

Fourteenth Loksabha

Session : 8

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Participants : [Channappa Shri Kunnur Manjunath](#), [Joshi Shri Prahlad](#), [Shivanna Shri M](#), [Ananth Kumar Shri](#)

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Title : Need to release funds for providing relief to the flood affected regions of Karnataka.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI : On one side, 127 *talukas* are suffering with drought and on the other, more than six districts are suffering due to floods. More than 100 people are already dead, and 25 bridges have been submerged. Even where there was no rain, there is a flood situation because water from Koyna Dam was released. The same situation was there last year also, and it was demanded that all the 101 nearby villages which are affected every year because of releasing of water from Koyna Dam should be shifted permanently. In this regard, the then Dharam Singh Government urged the Government of India to provide Rs. 300 crore to shift those villages permanently, but that is pending for the last one year before the Government of India. I urge the Government of India to look into the matter very seriously.

Another issue is that more than 100 people and more than 1,000 cattle were already dead. On the one side, we have floods and on the other, we have a drought situation. The situation in Karnataka is entirely different when compared with other States. In such a situation, the Government of Karnataka has already demanded the Government of India to provide Rs. 1,300 crore as immediate relief. It should be released immediately.

MR. SPEAKER: Let him support you. He is one of the leaders of your Party.

SHRI M. SHIVANNA (CHAMRAJANAGAR): Sir, I associate myself with what he has stated.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (BANGALORE SOUTH): Most parts of the country, particularly in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Bengal and in various other States of the country, are facing severe flood situation. It is an unprecedented national calamity created by nature. As my dear colleague Shri Prahlad Joshi has said, there is a severe flood situation coupled with drought in Karnataka. Nearly 164 *talukas* have been affected, 104 people are already dead, thousands of acres of crops have been lost, and 25 bridges have been totally submerged. Actually, on 8th August, our Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister came to Delhi to meet the hon. Prime Minister, hon. Home Minister and the hon. Agriculture Minister. They have given a memorandum seeking Rs. 1,406 crore as interim relief.

With great pain, I want to say that there has been no relief announced by the Government of India to the State of Karnataka. When representatives of Andhra Pradesh came here as a delegation,

immediately the Union Government has announced a package of Rs. 200 crore as interim grant, and we support that. But there should not be any step-motherly treatment in case of Karnataka.

Therefore, I demand and I want to have the support of the entire House that the States of Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra and various other States should get the interim grant. There should not be any step-motherly treatment in respect of any of the affected States[R8].

Sir, the Union Government is yet to send a study team to Karnataka. A study team must be immediately sent to Karnataka for the assessment of loss of crops, cattle, human lives and infrastructure.

Sir, I take the opportunity of hon. Finance Minister being present here and raise an important issue. We have been pressing the Government in this august House for the last decade for revision of the guidelines of Calamity Relief Fund. The hon. Prime Minister announced earlier that a Group of Ministers would be constituted for this purpose comprising of Home Minister, Finance Minister and the Agriculture Minister for the revision of CRF guidelines. What is being given now for dry lands, for wet lands, for horticulture lands and for crop loss, and loss of human lives is too meagre. It is a pittance. Therefore, we want the Government to revise the CRF guidelines.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a debate. You are raising an important issue.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention and through you the attention of the Government to this. I do not know how many meetings of this Group of Ministers have been convened so far. This callous attitude of Government has not given us any succour to the people of Karnataka.

There is a dam called Koyna dam which has been hanging like a sword on the heads of people of Karnataka. Discharge of water from that reservoir not only affects the southern parts of Maharashtra like Sangli, Satara and Kolhapur, but it also affects the Districts of Belgaum, Bijapur, Bagalkot, Bidar, Gulbarga, and Raichur in Karnataka. These floods are caused not only because of incessant rains, but also because of the discharge of water from Koyna dam. Therefore, this water discharge from Koyna reservoir has to be monitored closely.

MR. SPEAKER: Immediate need has to be met, that is right. You have rightly raised that issue and I permitted it.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, teams have to be sent to Karnataka. Interim relief has to be announced for all the States including the State of Karnataka. We have already placed a demand for Rs.1,406 crore. We also demand that the CRF guidelines must be revised.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ananth Kumar, please cooperate with the Chair.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : The Union Government should immediately come forth with assistance for Karnataka. Thank you.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we want to associate with this.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Members who want to associate may send slips, without disturbing the House. Shri Manjunath Kunnur is associated.

श्री रेवती रमन सिंह (इलाहाबाद) : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, कल सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने एक जजमेंट दिया। ... (ब्यवधान) मैं कोई एसपर्शन कॉस्ट नहीं कर रहा हूं। उस जजमेंट में लोक सभा द्वारा जो बिल पास हुआ था... (ब्यवधान)

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (PURI): Sir, he has come to a different subject.

MR. SPEAKER: Why not?

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : We have to say something about Orissa.

MR. SPEAKER: You have not given any notice. I am not going to allow it. Those hon. Members who have taken the trouble of giving notice in time have been called. I am sorry. I have as much concern for Orissa as any other State.

... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: On your behalf, I would request the Government to look into Orissa also. But show your concern by giving at least one notice.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : We have given notice on other days but the House adjourned on those days.