hon. Chairman and also all other Members to take it very seriously and apply it in every manner to bring unity among ourselves, and also see that there is unity in the country.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome this Resolution which has been moved by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal because it deals with the regional imbalances.

Sir, the regional imbalances in the country dampen the spirit of nationalism and national integration. Regionalism should be completely stopped because this is one country and one federal system. There are Constitutional provisions under article 371 (a) to (d) whereby the regional imbalances could be curtailed. I do not understand how till date there is clamour for more regionalism, more separatism and formation of new States. There has been a gap in the development. The economic indicators like health, education, drinking water, communication, electricity and the nutrition value, which the people take in these backward areas, have never been considered. That is why, 54 years after the Independence, we are still discussing about the regional imbalances. The Governments, for the last couple of years, have not been able to deliver properly to the people. Though there has been a special provision under article 371 of the Constitution with respect to the States of Maharashtra and Gujarat, still you will see that places in Gujarat like Kutch are completely neglected, and in Maharashtra, the region of Vidharba, where the Development Council exists under this provision, still there is regional imbalance. Article 371 says:

"(b) the equitable allocation of funds for developmental expenditure over the said areas, subject to the requirements of the State as a whole".

### 17.00 hrs.

Further, it says:

"(c) an equitable arrangement providing adequate facilities for technical education and vocational training, and adequate opportunities for employment in services under the control of the State Government, in respect of all the said areas, subject to the requirements of the State as a whole]"

I was quoting from the Constitution. So, these requirements, which are supposed to go to these areas, these backward regions of the country, have not been able to reach them. That is why, the provision has been provided. Though the provisions are provided, when a Government comes and when they make a programme, they have a certain sectarian attitude and they take a partisan attitude.

Today, 26 per cent of the people are living below the poverty line. These 26 per cent of the people are not in the urban areas. There are a few in the urban areas. But most of them are distributed in the backward areas of, say, Andhra Pradesh or in the backward areas of Orissa, the KBK districts or western Orissa or in the Telengana region in Andhra Pradesh or in the Nandurbar region in Maharashtra or in Jharkhand where we can take Hazaribagh and Palamu regions. These are the thrust areas. So, we have to give some Constitutional protection to these thrust areas. Then only these areas can come at par with the other developed areas. Otherwise, we cannot achieve the objective.

If you have a programme, like Mr. Rao was just saying regarding component programme or a limited time bound programme for seven years, with that we cannot achieve the objective because we have seen and experienced it. Hon. Chairman, Sir, when you were the hon. Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, I remember you had visited my district and you know the nutrition condition there, how it was and how people were dying of starvation. Writ petition was filed in the Supreme

Court. It was proved that starvation deaths had taken place at Kalahandi. Today, I am happy that the KBK programme has been launched and it is launched with sincerity now. But there is a gap of about four years between the announcement and the launching. So, when you give the idea to the people, when you make promises to the poor people of the backward areas, you must immediately make a package for them and start off the project.

In the case of KBK programme, it was delayed. So, you will see that these 26 per cent of the people, who are living under the poverty line, are subject to all kinds of inhumanities.

If you go through the Report of the Human Rights Commission, it is very clearly mentioned there that how in these regions the people are suffering. It is not that only during natural calamity, they are suffering but they are also suffering in the better days. The Public Distribution System has failed. The health facilities are not there because this subject comes under the State List. So, unless they are not given the Constitutional protection under article 371 by the Government by inserting article 371 (e) or (f) or by making another insertion in the Constitution, these backward areas can never get any benefit or cannot get justice in a democracy.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak, and I solely support this Resolution moved by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal regarding imbalances. He is from Assam. For Assam and for the North-East, there is provision under article 371. There is provision for some districts. There is provision for Nagaland. But till today Assam is rife with terrorism. Terrorism is rife there. Tribalism is rife there. How come the goods have not been delivered in the North-East? We have created a separate Ministry for the development of North-East region, called DONER. But how is it that it is not reaching the people?

Arunachal Pradesh, with its vast natural resources, is still backward. I would like to tell the Chairman about the irony of fate. Today, the irony of fate is that if we want to develop any region, all the natural wealth of the country is lying in the backward regions. It may be Jharkhand. It may be Bihar. It may be Orissa. All the natural resources like iron ore, bauxite, gemstones, graphite are lying in the backward areas. All

the minerals are lying in the backward areas. So, when the Central Government or the State Government encourages globalisation—today a lot of FDI is coming in—naturally we are bound to face the problem.

You are bound to face a problem like rehabilitation and resettlement of the tribals because for the last 54 years, they have been completely neglected. On their land and on their properties you want to build up big industries and do globalisation without resettling them. There is bound to be an agitation. So, it is a prime responsibility of this august House that these 26 per cent people, who are spread over the backward areas of the country, should be rehabilitated and special component programmes should be initiated so that they can come out of the throngs of poverty and come into the mainstream of development.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY Sir, I congratulate the hon. Member, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, for bringing this important issue for discussion today through the Private Members' Resolution.

Sir, we are all really worried and express our serious concern for the regional imbalances created by the lack of development in different parts of our country and we all share his proposal for equitable growth in different parts of the country which are backward.

There are several reasons for the backwardness of some areas in different States of the country. Some are naturally backward because of the less rainfall in those areas and lack of irrigation facilities, as there will be no rivers or lakes in some of these parts. Some areas are backward because of the historical background that they were ruled by the feudal kings for a long time who never cared for the development of these areas.

The third backwardness is because of the short sightedness of the rulers who refuse to develop different parts of the country in a proper way. We should have a

vision while we are taking up the development. Unfortunately, this is also lacking in our country after the Independence in the last six decades.

Just now I heard our colleague from the ruling party, Shri K.S. Rao. I fully agree with him. Even today's Railway Budget is one of the glaring examples of how regional imbalances are taken up very carelessly. Everything, every new train starts from Patna and ends in Chennai, as if these are the only two parts of this country. I do not say that Bihar is a wonderfully developed city. I had been to Bihar recently. I saw in Baruni a big centre, a junction with 2,000 acres of the railway land which is lacking development for the last several decades. But, unfortunately, it did not become the parliamentary constituency of any Railway Minister and hence it is neglected.

Sir, whether it is a question of a new railway line or new freight corridor or arranging extra trains or arranging the coach centres, regional imbalances also should be taken into consideration. If this is not taken seriously, naturally there will be much unhappiness. Today, for example, I do feel that the new Railway Budget has got very positive features. In spite of the increase in the prices of diesel, there is no increase in the passenger fares. But why nobody is happy here is because those who are to deliver the goods do not create an impression that they are impartial. That will create a very negative impact on the entire Railway Budget. Almost everybody starting from the ruling party up to the Opposition, right and left, everybody is unhappy.

# 17.10 hrs. (Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan in the Chair)

I think this should be taken definitely into consideration when the Railway Budget is going to be finally settled.

Here, I would like to refer about the backwardness of some other areas. I come from Andhra Pradesh, that too from Telengana which is one of the very backward areas. There was a serious concern when the State was reorganised and some sections in Telengana expressed their doubts whether in the united State justice will be done for Telengana area. Some promises were made. But, unfortunately, as these promises were

not fulfilled, in the last 46 years, after the re-organisation of the States on linguistic basis, again and again agitations are coming up for re-division of the State into Telengana, into Rayalaseema and into other parts. This is a very unfortunate thing.

This is one very backward area because historically it was ruled by Nizams for more than 150 years and totally the old Hyderabad State lacked any development. We propose that for the development, all these agreements which were made from time to time should be implemented with all honesty. Unfortunately, they did not implement it. It has become part of the Constitution also. It is not only in Telengana, but even in Vidarbha there are certain constitutional provisions to defend the interests of that backward area. But, unfortunately, due to the shortsightedness these are not being implemented. We asked for a Rs. 10,000 crore special development package for Telengana, irrigation facilities to be improved by completing all the pending projects in the next five years, re-opening of the closed industries in this Telengana part and also we requested for the new industries to be opened in these areas.

Above all, to create the confidence in the people of the backward area, they should be given an opportunity to oversee the development in that area. There is a watchdog organisation which is called Regional Council. That is what I was telling as the constitutional guarantee by accepting it, making it as a part of the Constitution. But, almost a decade back or one-and-a-half decades back, these Regional Councils are removed. These Regional Councils will not be elected from somewhere. Only the members from those constituencies of that particular backward area will become the members of this Regional Council. They will have a right to suggest what should be the development activity and also they will have the responsibility to check on the accountability, on the income and expenditure in that area. This is one very important way of creating confidence in the people that the money of the backward area is not taken away and spent for advanced developed areas.

Unfortunately, in Telengana and also in Vidarbha these are not being implemented.

The regional imbalances create several other problems also. If there was a proper regional balance of development, I am sure, there would not have been a demand for a division of the States in Madhya Pradesh and Bihar creating new States of Chattisgarh and Jharkhand. For example, Jharkhand is a place with abundant natural resources. But,

unfortunately, it was neglected. In other States, in western Orissa, in this part of the area also the development has not taken place and we found that in the last two-three years people suffered in a very big way in that area.

I would like to remind you that there were more than 400 suicides in Vidarbha alone this year. That is among the peasantry. More than 1,000 people committed suicide in Telengana part in the last five years. This is because of lack of irrigation facilities in these areas.

So, while we think of development, the Government of India should take all these things into consideration. The rise in the sensex or other stock markets or the increase in the price of gold and silver will not make India shine; India will shine when all the backward areas will get proper justice, irrigation facilities, drinking water and all that.

Sir, I represent Nalgonda constituency in Telangana area which is having the highest problem of drinking water. That is the place where fluoride is very high. Our hon. Minister for Rural Development, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh had been to Nalgonda district. He had personally seen that. Out of 1,100 villages, more than 850 villages are affected by this. Unfortunately, in my constituency, people become crippled by the age of 23 to 30. They cannot even walk, the bones are deformed and children are born with defective bones. This type of unfortunate thing is taking place because this is the part of the most backward area of Andhra Pradesh.

For the development of backward area, the Government should have a comprehensive plan. That comprehensive plan should extend for the next ten years. It should have a special budget. The State should not be left with suggestions that you go and develop the backward areas. I believe in the next ten years if the Government of India can spare one lakh crore of rupees for the development of the backward areas and be given straight controlling from the national Centre, it is possible to develop some of these areas.

At the same time, I also suggest that the land reforms should take place in all parts of the country. Unfortunately, even this year, the Government of India is not planning about the land reforms. There is a link between the poverty and the land reforms. Almost 60 to 65 per cent of the population still are living in the rural areas. Most of them live on agriculture. Population of 24 crore is working as agricultural labour or depending on agriculture. They do not have their own lands.

There is a big problem taking place in the peasantry. In the Census of 2001, a shocking revelation has come. In 1991, there were about 11 crores of peasants in this country. In 2001, 71 lakh peasants have disappeared from the profession of agriculture. Most of them have become paupers, sold away their lands and went out into other professions. This number is more than the population of several countries of Europe. Most of these peasants have disappeared from their profession, become paupers, particularly in the most backward areas of our country. So, irrigation facilities, land reforms and direct investment from the Government of India to reduce the imbalances, starting the new industries in the most backward areas and a comprehensive plan from the Government of India only will help them to reduce the imbalances in our country.

I hope, this Resolution will help and this discussion will help the Government of India to have a re-thinking about improving the backward areas and reducing the imbalances.

SHRI B. MAHTAB Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is really heartening to know that the Resolution moved by a learned Member from Assam, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal on December 16, 2005 has come up for discussion today. This is a topic which is very close to the hearts of many Members not because we discuss about the backwardness of a State, backwardness of a region, backwardness of a district, but at the same time, the imbalances which have been created because of geographical reason, because of political reason are still continuing.

Sir, I would like to mention about the rider, which the hon. mover of this Resolution has put in this Resolution. The rider is that the remote areas be developed so that it would strengthen the federal structure of the country. It is not only concerned with the imbalances and it is not only concerned with underdevelopment, but it also encompasses the viewpoint that to have a good federal structure in this country there is a need for a concerted growth. It is for this reason that the issue of regional balance has been an integral component of every Five-Year Plan. However, the perception is that regional imbalances have actually got accentuated, particularly, over the last 15 years. Why I am saying 15 years? I am saying this because of the liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation. This idea idea is being talked about in a very big way, especially, since 1991, to be very specific.

Different parts of the country are in different stages of development, and development has not been uniform. History records of even pre-independent India or of even before, that is, before the Europeans arrived in this country. I may mention that there was no uniform development in this country. But at the same time, I may say, a pledge was taken by the founding fathers of this independent India that we will strive to have a uniform developed nation.

At the same time, a mention has also been made that it is not only an imbalance between State and State, but within the State the intra-State inequalities has not been adequately addressed. Regional disparities still persist within all States including the relatively prosperous States of this country, though in some States it is greater, and in some States it is less. The Centre or the Union Government has a greater role to play here, and the role is to promote balanced development of all States and regions within States, so that opportunity will be provided to develop evenly.

I should mention that for the first time the 10<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan recognised that the concept of regional disparities would need to go beyond economic indicators and encompass social dimensions as well. The 10<sup>th</sup> Plan had accordingly advocated on a multi-pronged approach to provide additional funding to backward regions in each

State, coupled with governance and institutional reforms. These were the two major initiatives that were advocated in the 10<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan.

For several years, direct investment in Public Sector Units, and capital and other subsidies for the Private Sector in backward regions was seen as the best way of addressing regional imbalances through capital formation as well as income and employment generation.

How do you develop an area which is underdeveloped? You either provide some special grant to that area, invest more money through different plans and programmes; or you empower people through different financial institutions, create certain assets which will give them gainful employment. These are the two methods which we have been adopting for the last 58 years. For the first time in the Tenth Five-Year Plan it was mentioned that we should target certain groups and empower them. We have had this programme for the last four-five years, it may be Sam Vikas Yojana or may be other programmes which are being implemented.

The other mechanism which continues till date is ensuring a greater share in Central finances for backward regions through the transfer formula. During the discussion on Motion of Thanks to the President for his Address to both Houses of Parliament, Gadgil Formula for transfer of assets from the Centre to States was also mentioned. That is another mechanism through which funds can flow to the provinces. That also in a way strengthens the federal structure.

We have the Planning Commission and we have Finance Commissions every five years. The broad approach emerges from the experience of lessons learnt from the past. The first approach involves proper identification of backward areas, targeting them and improving infrastructural deficiencies. The second approach would be to seek to improve the overall environment through development of infrastructure, institutional reforms and incentive structures.

Most of the more developed States are located in the Western and Southern parts of the country. A majority of them have a coastline. The weaker parts of this country are located in the East, North and the North-East. Some days back I had read in a newspaper which stated that it is the coastal areas which are going to develop in the next 15-20 years. What programmes and plans do we have today? I will come to that aspect later. Relatively, the backward States are in the Eastern and the Northern parts of the country.

India's growth has been seen in those States where urbanisation is already high. The growth rate of coastal areas will grow faster; the growth rate of hinterland will grow, but at a slower pace. This will increase migration, which another Member also mentioned. North-Eastern States need special attention because they will be our gateway to the East. More attention should be paid to that part of the country.

I should thank hon. Member Sarbananda Sonowal for moving this broad Resolution. It is very appropriate because major nations from the Eastern part of the Asian continent will find a window to our country in the North-East. North-East will be the major area which can be developed in a bigger way. It is in a very disadvantageous location now and it needs proper attention and special intervention. We have special category States.

#### MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute!

Hon. Members, the time allotted for discussion on this Resolution is over and I have a list of 14 Members to speak on this. If the House agrees, the time may be extended by an hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: We agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time for discussion on this Resolution is extended by an hour.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, the main assets of the weaker States are two. One is the forest and the second is the minerals. Here, I should mention the term 'public good'. Constitution has been amended and powers have been taken by the Centre that for the protection and development of the forests, Central Government will intervene and it has the prerogative to control and expand the forest cover. In that respect, the weaker sections of the State, who live in the forests, especially, the tribals, who have been living for quite a long time and getting their sustenance from the forests are today being denied of their livelihood. For very petty matters, the State Government has to run to Centre, to Delhi to get a certain clearance of a minor nature - for medium irrigation

project, minor irrigation project. This has been happening for the last 20 or 30 years. The State Government is not competent enough and that is the wisdom of the Centre. The State Government is not competent enough to protect the forests. Centre sitting in Delhi is competent to protect the forests which is in the remote areas of the State! This is how the decision has been taken. In a way this is also denying the rights to the weaker sections of the society. I do not know as to whether the Government will consider this aspect but there is a need to discuss this aspect. When we are talking of empowerment of the weaker sections, especially, the tribals who live near the forests or inside the forests, this aspect should also be discussed and proper attention should be given to this issue.

Secondly, most of the weaker States of this country are mineral rich, be it West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Orissa or Andhra Pradesh in comparison to the western and southern States. These are the States which are weaker. For the last many years, we have a system of royalty. Royalty is fixed, keeping again the 'public good' in view. It is for the first time, in the 11th Finance Commission's Report, a mention was Though earlier it was there that in every three years the royalty is to be made. increased, but it took 15 years or 18 years. The State Government had to come to the Supreme Court to get a decision from the Centre but no decision was taken. No compensation was given. It is mentioned for the first time in the 11th Finance Commission's Report, which was accepted. All Finance Commissions' Reports are accepted by the Government. Here, it was mentioned that every three years, enhancement of royalty should be made. In the 12th Finance Commission's Report, an addition was made that if royalty is not enhanced, then compensation also should be given to that respective State and that amount should also be given to that respective State just to protect the interests of other industries. Industries here mean production of energy, power, electricity. This was there. But different States are not getting that required amount. This is another problem. In a way, the Centre is denying the State's due - money or funds - which is their legal right.

Recently, for the last four or five years, a number of employment generation programmes have been created. It is to give employment to the unemployed youth in rural areas and also to provide gainful employment to the unemployed youth and also to

create assets. Specific districts have also been identified. Here, the idea was to assist the development of backward areas so that direct flow of financial support would be there. The Centre should come out in a bigger way. Despite this, the desired development has not occurred.

Our good friend Shri Deo from Kalahandi mentioned about a special project for KBK. This project was for six years. I am sorry to mention here that during these six years, which started during the Nineties, at no point of time, fund was allotted. More than Rs.700 crore was targeted and the budgetary provision was made. Every year, a certain amount was also given to be utilized in those three undivided districts of Orissa. A special mechanism was set up so that it could deliver the goods to the required targeted people. But, during the last five years, the allotted amount was never utilized fully. It was always a case of less utilization every year. But, in the last year, you will be surprised to know, when the allocation was more than Rs.250 crore, the utilization went up to Rs. 308 crore in the last year. Even if we calculate all the six years, still Rs.45 crore was left unspent. Why I am saying this is that the basic problem today is not of allocation of funds, the basic problem is of utilization of funds. The delivery mechanism has to be strengthened. When we decide that certain area is underdeveloped, we have to provide funds. But the delivery mechanism has to be equally prepared to absorb that money so that the required result can come. The outcome is more important, as has been told earlier so that when preferential funding is being made. My only request would be that strict conditional reforms also should follow. The basic approach has to be on outcome-driven. It should be an instrument and not an end in itself. At the same time, I would also mention that the whole process should be transparent. Unless these three or four factors are not met, I do not think, whatever money you may pump in to whichever place, as has been mentioned by the hon. Member from Udhampur, the desired result will never come. At the same time, I would also say that for historical reasons, for geographical reasons, a number of States have been lagging behind. Some years ago, I think, a decade back, in 1991-92, in a major way, doors were opened. One of our eminent thinkers of this country has brought out a book.

He has drawn a line there from North to South mentioning that there will be a great divide in 2040. The western side of this country starting from Delhi to Chennai *via* Nagpur, will prosper and will be at such a level, which will be equal to most of the western countries, the developed countries; and the eastern side will fall back. But this is a picture, which we should not live to see. Our attempt, when I say our attempt, should be that all of us collectively should strive to have a concerted growth of this country.

While participating in the discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, I had mentioned that some parts of this country are quite equivalent to the sub-Saharan areas of Africa, and while certain areas will be developed, which will be equal to California. When we dream of 2020 and want to develop the rural areas and also the urban areas, to provide urban amenities in the rural areas, attempts also should be made that under-developed States should develop at a greater pace.

Orissa, for instance today, is in the threshold of industrialisation. Today, I am really sorry to mention, the manner in which the Railway Budget Speech was read out, and the matter that was subject for so much of unrest, has actually pained me. I was under the impression that investment would be made where return would be greater and at a faster pace. That should be the motto of this age that we would invest in such a place where we would get quick return. And, where are we investing? We are not investing where we would get quick return. Of course, we would be discussing about the Railway Budget, but it seems that the Railway Budget is between Lalu and Velu; it is not between only Patna and Chennai, it is between two persons, two individuals.... (Interruptions)

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (PALANI): No, Sir. It is not true.... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please do not disturb him. He has already taken a longer time. Let him conclude now. Let the other speakers also get opportunity.

SHRI T.K. HAMZA (MANJERI): Sir, what Mr. Mahtab says is correct.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Sir, Orissa today is poised for an industrial revolution especially in steel, in alumina. There, a huge spurt in freight movement is likely to be taken up in the next few years. But what is the investment? It is only in the infrastructure. It is in the ports, it is in the railways, it is in the energy sector, and it is in the road sector, these are the four major areas where investments, if are made, in a greater way we may develop the infrastructure and develop the economic activities of this country. And, today the economic activity is there where the minerals are there, where the movements are there. But for the last many years this investment is not there in Orissa.

Sir, take for instance, Orissa, where I come from. We do not want doles. We do not want support for a person that would come for five years and then everybody would forget about him. We want to create assets. We want to create assets that will give return not only to our State but also to this country, so that this country would prosper, so that the federal structure will be more strengthened.

At the same time, we also witness that much attention has not been paid. That is why, I wholeheartedly support the Resolution that has been moved by Shri Sonowal today.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY At the outset, I must appreciate Shri Sonowal who has moved the Resolution, as it is very pertinent and relevant in the present state of our country.

Regional disparity is inherent in our country since very long years. It is a disparity, which sometimes breeds a sense of discrimination; the sense of discrimination leads to a sense of frustration, which even leads to animosity, which generates violence; the violence then leads to social disaster that we are witnessing in our country.

We are diverse in geography, in resources, in traditions and in history. The fact is that since independence, the thinkers of our country have been conceiving a slew of steps in order to bridge the gap between 'haves and have nots'. But still the disparity is very much persistent. It is in terms of regional disparity, intra-State disparity and inter-State disparity. Those States which have the bounty of nature, which have adequate resources can prosper, provided the requisite plans could be conceived for development of those regions.

Sometimes fortune smiles upon them who have the natural endowments. India is a country, which has drought somewhere, flood somewhere else and snow at some other place. Naturally, we have to devise area-specific, zone-specific, regional-specific programmes to bridge the gap between 'haves and have nots'. Regional disparity is a curse on our country. Being an Indian, we are also a victim of global disparity. In terms of human development index, India is ranked 127<sup>th</sup> in the world.

Naturally, disparity is evident not only in our country; it is very much in existence globally. Central planning of our economy was envisioned in order to strike a balance. In this regard, a number of institutional instruments such as Planning Commission, Finance Commission, National Sample Survey Organisation, etc. have been devised for a periodic review of our economy so that the imbalance could be done away with. Now, the question is whether the growth and standard of living would converge or not. It is true that convergence theory assumes that in the case of acceleration of economy, some regions having better resources could be developed through economic trajectory.

When the law of diminishing returns will occur due to differential marginal productivity of capital then convergence may take place but the fact is, there is no sign of convergence. On the contrary, the gap is widening. Naturally, we will have to have some sort of introspection because we have the Planning Commission, Finance Commission and other such institutional arrangements. How do those institutional mechanism perform is really to be reviewed.

Now, we are in the age of liberalisation, globalisation and privatisation. The question is whether the post-reform era has been able to change the disparity or to make any effect on the aspect of disparity because now any State in the country can invite foreign investment by resorting to market mechanism. They can invite the foreign

capital by dint of their own way. So, most of the States are now independent to invite investment in their respective States. If we simply resort to more sharing, more funds, more assistance or more grants-in-aid, some lacunae, some deficiencies of running the States would have evaded our attention.

Governance is also a vital component of development of any region. The areas which have been infected by poor governance must entail poverty and penury also. Most of the funds of our country are being siphoned off before they reach the beneficiaries and Panchayat level, etc. The second thing is, a number of States historically have been fed by the largesse of Central Government in terms of grants and assistance. For developing the country as a whole, we have demarcated the States of our country into Special Category States and General Category States so that we can make area-specific or State-specific programmes. If we look at the growth of our GDP, we will find that the GDP growth during 1950-1980, that is between three decades accelerated to only 3.6 per cent; during eighties it accelerated to 5.6 per cent and during nineties it has further accelerated to 6 per cent. Reform brings about structural changes both domestic and foreign but the most salient feature which needs to be attended is that in the post-reform era the public investment has decelerated.

Sir, even during the eighties, the public investment accounted for 45 per cent of the total investment in our country. But in the post reform era, the public investment has decelerated much to the dismay of all because without adequate public investment those backward areas could not be developed as is desired. I am representing West Bengal. Just now my friend, Shri Mahtab was stating very correctly that West Bengal was earlier regarded as the most progressive State in the country. One historian – I cannot recall his name - was quoted as having said that Periclean Athens was the School of Hellas, the eyes of the Greece, the Mother of Art and eloquence of the Greek civilization. It was described as prosperous and progressive as West Bengal. But now the students of my State have to travel to Southern India for having quality education. The patients have to travel to Southern India for having better health facilities. However, West Bengal had produced four Nobel Laureates. Now West Bengal has been regarded as a State with the most unemployed people in the country. The number of unemployed people has been growing by leaps and bounds in the State. Right now, out of four crore and two thousand unemployed youths in the country, West Bengal has 72 lakh youths. Around 65000 industrial units have been closed down. The poverty and

penury has become the order of the day and by exploiting this poverty and penury, the extremist forces are rearing their uncouth faces in the various districts of my State.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you conclude, I can call another Member also today.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, please let me continue. I am also in hurry as I have to catch a flight.

As per human poverty index published by the Planning Commission, Bihar has been ranked as the highest. But on the other hand, Chandigarh, the smaller State, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Kerala, from where you are hailing, are making very impressive progress in human poverty index. You know that in pursuance to the human poverty index, which is being followed in the international arena, the Central Government also tried to introduce the same concept in order to ascertain the human development index of our country.

# 18.00 hrs.

Sir, insofar as *per capita* consumption is concerned, it has been brought out that the States of Goa, Delhi and the Union Territory of Chandigarh are making very good strides. Therefore, it is evident from the report presented by the Planning Commission that disparities are very much persistent amongst the various States of our country. The *per capita* State domestic index, which is also one of the parameters to assess Human Development Index, shows that there are serious disparities amongst the various States.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can you conclude your speech now? It is already six o'clock.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, I am concluding within a few minutes.

MR CHAIRMAN: You may continue next time also. Otherwise, you have to conclude immediately. It is already six o'clock.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: If that is permissible, then it would be a good news for me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you can conclude now, then I can call another speaker. You know we have decided to increase one hour for the discussion on this subject. We have 20 minutes more. So, you may conclude your speech now.

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY: Sir, I will go by your direction. I would conclude within two minutes.

My request to the Government is that more public investment must be made available to the backward regions of the country. Not only that, there should also be a provision for a devolution index in order to let the common people know as to how the State Finance Commissions are performing. It is because in the process of devolution when a State gets its share it should be not treated as a money that could be spent for any purpose. The revenue being shared by the Centre with the States, as mandated by the Constitution, by way of devolution should not be made use of in a frugal manner. Our economy cannot afford such frugal spending by any State.

The second thing is that the State Finance Commissions are keeping the common men of the State in the dark by not disclosing as to what share they are devolving to the municipal and other panchayat level bodies. I hail from the State of West Bengal and I do not know as to how much of the share has devolved from the State Finance Commission of West Bengal to the municipal and other panchayat bodies in the State. For an overall development and an all-inclusive development of States multi-pronged mechanism has to be evolved and all the constitutional bodies and statutory institutions would have to be converged in such a direction so that we are able to bridge the gap for which we all are striving.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN Sir, there is no divergence of opinion with regard to the Resolution moved by hon. Member, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal that there should be a level-playing field, there should be no regional disparity and no regional imbalance. There are Members who have already mentioned about many points which I am not going to repeat. But my point is, how to achieve it. That is the moot point. There should be regional parity and not disparity. There are two things on which we can focus our attention. One is agriculture and the other is the industry. Take the example of the policy of the Government of India. There is something called priority sector lending. Every public sector bank is entitled to give 40 per cent of the loans to priority sector. It means rural credit. Nearly 18 per cent is earmarked for agriculture and another 22 per cent is for the small scale industry, education and other things. Taking the case of priority sector lending, you will come to know that most of the banks do not fulfil the mandatory provision of giving 18 per cent rural credit. As a Member of the Standing Committee on Finance, I can tell you that out of 27 public sector banks, last year, only 13 public sector banks followed the mandatory provision of giving 18 per cent credit to the agricultural sector. The remaining 14 banks have not followed it. It is the State Bank of India, the biggest bank of the country, which has its rural agricultural credit upto 11.99 per cent. Now the percentage of the State Bank group as such comes to 13.32 per cent and all the public sector banks combined together have given 15.68 per cent rural credit to the agricultural sector. Unless you give rural credit in sufficient quantity, the remote and backward areas will not develop.

Priority sector lending is no more a charity and it is no more a subsidy. You will be surprised to know that the rate of recovery in the private sector lending is more than that of the corporate sector lending. The Non-Performing Assets in the priority sector lending is less than the corporate sector lending and the rate of interest which the banks charge on the priority sector lending is more than the corporate sector lending. In the corporate sector lending, the rate of interest is hardly five to six per cent whereas the priority sector lending is at the rate of more than ten to eleven per cent. You take the example of self-help groups. The rate of interest of the self-help groups is 11 per cent

but the recovery is 98 per cent in most of the cases. I would request the Government that they should concentrate on this point. Whenever we examined the banks, they said that the offtake in the corporate sector is so high that they are unable to attain 18 per cent of rural credit. But it should be the rule of the country, it should be mandatory and it should be seen that all the banks give 18 per cent of total lending for rural credit.

The next point is on credit deposit ratio of the public sector banks. How much money do the banks collect from a State through deposit and how much money they lend? The CD ratio in most of the backward States is much less. The banks collect much more money and they invest much less. So, the Government should impress upon the public sector banks that they should invest more in the backward areas. But that is my second point.

The third point is with regard to NABARD. If, out of this 18 per cent, they fall short of even one per cent, what is the position? Suppose the figure as regards the State Bank of India is around 12 per cent of agriculture sector lending. They are supposed to give the balance 6 per cent to the NABARD.

NABARD is supposed to lend it to the State Governments. But the State Governments are incapable of lifting that loan from NABARD because the States here are incapable of giving their share. That is why, there is lack of infrastructure building in the rural areas. I would request the Government that if the State Government is incapable of lifting loan from NABARD with regard to the infrastructure building, they should see to it that some concession is given to the backward area.

Hon. B. Mahtab has raised one point with regard to mining. I come from a State where mining is the most important thing. What I mean to say is that there is a lot of controversy on how much of mining product should go out and how much should come in. There should be a Mining Policy in each State. Sometimes, it is only sold at the rate of throwaway price. Most of the time we sell out the backward areas. They sell out their mining ores, their natural resources. But they get a pittance in return. A country like Japan does not have any mineral resources. It takes our mineral resources and even then becomes the second biggest economy in the world. So, there should be some

policy with regard to this. There should be a clear-cut mining policy. There should be a comprehensive rehabilitation policy in case where there is industrialization and where the people are shifted for installation of any industry.

You know, what happened in Orissa recently. There was a firing and 12 tribal people were killed. It happened because once in 1990, the money was given, the rehabilitation package was given to those people, the compensation was given. They took it. But the Government did not try to set up an industry. After taking money, they again stayed there. Now, after about 13 years, they wanted more. The Government did not give. Rather, there was a misunderstanding. There was firing and 12 people were killed. It has created a lot of commotion inside the State of Orissa. So, I would appeal through you to the Government that they should have a comprehensive rehabilitation policy package throughout the country. Everybody should adhere to that. Otherwise, what happens is that once this happens, a very wrong signal goes to the industrial sector. No industry comes forward because they think that as there is a law and order problem they need not go. That is why, a backward area remains perpetually backward.

I would say if we focus on agriculture, we should create a rural entrepreneur. Andhra Pradesh is the number one example. It is because it was a poor State about 30 years back, most of the people were coming to Orissa as day labourers. Now, it is just the other way round. It is Oriya people who are going out. The Telugu people are not coming. So, irrigation is the most important thing which should be focused. Shifting of crop is also an important thing. Let us not simply go by this paddy crop. Most of the time it does not give us any profit. For shifting of the crop, the Agricultural Universities should be greatly involved in the country. The Agricultural Universities' job is not just to award some degrees. What these Agricultural Universities are there for? They should be working as a consultancy service to agriculture like at which place which crop should be grown. They should test the soil. They should advise these farmers where to grow these crops and what is the demand of any crop. So, the Agricultural Universities should be involved in a great way.

As regards the Government's claims about the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, I would say it is a good Scheme. I do not deny it. But I would appeal to the Government – also to some Ministers who are sitting here – that it should not only provide employment or earnings to the poor, the Government should also see to it that the quality of assets created out of this Scheme should be good. It should not

be just a throwaway money of this Government. It should not be a charity, just to give away some money, so that nobody does any work. The asset of quality has to be created. It should be created in the rural areas. That will become a harbinger for the development of those areas. So, as regards the project, it should be prioritized. As hon. Mr. Mahtab says, it is a question of implementation.

Everybody now says that the MPLADS has failed in its objective and so you should scrap it. Why should you scrap it? It is said that it should be scrapped because it has not achieved its purpose. I will just say that I have given one project for Rs. 42 lakh for building a Town Hall in my constituency in Balasore. But, for the last nine months, the plan and estimate is not being approved. What shall I do? You say it is not being implemented. Yes, it is not being implemented. But I am not an Engineer. I am not an official. I do not have the responsibility of passing the plan and estimate. The Government is saying one thing. The district administration said that because the money involved is to the tune of Rs.42 lakh, it could not do it; it would go to Bhubaneswar, it would go to the headquarters and the Chief Engineer would do it. The Chief Engineer said: "What responsibility do I have? I have no interest in that." So, they are not doing it. What can I do? Therefore, it should be seen that there are very strict norms that if any officer fails to discharge his responsibility, he should be punished. There is a system of reward and punishment.

My last point is with regard to this. Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury has mentioned about that. He has left. Shri Mahtab also mentioned about that. It is not a question of lack of money. The most potent point is this. What about the quality of governance? I will first appeal to the most backward States that they should look inwards. Recently, about two or three months back, there was a report of the Transparency International. The Transparency International has viewed that in India, most of the backward States are most corrupt. The first one is Bihar, the second one is Jammu and Kashmir and the third one is all the North-Eastern States. Do you mean to say that only if you give money, then it will prosper? It will not prosper unless it is properly utilised. There is a very close nexus between poverty and corruption. Most of the States are poor. Even in the Transparency International List, I found that the 10 most poor States are in this country. They are also the most corrupt States. The ten most honest States in the world are also the richest. So, there is a close relationship between prosperity and honesty, poverty and corruption. So, that is why, to that extent, we must

also see that the State Governments come forward. Poverty is not only the creation of the Centre or somebody outside but poverty is also, most of the times, a creation of ourselves. Whatever money we get, we do not properly utilise it. So, we should see to it that we look inwards.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Ramadass. You can speak a few words and then continue next time because the time is over.

PROF. M. RAMADASS Sir, I will finish it in ten to twelve minutes. At at the outset, I would like to say that I fully endorse the Resolution moved by our hon. Member and I do agree with him that regional disparities are perpetuated over a period of time. The solution given by the Member is that there should be constitutional changes and the federal structure of the nation must be changed. It is not acceptable to me because regional imbalances that we are seeing today are due to various reasons.... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Ramadass, you can continue next time.

Now the Secretary-General has to read the Messages

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