Title: Need to provide financial assitance to the nomadic tribes facing hardships due to heavy snowfall in Ladakh region of Jammu & Kashmir.

SHRI CHHEWANG THUPSTAN (LADAKH): The entire hill regions of Jammu and Kashmir State experienced unprecedented heavy snowfall which disrupted normal life and caused extensive damages to the life and properties of inhabitants of those areas. The nomadic tribe of Changpas inhabiting northern plateau in Ladakh region whose livelihood depends on cattle rearing had to face lot of problems as the winter pasture in these areas were covered under a thick blanket of snow leaving no blade of grass available for grazing their cattle and animal stock. The Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh and tile District Administration initiated immediate action to make available feed and fodder to these areas but their effort has to be supplemented by sanctioning adequate relief so that the cattle and the animal stock could be saved from perishing. The Defence Ministry was kind enough to make available air sorties to drop feed and fodder in areas where road connectivity could not be restored due to thick snowfall. The entire process of arranging feed and fodder and their transportation to various destinations has cost lot of expenditure. The Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council and the District Administration have sent urgent call for relief to the Central Government through State Government. I would like to request the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Government of India to sanction adequate relief to Ladakh region and other areas of the State where unforeseen expenditure had to be incurred due to unprecedented heavy snowfall this year. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 28th February, 2008 at 11.00 a.m.

12.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock

on Thursday, February 28, 2008/Phalguna 9, 1929 (Saka). [r2]

[k1]fld by b1

[2] Friday, March 10, 2000/Phalguna 20, 1921 (Saka).