

C O N T E N T S

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THE SPEAKER

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Dr. M. Thambidurai

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Shri Arjun Charan Sethi

Shri Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav

Shri Anandrao Adsul

Shri Pralhad Joshi

Dr. Ratna De (Nag)

Shri Ramen Deka

Shri Konakalla Narayana Rao

Shri Hukum Singh

Shri K.H. Muniyappa

Dr. P. Venugopal

SECRETARY GENERAL

Shri Anoop Mishra

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, December 2, 2015/Agrahayana 11, 1937 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[HON. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have received notices of Adjournment Motion on various subjects. The matters, though important, do not warrant interruption of the business of the day. The issues can be raised through other means and some issues have already been discussed. I have, therefore, disallowed all the notices of Adjournment Motion.

... (*Interruptions*)

11.02 hours

(At this stage, Shri Kodikunnil Sursh and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपको बाद में मौका मिलेगा।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपका कोई नोटिस ही नहीं है, आप बैठ जाइए

... (व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: What is your matter? You have not given any notice.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Madam, normally we do not agree for Adjournment Motion. That has been the practice earlier also and now also... (*Interruptions*). You just hear me. What is this? Do you have veto to do everything? In such cases, the decision of the Speaker is final.

What I would like to suggest is that the situation in Chennai and other parts of Tamil Nadu is becoming very precarious. So, if any issue has to be taken up on priority, it should be the flood situation in Chennai and other parts of Tamil Nadu and also in Andhra Pradesh... (*Interruptions*). For the last 22 days, Chennai city is in water. The airport runway is in water. That is why, as a Minister of Parliamentary Affairs I have no problem in accepting the notice given by our friends from different sides to take up this issue on priority as an exception. It is because more than 180 people have died and thousands of passengers are stranded

at various places. The trains have been cancelled. The hon. Prime Minister has spoken to the hon. Chief Minister also. The Army and the Navy have been alerted. So, we need to discuss it. The House should show some concern about the State where the situation is becoming precarious. Chennai is in neck-deep water.

Therefore, I appeal to all people including my friends from the Congress and Communist Parties also to please on a humanitarian consideration let us discuss this issue on priority. We should express solidarity with the people who are suffering for the last 25 days. This is not to criticize any Government. The Centre and the State Governments are doing their best. So, the Parliament should be seen expressing concern over such a situation. That is why, I would appeal to the entire House including the Speaker to please take up that on priority.

HON. SPEAKER: There is a notice on this issue. We will decide about it.

11.03 hours**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

HON. SPEAKER: Now Q. No. 41, Shri Sushil Kumar Singh.

(Q. 41)

श्री सुशील कुमार सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदया, मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर के भाग 'क' में स्वीकार किया है कि चालू वित्त वर्ष में भारत में कुल 136 भूकंप आ चुके हैं। ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप सब बैठ जाइये।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री सुशील कुमार सिंह: अध्यक्ष महोदया, 25 अप्रैल, 2015 को जो भूकंप आया, उसमें नेपाल के साथ-साथ भारतीय क्षेत्र में भी भारी जान-माल का नुकसान हुआ। ... (व्यवधान) उसमें कुल 102 मौतें हुई हैं, जिसमें बिहार में सबसे अधिक 79, उत्तर प्रदेश में 19, पश्चिम बंगाल में 3 और राजस्थान में 1 मौत हुई है। ... (व्यवधान) मंत्री जी ने यह भी स्वीकार किया है कि इसमें लगभग 13 हजार घरों को नुकसान पहुंचने की रिपोर्ट मिली है। ... (व्यवधान) सबसे अधिक हानि बिहार में हुई है, जिसमें 140 लाख रुपये की आवासीय सम्पत्ति का नुकसान हुआ था। ... (व्यवधान)

महोदया, मुझे इस 140 लाख रुपये की आवासीय सम्पत्ति के नुकसान पर ही संदेह है। ... (व्यवधान) संभवतः यह आंकड़ा कहीं न कहीं गलत है। ... (व्यवधान) 13 हजार मकानों को नुकसान हुआ और मात्र एक करोड़ 40 लाख रुपये का नुकसान कहीं असंगत लगता है। ... (व्यवधान) एक तरफ मंत्री जी ने यह कहा है कि भारतीय विवर्तनिकी प्लेट की गतिविधि के अध्ययन तथा विश्लेषण हेतु किसी समिति का गठन नहीं किया गया, फिर भी ईएसएसओ, एनसीएम, एनजीआरआई, एफपीआई बेंगलुरु, आईआईजी मुंबई, डब्ल्यूआईएचजी देहरादून के अध्ययन से पता चलता है कि भारतीय प्लेट 5 से.मी. प्रति वर्ष की दर से पूर्वोत्तर की ओर खिसक रही है। ... (व्यवधान)

मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि जब प्रति वर्ष 5 से.मी. की दर से भारतीय प्लेट खिसक रही है ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न है, इसलिए कृपया आप सब अपनी-अपनी सीटों पर जाइये।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री सुशील कुमार सिंह : क्यों नहीं, इन सारे अनुसंधान संस्थानों को मिलाकर एक समिति का गठन किया जाये, जो इसका व्यापक रूप से अध्ययन करे और भूकंप से होने वाली क्षति का पूर्वानुमान करे।

...(व्यवधान) उसका आकलन करे, ताकि भूकंप से पहले लोग सचेत हों और नुकसान कम हो सके।

...(व्यवधान)

मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि सरकार क्यों नहीं एक समिति का गठन करे। ... (व्यवधान)

डॉ. हर्ष वर्धन : अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैंने माननीय सदस्य को अपने उत्तर में यह जानकारी दी है कि यह विषय इतना बृहद् और विस्तार के साथ अध्ययन करने का है। ... (व्यवधान) सरकार के बड़े-बड़े प्रतिष्ठित संस्थानों के बहुत सारे वैज्ञानिक लगातार इसके ऊपर विचार-विमर्श करते हैं और सारे डाटाज को एक्सचेंज करते हैं।

...(व्यवधान) इस प्रकार के विषय को कोई दो-चार लोगों की कमेटी अध्ययन नहीं कर सकती है, क्योंकि यह बहुत ही विस्तार का विषय है। ... (व्यवधान) उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि सरकार को इस संबंध में रिलीफ

आपरेशन इत्यादि करना आवश्यक है। ... (व्यवधान) इसके लिए देश में नेशनल डिजास्टर मैनेजमेंट अथारिटी और स्टेट में स्टेट डिजास्टर मैनेजमेंट अथारिटी है। ... (व्यवधान) एक नेशनल डिजास्टर रिस्पांस फोर्स है। हम अभी नेपाल के अर्थक्वेक से प्रभावित हुए थे, जिसके कारण बिहार, बंगाल और राजस्थान में नुकसान हुआ।

...(व्यवधान) हमारी सरकार के नेशनल डिजास्टर रिस्पांस फोर्स की प्रमाणिकता को सारे विश्व ने देखा।

...(व्यवधान) यानी नेपाल से पहले भारत ने वहां पर अपना रिलीफ आपरेशन शुरू कर दिया था। हमारी ये सारी एक्टिविटीज प्रारंभ हो गयी थी। प्रधान मंत्री जी के ट्विटर से वहां के राष्ट्राध्यक्ष को, उनके देश में जो कुछ हो रहा है, उसकी जानकारी मिली। ... (व्यवधान) जहां तक अर्थक्वेक की बात है, तो दुनिया में इसके लिए जितनी भी एडवांसमेंट हुई है, भूचाल को पहले से प्रिडिक्ट करना तो संभव नहीं है। ... (व्यवधान) यह

दुनिया में जितने भी बड़े भूचाल आए हैं, चाहे चीन में भूचाल आया, 1995 में कोबे में आया, 1992 में कैलीफोर्निया में आया लेकिन पहले से भूचाल को प्रिडिक्ट नहीं कर पाए। लेकिन हमने गढ़वाल और कुमाऊं

रीज़न में 100 ऐसे स्टेशन बनाए हैं और आईआईटी रुड़की ताईवान के साथ अध्ययन कर रहा है। अभी अफगानिस्तान में भूचाल आया, मान लीजिए हमें एमरजेंसी ऑपरेशन मिनटों में करना है, हम इसके लिए

अर्ली वार्निंग सिस्टम डैवलप करने के लिए एक मॉडल विकसित कर रहे हैं। इस मॉडल को आने वाले समय में दिल्ली से भी कनेक्ट किया जाएगा। पूरे देश में कई बड़े शहर जैसे दिल्ली, कोलकाता को इसमें लिया जा चुका है, काफी हद तक बंगलौर को भी लिया जा चुका है, इसके अलावा तीन और शहरों को

माइक्रो जोन्स में लिया जा चुका है। एक बड़े जोन के अलावा चार जोन्स में भूचाल के हिसाब से सारे देश को डिवाइड किया गया है कि किस इंटेन्सिटी का भूचाल आने और कितने रिस्क की संभावना है। हम इस तरह से माइक्रो जोनेशन भी कर रहे हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि विज्ञान की दृष्टि से जो भी संभव हो सकता है,

सब कुछ भारत में हो रहा है। इस समय भारत अर्ली वार्निंग सिस्टम या सुनामी के अर्ली वार्निंग की दृष्टि से दुनिया के समकक्ष खड़ा है। हम बहुत सी चीजों में दुनिया से बेहतर हैं।

श्री सुशील कुमार सिंह: माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में इस विषय की व्यापकता को स्वीकार किया है। मैं माननीय प्रधानमंत्री को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि भारत सरकार ने नेपाल में नेपाल सरकार से पहले राहत पहुंचाई। इस कार्य को पूरी दुनिया ने देखा और सराहा है। यह विषय बहुत व्यापक है और कम से कम चार मंत्रालयों से जुड़ा मामला है। जहां यह पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय का मामला है, वहीं एनडीआरएफ, गृह मंत्रालय, भवनों का नक्शा डिजाइन, नगर विकास मंत्रालय के साथ जुड़ा मामला भी है। मुआवजे की बात वित्त मंत्रालय से जुड़े मामले में आती है। चार मंत्रालयों से जुड़ा यह विषय बहुत व्यापक है। मैंने पहले ही कहा कि बिहार में 13,000 घरों का नुकसान हुआ जबकि मात्र 140 लाख रुपए के नुकसान का अनुमान लगाया गया। मुझे यह आंकड़ा सही नहीं लगता है। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस आंकड़े की जांच दोबारा कराएंगे?

जहां तक मुआवजे की बात है, बीमा कंपनियां भूकम्प आने पर हुए नुकसान की क्षतिपूर्ति नहीं करती बल्कि कह देती हैं कि यह एक्ट आफ गॉड है। वह इसे नैचुरल कैलेमिटी न मानकर एक्ट आफ गॉड मान लेती हैं और मुआवजे का भुगतान नहीं करती हैं। जब चार मंत्रालय इस विषय में सन्निहित हैं तो क्या इनके कोऑर्डिनेशन के लिए कोई ऐसी कमेटी बनेगी या कोई व्यवस्था सरकार की तरफ से होगी जिससे कि भूकम्प आने से पहले से भूकम्प आने तक राहत दी जा सके? इसके साथ ही मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह भी पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार मकान के डिजाइन्स और मुआवजे के भुगतान करने की कोई योजना बनाएंगी?

डॉ. हर्ष वर्धन: माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, माननीय सदस्य ने कई बातें एक साथ कही हैं। उन्होंने शक जताया है कि शायद 140 लाख रुपए के नुकसान की सूचना ठीक नहीं है। मैंने यह जानकारी बिहार की स्टेट डिजास्टर मैनेजमेंट अथारिटी के माध्यम से प्राप्त की है। कहने के लिए ये 13,000 मकान हैं, छोटे-छोटे कच्चे मकान हैं। मुझे भी सुनकर शुरु में आश्चर्य हुआ था कि यह सूचना कहां से और कैसे प्राप्त की गई है, जब मैंने इसे वेरिफाई करने की कोशिश की तो मेरा शक कम हुआ। लेकिन चूंकि माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है, इसलिए मैं दुबारा से बिहार के जो अधिकारी हैं, उनसे इसके बारे में जानकारी प्राप्त कर लूंगा। जहां तक सरकार का सवाल है, सरकार के ब्यूरो ऑफ स्टैंडर्ड है। उसके माध्यम से अलग अलग जोन्स जहां पर भूचाल के दुष्प्रभाव से प्रभावित होने की संभावना होती है, वहां किस प्रकार के मकान उनके लिए होने चाहिए, क्या क्या बिल्डिंग कोड्स होने चाहिए, क्या क्या इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर के अंदर हो, मान लीजिए कि

कोई दूसरे रेलवे स्टेशंस हैं, दूसरी ऑथोरिटीज हैं, उन सबके लिए क्या क्या बिल्डिंग कोड्स होने चाहिए या जो पुराने बने हुए मकान हैं, उनके लिए क्या रिट्रोफिटिंग्स के कोड होने चाहिए, इन सबको सरकार ने बड़े पैमाने पर प्रसारित किया है। जो हमारी नेशनल डिजास्टर मैनेजमेंट ऑथोरिटी है, वह स्टेट ऑथोरिटीज के साथ मिलकर लगातार ड्रिल्स करती हैं, जिसमें मॉक एक्सरसाइजेज होती हैं, वह स्कूलों में होती हैं, कॉलेजों में होती हैं, रेलवे स्टेशंस पर होती हैं, सड़कों पर होती हैं, तमाम सरकारी और गैर-सरकारी संस्थानों में होती हैं, समय समय पर होती हैं, निरन्तरता के साथ होती हैं जिसमें लोगों को यह बताया जाता है कि भूचाल आने पर क्या किया जाए, किस प्रकार से उनको शिक्षित किया जाए, किस प्रकार के उनको प्रकाशंस लेने चाहिए, इन सबकी जानकारी दी जाती है। उन्होंने कमेटी के बारे में जो कहा तो मैं उनको बताना चाहता हूं कि उनके प्रश्न में ही उत्तर निहित है क्योंकि यह इतना बड़ा विषय है जिसके लिए हमारे सारे बड़े विभागों के बड़े अधिकारी लगातार कोआर्डिनेशन के साथ काम करते हैं, उसको दो चार व्यक्तियों की कमेटी के माध्यम से इतने बृहद विषय को डील नहीं किया जा सकता।

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please go to your seats.

... (Interruptions)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : देखिए, यह अच्छी बात नहीं है, कल दिन भर इस विषय पर चर्चा हुई। गृह मंत्री ने इस पर विस्तृत उत्तर दिया है। It is not proper. Now, please go to your seats.

...(व्यवधान)

SHRI P. NAGARAJAN: With the blessing of our hon. leader, *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma*, I am raising an important question in this august House.

The research on seismic and tectonic activities has to be precise and accurate. Even earthquakes cause heavy damage to life and property if the strength of the earthquake is higher in Richter scale and its epicentre is near. Earthquakes occurring in oceans are far more dangerous as they cause tsunami which will be devastating, like the one happened on 26th December, 2004 in Tamil Nadu. The relief and damage control measures taken by the State Government of Tamil Nadu under the dynamic leadership of our beloved Chief Minister *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma* were hailed by all the leaders and relief organisations, both in India and world over.

Now, a similar national disaster has taken place in Tamil Nadu by way of rainfall. There is a heavy rainfall in Tamil Nadu. A lot of people have lost their lives; and properties were also badly damaged in the heavy rainfall.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the various logistics, technological and financial support provided by the Government to observe seismic and tectonic activities in the Indian Ocean region in the aftermath of devastating tsunami 2004.

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: I appreciate the concern of the hon. Member. I wish to inform him that after the tragedy which occurred on 26th December, 2004, post-tsunami India has developed the best possible system in the whole world. Our early warning system for tsunami is rated as one of the best in the world. We are even providing information to almost two dozen countries across the coasts.

So, I can say with certainty that our INCOIS in Hyderabad and Chennai related to our Ministry of Earth Sciences have developed state-of-the art system which collects information round the clock, every moment, every second. This information is compiled and on the basis of that information early warning signals are given. The recent example is the Hud Hud cyclone and the earthquake in the sea in 2012.

He has also made a mention of the recent rains about which there is a thought process to have a discussion in the House also. I feel proud of my officers that four days before this all started happening in Chennai, our Department had predicted everything with great accuracy. It informed everyone including the State Government, the State Disaster Management Authorities, the National Disaster Management Authorities, the flood relief people, the fishermen and the farmers. Everyone has been informed. We are in touch with them. This part of Tamil Nadu normally gets at least 49 per cent rainfall. So, it is all actually happening in relation to what actually is the probable thing to happen there. But whatever our Department can do to scientifically analyse and inform the relevant

authorities, we have been able to do that. We have the state of the art application in this particular field. The hon. Member can be assured of that.

श्री डी.एस.राठौड़: अध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि भारत में भूकम्प की एडवांस जानकारी प्राप्त हो सके, इस विषय में ज्यादा शोध करने के लिए क्या विकसित देशों जैसे हाईटेक रिसर्च सेंटर स्थापित किए गए हैं? क्या ऐसा कोई शोध सेंटर स्थापित करने का आयोजन किया गया है या किसी तरह की धनराशि देने का प्रावधान किया गया है? क्या राज्यवार ऐसे शोध केंद्र स्थापित करने की किसी तरह की कोई योजना है?

डॉ. हर्ष वर्धन : महोदया, मैंने शुरू में ही बताया था कि जहां तक भूकम्प के प्रिडक्शन का सवाल है, आज की तारीख में दुनिया के अंदर जो भी वैज्ञानिक जानकारी उपलब्ध है उसके तहत हम भूकम्प की जानकारी पहले से नहीं दे सकते हैं। अगर किसी स्थान पर भूकम्प आया है, उसकी जानकारी हम जल्दी से प्राप्त करके अपने देश में ऐसे सिस्टम्स को समय पर सूचित कर सके जैसे मान लीजिए कि हमें अपने यहां पावर सिस्टम को बंद करना है, रेल को बंद करना है या गैस पाइप लाइन में गैस की सप्लाई को रोकना है, इस तरह की आपातकालीन स्थिति के लिए हमारे यहां पहले से ही आईआईटी रुड़की और ताइवान की सहायता से हमारे गढ़वाल-कुमाऊं रीजन में 100 स्टेशन स्टेट आफ दि आर्ट लगाए हैं और उनके आधार पर हम सारी सूचना, डेटा क्लेक्ट करके भूकम्प के संदर्भ में जो भी पहले से किया जा सकता है, उसे करने की तैयारी कर रहे हैं।

इसके अलावा हमारा नेशनल सेंटर फार सिसमोलोजी है, उसने भूकंप की मोनिटरिंग के लिए सारे देश में 80 स्टेशंस का एक नेटवर्क बनाया है। इसके अलावा दो टेलीमीटरी क्लस्टर हैं। एक दिल्ली में है और इसके आस-पास के इलाके में है जिसके अंदर 16 स्टेशंस हैं। एक नार्थ-ईस्ट इंडिया में है, जिसके अंदर 20 स्टेशंस हैं। इसके अलावा करीब 150 ओब्जर्वेटरीज भी हम लोग मेनटेन कर रहे हैं जो कि राज्य सरकार और केंद्र सरकार की मदद से, यूनीवर्सिटीज की मदद से, रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूशंस और दूसरी एजेंसीज की मदद से की जा रही हैं। इन 80 नम्बर स्टेशंस को अगले साल तक 150 स्टेशंस के अंदर बढ़ाकर परिवर्तित करने के लिए हम प्रयास कर रहे हैं। दुनिया में जो भी मार्डन रिसर्च इस संबंध में हो रही है, उसके समकक्ष भारत के अंदर भी इसी संदर्भ में काम हो रहा है।

SHRI PREM DAS RAI: Madam, I am very much grateful to the hon. Minister for giving a very exhaustive explanation to the kind of work that is being done by this Department especially in the area of earthquake and seismology. I would like to just make a mention that around the world today, especially in the Himalayan

Region, we are very much prone not only to earthquakes but also earthquakes trigger landslides and such like disasters. So, I would like to ask the hon. Minister, through you, Madam, this thing. Climate change and seismic activity will double in the years to come. How are we preparing for such kinds of disasters? Insofar as the area of Sikkim and that particular region is concerned, we are very well aware that any time now, we are ready for a major earthquake. What are we going to do about that? May I request the hon. Minister to answer this? Thank you very much. ... (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : कृपया अपनी सीट पर जाएँ। देश के संदर्भ में बहुत महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न चल रहा है।

... (व्यवधान)

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: I would like to tell the hon. Member that the strategy is not specific to any particular city or place. We have basically considered the whole country and divided it into four zones... (*Interruptions*) Further, in the zones also, in the cities also, as I have said, we have done microzonation mechanism considering which place is more prone and which place is less prone. Depending upon the micro zones also, there are different strategies of different nature regarding advisory, regarding planning... (*Interruptions*)

As far as climate change as also global warming issue is concerned, within our own Ministry also, whatever suggestions and whatever research has to be done, that is also being done. We are coordinating with all the Ministries including the Ministry of Environment. I can assure the hon. Member that his concern about Sikkim and nearby areas is valid because they are definitely more prone to earthquakes and all these seismic activities. We will make sure that no stone is left unturned to basically take care of these issues in the future.

(Q. 42)

श्रीमती पूनम महाजन: आदरणीय अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहती हूँ, सवाल का जवाब मुझे मिला, लेकिन जब मैं आदरणीय मंत्री महोदय से फ्लड अर्ली वार्निंग सिस्टम के बारे में पूछ रही थी, तो दो विषयों के उत्तर के संदर्भ में मुझे ज्यादा समझ में नहीं आया। हम इस देश में हर वक्त सूखा और बाढ़ को एक्सट्रिमिटी में देखते हैं। सूखे के लिए मॉडर्न सिक्युरिटी का अभ्यास होना बहुत जरूरी है। उसी प्रकार से हम बाढ़ के संबंध में जितनी जल्दी लोगों को वार्निंग दे सकेंगे, उतना ही किसानों के लिए फलदायी होगा। मैंने एक प्रश्न पूछा था कि 24 घंटे पहले रेन-फोरकास्ट हो सकता है या नहीं, तो उसमें लिखा गया था, नहीं। लेकिन स्टैंडिंग कमेटी की डिमांड्स फॉर ग्रांट्स की जो 255वीं रिपोर्ट्स थीं, उसमें डिपार्टमेंट के सेक्रेट्री ने कहा था कि 31 मार्च, 2015 में “We have the ability to make forecast for 24 hours before the rainfall.” लेकिन यहाँ पर उत्तर ‘नहीं’ में दिया गया था। मैं यहाँ पर इस प्रकार से सवाल पूछना चाहती हूँ कि बंगलादेश हमारा नजदीकी राष्ट्र है और मित्र राष्ट्र है, उसने ज्वाइंट इनिशिएटिव नासा और यूएस एड के साथ जेएसएन-2 सैटेलाइट के साथ अपना संदर्भ रखा और उस सैटेलाइट के द्वारा बंगलादेश में नौ जगहों पर दिन पहले फ्लड वार्निंग सिस्टम से आठ दिन पहले फोरकास्ट किया जाता है कि ज्यादा बारिश कब होगी और नौ जगहों पर ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी और गंगा नदी से कितनी बाढ़ आ सकती है। वहाँ इतने अच्छे रूप से काम हो रहा है और आठ दिन पहले वहाँ के लोगों को इसकी वार्निंग मिल जाती है। क्या हम सार्क देशों के रूप में इस काम को कर सकते हैं? प्रधानमंत्री खुद ही वर्ष 2014 में अमेरिका गये थे और वहाँ पर यूएस इन द ज्वाइंट वर्किंग ग्रुप में सिविल स्पेस पर एग्रीमेंट किया था। वर्ष 2021 में नासा और इसरो का एक निसार सैटेलाइट भी आ रहा है। लेकिन उसके पहले नासा का उपयोग करके बंगलादेश और नेपाल उसका फायदा उठा रहे हैं। सार्क के डिजास्टर मैनेजमेंट सिस्टम का पूर्ण केन्द्र दिल्ली में है। सार्क के साथ टाय-अप करके, जिस प्रकार से बंगलादेश इसका फायदा ले रहा है, क्या हम उसका फायदा लेकर भारत में इसका उपयोग कर सकते हैं?

डॉ. जितेन्द्र सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदया, आदरणीय सदस्या की चिन्ता उचित है और आज की परिस्थिति में इसका एक महत्व यह भी बनता है, जैसा उल्लेख आ रहा था कि तमिलनाडु में भी इस प्रकार की बारिश हुई है और बाढ़ की स्थिति उत्पन्न हुई है। उनके प्रश्न में दो-तीन बातें आ गयी हैं। पहले तो यह स्पष्ट करना आवश्यक है कि हमारा जो डिजास्टर प्रोटेक्शन का मैकेनिज्म है, वह किसी भी तरह से किसी भी दूसरे देश की तुलना में कम नहीं है।

जहां तक दूसरे देशों का उससे लाभ उठाने का सवाल है, निश्चित ही सेटेलाइट के द्वारा जो इमेजेज उपलब्ध होती हैं, क्योंकि उन्हें मालूम नहीं होता कि कहां हिन्दुस्तान की हद खत्म होती है और पाकिस्तान की हद शुरू होती है, इसलिए आस-पास के सारे देशों को उसका लाभ मिलता है। अजीब संयोग है कि आज फ्लड की प्रेडिक्शन की जो बात आई है, होता यह है कि रेनफाल की प्रेडिक्शन एकुरेटली करने का प्रावधान है और आज भी जब मैं इस समय यहां बात कर रहा हूं, तमिलनाडु में इस समय जो बारिश चल रही है, उसके बारे में 72 घण्टे पहले हमारे स्पेस टेक्नोलॉजी विभाग की ओर से भविष्यवाणी की गयी थी कि 175 सेंटीमीटर बारिश होने वाली है। अभी मैं यह नहीं कह सकता कि 175 सेंटीमीटर बारिश हो गयी या नहीं। जो बाढ़ की परिस्थिति है, **that is not directly correlated to the rainfall prediction.** बाढ़ आएगी या नहीं, **It depends on a number of other determinants.** उदाहरण के लिए, वहां पानी का बहाव कैसा है, नदी का डिस्चार्ज कैसा है और आजकल के जमाने में जो बातें सामने आती हैं कि कहीं एनक्रोचमेंट हो गयी, जिससे उसका आउटफ्लो ब्लॉक हो गया, कहीं रिवर बेड इरोड हो गया। ... (व्यवधान) जिस प्रकार चेन्नई में छोटी-छोटी नदियों के निकास के कारण यह स्थिति उत्पन्न हुई है। हालांकि लगभग हर दस वर्ष में इस प्रकार की बारिश तमिलनाडु और चेन्नई में देखने को मिलती है। पिछले कुछ महीनों में एवं गत एक-दो वर्षों में इस प्रकार की परिस्थिति अन्य जगहों पर भी देखने को मिली, जैसे पिछले वर्ष श्रीनगर में बाढ़ आई थी। उस समय भी ऐसा हुआ। ... (व्यवधान) परन्तु जहां तक फोरकास्ट का प्रश्न है, उसमें किसी प्रकार की कमी नहीं है। यदि तमिलनाडु के सन्दर्भ में बात करें, मैं आपको बताना चाहूंगा कि इसके बारे में हमने पिछले तीन-चार दिनों के अंदर ही, 11 नवम्बर, 14 नवम्बर, 17 नवम्बर और 22 नवम्बर को बताया गया था। 11 नवम्बर को बाढ़ आने से पहले ही यह भविष्यवाणी कर दी गयी थी कि चिदम्बरम और कुडलूर के क्षेत्र सबसे ज्यादा प्रभावित होंगे। फ्लड आएगी या नहीं, वह रेनफाल के बाद पता चलता है। जहां तक फ्लड अर्ली वार्निंग सिस्टम की बात है, माननीय सदस्य ने उत्तर पूर्व और बांग्लादेश को लेकर बहुत अच्छा सुझाव दिया। वास्तविकता यह है कि फ्लड अर्ली वार्निंग सिस्टम का विचार उत्तर पूर्व क्षेत्र को लेकर ही आया था और असम की ओर से उसका सुझाव आया था। पहले हमारी रेनफाल प्रेडिक्शन मात्र सेटेलाइट इमेजेज पर आधारित थी, परन्तु सेटेलाइट इमेजेज और डॉप्लर रडार, दोनों को मिलाकर उसकी एकुरेसी बढ़ गयी। यह प्रयोग बड़ा सफल रहा है, अब इसको आन्ध्र प्रदेश और बिहार में भी उपयोग में लाया जा रहा है, ग्लेशियर लेक्स पर भी प्रयोग में लाया जा रहा है और तमिलनाडु के संबंध में भी प्रयोग में लाया जा रहा है। कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि यदि यह कह दिया जाए कि फ्लड क्यों आया, यदि भविष्यवाणी हुई थी, तो यह उचित नहीं होगा क्योंकि किस जगह पर कितनी

बारिश होती है, what is the outcome is dependant on the local conditions prevailing over there.

श्रीमती पूनम महाजन: मैडम, दो प्रश्नों का उन्होंने पहले ही अच्छा जवाब दिया है, लेकिन बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बात उन्होंने चेन्नई के बारे में कही, जो मैं पूछने वाली थी। चेन्नई ही नहीं, मैं मुंबई शहर से आती हूँ, जिस प्रकार से अर्बनाइजेशन बढ़ता जा रहा है, अर्बनाइजेशन जैसे बहुत से कारण होंगे, जिनकी वजह से नेचुरल डिजास्टर और मेनमेड डिजास्टर साथ में आकर लोगों को तकलीफ पहुंचाते हैं। लेकिन चाहे मुंबई शहर हो...(व्यवधान) सूरत में भी बाढ़ आई थी और ऐसी ही बाढ़ अभी चेन्नई में आई है। इसके लिए आइएमडी, सेंट्रल वाटर कमीशन और इसरो साथ में मिलकर ...(व्यवधान) मैंने एक रिपोर्ट भी पढ़ी थी, वर्ष 2011 की तीन पेज की रिपोर्ट थी, उसमें यह लिखा गया था...(व्यवधान) कि हम किसानों को, अंतरिक्ष में जो सेटेलाइट इमेजेज हैं, जहां पर ज्यादा बाढ़ आने वाली है, वह दे सकते हैं। अब तक उसके लिए अंतरिक्ष कारपोरेशन के साथ टाई-अप हुआ है, लेकिन लोगों तक वह पहुंच नहीं पा रहा है। अब चेन्नई में जो बाढ़ आई है, आपने बहुत अच्छे करेक्टिव मेजर्स लिए हैं, लोगों को बताया है, लेकिन जैसा मुंबई में मीठी नदी की वजह से हुआ, सूरत और चेन्नई में हुआ था, क्यों न वाटर लेवल राइज होते वक्त हम म्यूनिसिपल कारपोरेशन के साथ इसरो टाई-अप करे और उनको अगर ज्यादा सेटेलाइट इमेजेज पहले दें तो वह ज्यादा लाभदायी होगा।

डॉ. जितेन्द्र सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदया, माननीय सदस्य की चिंता उचित है। वास्तविकता यह है कि इस प्रकार की वार्निंग दी भी जा रही है। स्पेस इसरो की ओर से भुवन पोर्टल है, वेबसाइट पर उसको समय-समय पर अपडेट किया जाता है। साथ ही साथ गृह मंत्रालय की ओर से नेशनल डिजास्टर एजुकेशन मैनेजमेंट का एक पोर्टल अलग से चलता है। वहां बारिश क्यों आयी और उसके क्या परिणाम, यह तो वहां की स्थानीय परिस्थितियों पर निर्भर करता है। जैसा कि इन्होंने सूरत और मुंबई का उल्लेख किया, लेकिन हम उस सब में न जाते हुए, जहां तक इसरो का संबंध है फोरकॉस्ट और मौसम की भविष्यवाणी अब लगभग शत-प्रतिशत एक्जोरेट हो रही है। हालांकि इस एक्जोरेसी में तीन दिन पहले जो फोरकॉस्ट की जाती है, वह एक्जोरेट होती है। उसके बाद भी हम उन तीन दिनों के भीतर अपडेट्स देते रहते हैं।

DR. RATNA DE (NAG): Madam Speaker, of late, Flood Early Warning System has not helped considerably. So, a holistic view needs to be taken if we want to ensure a successful Flood Early Warning System. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to what type of surveillance capability has been created by the

Government to provide accurate information about floods to farmers and fishermen who venture into sea.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Madam, I agree with the hon. Member that the subject is too serious to be dealt with only by a single Minister. There are three or four Ministries that are actually involved in dealing with this subject. As far as the Department of Space and ISRO is concerned, the responsibility of this Department is to provide forecast *via* satellites and radars. Then, at the same time, the Home Ministry also comes into the picture which is actually the nodal Ministry because some of the aspects which are being referred to by the hon. Member are dealt with by the National Disaster Management Authority which comes under the purview of the Home Ministry. Then, the third Ministry which is also involved is the Ministry of Earth Science about which the question was being asked earlier to this question. Now, inputs from all these three Ministries and other related Ministries are put forward through various mechanisms, through radio broadcasts, SMS systems and, in fact, now-a-days we also have a provision of providing forecasts for the farmers through SMS which is done through the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

Therefore, I would just say that I agree with the hon. Member, but the forecast itself is a very dicey process. I was going through the definition of 'forecast' last night when I thought I have to answer this question today. But I could not find a proper meaning. In one dictionary, the only definition of 'forecast' is, it is prediction of the value of some variable at some future time. So, you can understand how difficult it is. But in spite of that, due to the synergies of these various Ministries, a fairly good job is being done.

श्री राम मोहन नायडू किंजरापु: अध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं मंत्री जी के द्वारा दिए गए लिखित उत्तर को पढ़ रहा था। उसमें मैंने देखा कि डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ स्पेस में कई सारे ऑर्गेनाइजेशन हैं, जो अलग-अलग राज्यों के साथ काम कर रहे हैं। असम के साथ नॉर्थ-ईस्ट अप्लीकेशन सेंटर है और गोदावरी फ्लड के लिए नेशनल रिमोट सेंसिंग सेंटर है। हमारा एक और स्पेस अप्लीकेशन सेंटर अहमदाबाद में है जो एक्सपेरिमेंट लेवल पर

काम कर रहा है। इस तरह से कई सारे ऑर्गेनाइजेशनस हैं जो इंडीपेंडेंटली आइसोलेशन में काम कर रहे हैं, जबकि हमारा मकसद एक ही है कि हमें फ्लड वॉर्निंग सिस्टम को प्रिडिक्ट करना है तो मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार की कोई एक नोडल एजेंसी बनाने का विचार है, जिससे हम इन सभी सेंटर्स और अप्लीकेशनस को इंटीग्रेट कर सकें। जब हमारा मकसद एक ही है। हम सभी को इंटीग्रेट करके एक एजेंसी बनाएं। आज वातावरण में इतना बदलाव आ चुका है कि कहीं पर भी कुछ भी हो सकता है। उसका उदाहरण चेन्नई और दक्षिण आंध्र प्रदेश है। हमारे रायल सीमा डिस्ट्रिक्ट चित्तूर, कड़प्पा या नेल्लोर की बात करें तो पिछले 60-70 साल में कभी इतनी वर्षा नहीं हुई, जितनी अब हो रही है। पूरे साल का एवरेज देखा जाए तो 1.94 सेंटीमीटर्स ही बारिश होती थी, लेकिन इस बार 5 सेंटीमीटर से ज्यादा वर्षा वहां हुई है। हमारे पास प्रिडिक्शन के लिए एक भी एजेन्सी नहीं है, जहां से हम कुछ कंसल्ट करें या कुछ सलाह लें। इसलिए यह मेरा प्रश्न भी है और सजेशन भी है कि ऐसी एक एजेन्सी बना सकते हैं और जो होलिस्टिक एप्रोच की हो। रत्ना जी भी कह रही थीं कि बाकी मिनिस्ट्रीज से भी एक इंफार्मेशन लें। It is because, this is high time that we took this problem seriously because of the global climate change. Thank you, Madam.... (*Interruptions*)

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Speaker, Madam, the suggestion of the hon. Member is well taken. ... (*Interruptions*) There are already in place inter-Centre teams and inter-Ministerial teams and also inter-State teams. ... (*Interruptions*) Just as we have the National Disaster Management Authority in the Centre, we have the disaster management wings even in the individual States.... (*Interruptions*) और उसका आपस में भी समन्वय करने का प्रोसैस चलता रहता है, यह प्रक्रिया निरंतर चलती रहती है। अब कहीं-कहीं पहले जो प्रदेश प्रति वर्ष या समय-समय पर ही बाढ़ से ग्रस्त होते रहते थे, वहां उसकी विजिबिलिटी ज्यादा नजर आती है। इसी कारण जो फ्लड एडवांस वार्निंग का सिस्टम था, इसकी शुरुआत असम से हुई, क्योंकि असम एक ऐसा प्रदेश था। अब जम्मू-कश्मीर में इसे लेकर उस प्रदेश की ओर से ज्यादा कोई रुचि नहीं थी, शायद इसका कारण यह था कि वहां पहले कभी बाढ़ नहीं आई थी। लेकिन पिछले वर्ष जब बाढ़ आई तो उसके बाद वहां भी उन्होंने इसका पूरा उपयोग लेना शुरू कर दिया है।

जहां तक स्पेस डिपार्टमेंट का संबंध है, जैसा मैंने कहा कि हमारे पास भुवन का जो पोर्टल है, उसमें सभी प्रदेशों को लेकर तथा प्रदेशों से बाहर भारत की सीमा से बाहर के भी कुछ क्षेत्र चूंकि उसमें रिफ्लैक्ट हो जाते हैं, इसलिए उनकी समय-समय पर भविष्यवाणी दी जाती है। फिर भी मैं आपका कहना मानता हूं कि **This requires a constant evolution.** जैसा आपने कहा कि अब समय-समय पर मौसम का भी मिजाज बदलता जा रहा है। जहां पहले रेनफाल कम होता था, अब अधिक होने लगा है और जहां होता था, वहां नहीं होता। हमारे आंकड़े यह दर्शाते हैं कि देश में फ्लड्स, ड्राउट और अर्थक्वेक, ये इतना अधिक लैंडमास है, **If you ask me the statistics, we have about 60 per cent of the land area of India which is prone to earthquakes, 68 per cent prone to drought and 8 per cent prone to cyclone. ... (Interruptions)** This is constantly evolving. Therefore, our mechanisms also will have to constantly evolve. ... *(Interruptions)* I hope and I am sure, we are making headway in that direction. Your advice is well taken and this is, of course, our concern as well.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : प्रश्न संख्या 43

मेरा एक सुझाव है कि प्रश्न संख्या 43 एवं 47 करीब-करीब एक जैसे ही हैं, मैं प्रश्न संख्या 47 वालों को भी इसमें अलाऊ करूंगी।।

...*(व्यवधान)*

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : आप क्लब कर सकती हैं, क्योंकि दोनों प्रश्न लगभग एक जैसे हैं।

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(Q. 43and 47)

डॉ. वीरेन्द्र कुमार: माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदया, हमारे देश से बहुत बड़ी संख्या में श्रमिक अरब कंट्रीज में काम करने के लिए जाते हैं। अभी 2022 में कतर में फुटबाल वर्ल्ड कप का आयोजन होने जा रहा है, जिसमें लाखों की संख्या में भारत से श्रमिक वहां काम करने के लिए जा रहे हैं। यह संख्या लगभग पांच लाख तक पहुंच सकती है। एमनेस्टी इंटरनेशनल की जो रिपोर्ट आई है, उस रिपोर्ट में यह आया है कि भारत से जो श्रमिक वहां पर जा रहे हैं, वहां भवन निर्माण के काम में, सड़क निर्माण के काम में और बाकी अन्य कामों में उनका उपयोग किया जा रहा है। लेकिन वहां बड़ी मात्रा में भारतीय श्रमिकों का शोषण हो रहा है और यह शोषण आगे भी होगा, यह एमनेस्टी इंटरनेशनल की रिपोर्ट है। क्योंकि उनका मानना है कि कतर में उनकी कोई आत्मा ही नहीं होती है। सबसे ज्यादा असहिष्णुता भारतीय श्रमिकों के प्रति वहां पर देखने को मिलती है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसी स्थिति में क्या सरकार कतर के मजदूरों की सुरक्षा के मुद्दों को देखने के लिए नये सिरे से पहल करेगी और लेबर संधि के प्रावधानों पर भी कुछ बातचीत करेगी, ताकि भारतीय मजदूरों की सेफ्टी के साथ-साथ उनके शोषण को रोकने और समाप्त करने की दिशा में पहल की जा सके और क्या इस संबंध में कोई टास्ट फोर्स भी बनाने की पहल की जायेगी?

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : अध्यक्ष महोदया, सबसे पहले मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को यह बताना चाहूंगी कि केवल कतर में ही नहीं बल्कि खाड़ी के छः छः देशों में लगभग 70 से 72 लाख भारतीय श्रमिक काम कर रहे हैं। बीच-बीच में उनके शोषण की शिकायतें आती थीं। लेकिन मैं आज आपके माध्यम से सदन को बताना चाहती हूँ कि इस शोषण को समाप्त करने के लिए हमारी वर्तमान सरकार पुरानी व्यवस्थाओं में भी कसावट लाई है और नई व्यवस्थाएं भी खड़ी की है। जहां तक पुरानी व्यवस्थाओं का सवाल है, ओपन हाउस की एक व्यवस्था थी। लेकिन हमने तय किया है कि हमारे एम्बेसेडर स्तर पर ओपन हाउस हुआ करेंगे। कुछ तो ऐसे देश हैं, जहां के एंबेस्डर्स रोज़, विदाआउट फेल ओपन हाऊस करते हैं, 11 से 12 बजे तक, जैसे यूएई के एंबेस्डर रोज़ बैठते हैं। इसी तरह से कतर में जो हमारे एंबेस्डर हैं, वे बहुत ज्यादा श्रमिक फ्रेंडली माने जाते हैं। यह कहना कि उनका शोषण हो रहा है, कतर की कोई आत्मा ही नहीं है, ऐसी बातें यहां कहना अच्छा नहीं लगता है। मैं यह बताती हूँ कि हमने जो नई व्यवस्थाएं खड़ी की हैं, उसमें ई-माइग्रेट और मदद के नाम से एक पोर्टल शुरू किया है। ई माइग्रेट में तो रिक्रूटमेंट का जो सारा प्रोसिजर है, उसको हमने पारदर्शी बनाया है। लेकिन जो मदद पोर्टल है, उसमें हमने कलर कोडिंग भी रखी है कि

आपने कोई शिकायत दर्ज करवाई है, तो पहले वह ग्रीन होगा, अगर उतने समय में कर दिया गया तो ग्रीन हट जाएगा, अगर नहीं हुआ तो ग्रीन का पीला हो जाएगा, फिर पीले में भी नहीं हुआ तो लाल हो जाएगा। इससे एंबेसीज़ में भी प्रतियोगिता बढ़ी है। क्योंकि कोई यह बदनामी नहीं चाहेगी कि मेरी कलर कोडिंग रेड रहे। इसके ऊपर डायरेक्ट मॉनिट्रिंग में भी कर रही हूँ और प्रधान मंत्री जी भी कर रहे हैं। मैं माननीय सांसद को बताना चाहूंगी कि कोई भी ट्वीट अगर मेरे ट्वीटर पर आता है तो 24 घंटे के अंदर मैं उसका निराकरण करती हूँ। प्रधान मंत्री जी जब भारतीय समुदाय को संबोधित करते हैं तो सबसे पहले एंबेसी को कहते हैं कि पराए देश में तुम्ही इनके दोस्त हो, तुम्ही अपने हो और यहां तक कि यूएई में तो बोलते हुए, उन्होंने ई-माइग्रेट की एक शिकायत थी, उसका भी ज़िक्र मंच से किया और कहा कि 17 दिसंबर तक इसको ठीक करो। क्या कभी पहले कभी किसी प्रधान मंत्री ने इन चीजों को अपनी प्राथमिकता में रखा है? इसलिए मैं अपने सांसद महोदय से कहना चाहूंगी कि बिल्कुल चिंता नहीं करें। एक-एक श्रमिक की, चाहे वह कतर में हो, चाहे वह यूएई में हो, चाहे वह सऊदी अरब में हो, चाहे वह कुवैत में, बहरीन में हो या ओमान में हो, हम लोग पूरा मन लगा कर के अपने श्रमिकों का शोषण समाप्त करने की तरफ काम कर रहे हैं।

डॉ. वीरेन्द्र कुमार: महोदया, जो बड़ी संख्या में श्रमिक हमारे देश से जाते हैं, उसमें से बहुत सारे श्रमिक अशिक्षित होते हैं। इस कारण से उनमें से कई श्रमिकों को फर्जी वीज़ा पासपोर्ट के आधार पर ले जाया जाता है। उनकी अवधि समाप्त होने पर, उनको वहां से वापस आने के लिए अंतिम वीज़ा मिलना चाहिए, उनके नियोक्ता वीज़ा नहीं देते हैं। छुट्टी के बाद वापस जाते हैं, तो उसके लिए पुनः प्रवेश परमिट लगता है। वह देने में भी उनको परेशान किया जाता है। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री से कहना चाहता हूँ कि अभी जो कतर वाली बात कही, कतर में गिरीडीह-पचम्मा के चार श्रमिक आज भी पर फंसे हुए हैं, जो लगातार वहां से प्रार्थना कर रहे हैं, वहां के सांसद से भी वे लगातार संपर्क कर रहे हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार, इन गल्फ देशों में जो भारतीय मिशन हैं, वहां कार्यरत हमारे अधिकारियों को विशेष प्रशिक्षण देने की कोई योजना बनाएंगे, जिससे वे भारतीय मज़दूरों के दस्तावेज़ों की समय-समय पर जांच पड़ताल कर सकें और समय-समय पर उनके रहन-सहन और कार्य करने की परिस्थितियों तथा हालातों की समीक्षा कर उनसे फीड बैक ले सकें। क्या सरकार रियाद के साथ एक विस्तृत लेबर माइग्रेशन पॉलिसी बनाने की पहल करेगी, ताकि भारत सऊदी अरब में सबसे ज्यादा जो श्रमिक भेजता है और रियाद ही ऐसा जीसीसी देश है, जिसने भारत के साथ ऐसा कोई एग्रीमेंट नहीं किया है। क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस संबंध में बताएंगी कि कोई पहल करने वाली हैं?

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : अध्यक्ष महोदया, मुझे लगता है कि अगर मेरा पहला उत्तर अच्छे से उन्होंने सुन लिया होता तो शायद यह प्रश्न ही नहीं निकलता। क्योंकि मैंने खुद ही कहा है कि हम लोग एंबेसीज़ में इतनी कसावट ले कर आए हैं, और मैं माननीय सांसद को यह भी बात दूँ कि नियोक्ता वीज़ा नहीं देता है। वीज़ा तो सरकार देती है। इसलिए वे अपने पास पासपोर्ट रख लेते हैं। आपकी यह शिकायत जायज़ है कि वे पासपोर्ट रख लेते हैं और पासपोर्ट नहीं देते हैं। वीज़ा से नियोक्ता का कोई लेना-देना नहीं है। वीज़ा तो एंबेसी देती है। जब उनका वीज़ा खत्म हो जाता है तो वे एंबेसी के पास आते हैं और एंबेसी वीज़ा देती है, नियोक्ता वीज़ा नहीं देता है। हाँ ये शिकायतें होती थीं कि वे पासपोर्ट रख लेते थे, इसलिए आने नहीं देते थे। जैसा मैंने कहा कि ओपन हाऊस होता है, वह एंबेसी में आ कर बात करते हैं तो हम कोशिश यह करते हैं कि नियोक्ता से ही पासपोर्ट ले लें। अगर नियोक्ता से पासपोर्ट नहीं मिलता है तो वे एग्ज़िट सर्टिफिकेट, इमरजेंसी सर्टिफिकेट बना कर देते हैं। जिन चार श्रमिकों की बात वे कर रहे हैं। ऐसा कोई केस मेरे सामने नहीं आया है। मैं आज ही कहना चाहती हूँ कि चाहे वीरेंद्र कुमार जी स्वयं या वहां के सांसद मुझे चारों श्रमिकों का केस दे दें, हम तुरंत उसका निराकरण करवाएंगे।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री कलिकेश एन. सिंह देव - उपस्थित नहीं।

...(व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री सी.आर. पाटील - उपस्थित नहीं।

श्री महेश गिरी।

श्री महेश गिरी: महोदया, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या कामगारों, विद्यार्थियों सहित विदेशों में काम करने वाले भारतीयों का कोई डाटा बेस रखा जाता है या नहीं? अगर हाँ, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है?... (व्यवधान)

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : यह मूल प्रश्न था और मूल प्रश्न का जवाब मैंने लिखित में भी दे दिया है। ... (व्यवधान) वैसे भी मैं बता दूँ कि जो ईसीआर कंट्रीज हैं, केवल उनका डाटा प्रवासी भारतीय कार्य मंत्रालय रखता है, स्टूडेंट्स का कोई डाटा नहीं रखता है।... (व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Mahesh Giri, I think, you do not have any other supplementary.

SHRI MAHEISH GIRRI: Yes, Madam. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri P.R. Sundaram.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM : Hon. Speaker, the condition of Indian workers abroad is pitiable and major number of Indian workers has been forged by the unlawful unregulated agents and there is no safety to the workers in the Gulf countries. Particularly, the life of women domestic workers is also in acute danger without any protection.

Recently, one Mrs. Kasturi Munirathinam of Vellore District, Tamil Nadu, a woman domestic employee was attacked in Saudi Arabia, and finally her right hand was chopped-off by the cruel owner. Considering the condition of Mrs. Kasturi, our hon. Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had announced financial aid of `Rs.10 lakh. ... (*Interruptions*)

I would like to know whether the Government will come forward to provide legal assistance to the Indian employees in the Gulf countries. What kind of compensation package will be provided by the Government to the Indian workers to protect their livelihood? ... (*Interruptions*)

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : अध्यक्ष जी, माननीय सदस्य ने दो-तीन प्रश्न इकट्ठे पूछे हैं।... (व्यवधान) पहले तो मैं यह बता दूँ कि उन्होंने यह ठीक कहा कि जो अनरजिस्टर्ड रिक्रूटिंग एजेंट्स हैं, वे अनस्कूप्लस भी होते हैं।... (व्यवधान) उनके माध्यम से इस तरह से जो लोग जाते हैं, वे फर्जी जाते हैं।... (व्यवधान) हमारे यहाँ यह कहा गया है कि रजिस्टर्ड एजेंट तो हमारे यहाँ ई-माइग्रेट पर आ जाते हैं। अनरजिस्टर्ड एजेंट, यह अपने आप में एक अपराध है।... (व्यवधान) इसलिए अनरजिस्टर्ड रिक्रूटमेंट एजेंट्स को स्टेट एजेंसीज, जो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स हैं, उनको उनके खिलाफ कार्रवाई करके उनको निकालना चाहिए, क्योंकि हमारे यहाँ कोई प्रावधान अनरजिस्टर्ड रिक्रूटमेंट एजेंट के थ्रू जाने का नहीं है।... (व्यवधान) वास्तव में वह ह्यूमन ट्रेफिकिंग है। हम तो इस पर भी विचार कर रहे हैं कि अनरजिस्टर्ड रिक्रूटमेंट एजेंट के द्वारा जो महिलायें खासतौर पर भेजी जाती हैं, उसको ह्यूमन ट्रेफिकिंग की परिभाषा में, एक्ट में लाया जाए।... (व्यवधान)

जहाँ तक कस्तूरी मणिरत्नम की बात है, वह बहुत ही कष्टदायक और दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण घटना हुई है। मैं जयललिता जी के प्रति धन्यवाद व्यक्त करती हूँ कि उन्होंने उनको दस लाख रूपए की मदद की।... (व्यवधान) हम उनको वहाँ से 7.11.15 को यहाँ लेकर आए।... (व्यवधान) यह 5.10.15 का केस है। ... (व्यवधान) 5 अक्टूबर को हमारी एम्बेसी को पता चला कि कस्तूरी मणिरत्नम नाम की एक महिला जो हाउस मेड के तौर पर सऊदी अरब में काम करती थी, किंगडम हॉस्पिटल, रियाद में भर्ती है।... (व्यवधान) हमारी एम्बेसी के लोगों ने उनसे संपर्क किया और बयान लिया, तो उसने कहा कि मेरा दाहिना हाथ, मेरे स्पांसर यानी जिनके यहाँ मैं काम करती थी, उस मालिक ने काट दिया है।... (व्यवधान) उसी समय हम लोगों ने फॉरेन मिनिस्ट्री, लेबर मिनिस्ट्री से सम्पर्क किया और पुलिस स्टेशन से सम्पर्क करके रिटेन नोट दिया। जिसमें हमने कहा कि इस केस की पुलिस इन्वेस्टिगेशन करके अटेम्प्ट टू मर्डर का केस दर्ज कराया जाए, यह हम लोगों ने उन्हें बोला है।... (व्यवधान) लेकिन मुझे दुख है कि 16 तारीख को सऊदी अरब की सरकार ने एक प्रेस विज्ञप्ति दी और उसमें यह कहा कि यह हाथ काटे जाने की घटना नहीं है। यह तो वह घर छोड़कर भाग रही थी, इसलिए ऊपर से नीचे गिर गई, यह केस है। मुझे आपको यह भी बताते हुए खुशी है कि हमने इस बात को स्वीकार नहीं किया। अभी न्यूयार्क में प्रधानमंत्री जी की भेंट सऊदी नरेश से हुई और वहाँ उन्होंने यह कहा कि मैं अपनी बात इससे शुरू करना चाहता हूँ कि कस्तूरी मणिरत्नम को न्याय मिलना चाहिए और अभी भी स्वयं प्रधान मंत्री जी ने उसके लिए न्याय की मांग सऊदी नरेश से की है। लेकिन 7 नवंबर को उसकी जो सेलेरी बनती थी, वह देकर हम उसको यहाँ वापस ले आए हैं। अब उसका इलाज तमिलनाडु के एक हॉस्पिटल में हो रहा है। ... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : इतने महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर प्रश्नोत्तर हो रहे हैं। I am sorry, please go to your seats.

...(व्यवधान)

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम: अध्यक्ष महोदया, बहुत बहुत धन्यवाद। यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण सवाल है और आपने दोनों सवालों को जोड़ दिया, यह अच्छा है। सरकार हमेशा कहती आई है कि इसको ऑर्गनाइज़ कर रहे हैं। हमारे देश से गरीबी या बेरोज़गारी के कारण जो लोग विदेश जाते हैं, खासकर असंगठित मज़दूर और डोमैस्टिक हैल्पर जाते हैं और यहाँ तक चिल्ड्रन ट्रैफिकिंग होती है, मैं मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद दूँगा कि उन्होंने कहा कि इसमें ट्रैफिकिंग का मामला भी है जो अनॉथराइज्ड एजेन्ट्स द्वारा जाते हैं। खासकर गल्फ कंट्रीज़ में, सऊदी अरब में वे स्लेवरी का शिकार हो रहे हैं। अक्सर ये हमारे देश के ऐसे क्षेत्रों से जाते हैं जो गुर्बत का शिकार हो रहे हैं। आज इंटरनेशनल एंटी स्लेवरी डे है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से खासकर पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो हमारे देश की बॉन्डेड लेबर है और विदेश में जाकर हमारा देश गुलामी का शिकार हो रहा है, देश की गरीब जनता शिकार हो रही है, उसके लिए सरकार द्वारा घोषित अनुसूची के अलावा अक्सर जो शिकायत आपके पास दी जाती है कि उनको पकड़ा गया, अंदर रखा गया, उनको खाना नहीं दिया जा रहा, गुलामी की ज़िन्दगी जी रहे हैं, क्या सरकार महिलाओं और बच्चों के लिए कोई ऐसा सैल राज्य सरकारों के साथ उन आइडेंटिफाइड जिलों में बनाएगी जहाँ से ये आउटसोर्स होते हैं और कोई भी शिकायत हो तो दोनों तरफ से, सप्लाई और डिमांड एंड से सरकार को आर्डिनेटेड कार्रवाई करे? ...(व्यवधान)

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : अध्यक्ष जी, मुझे माननीय सदस्य सलीम जी को यह बताते हुए खुशी है कि जो बात उन्होंने कही है, वह हमने पहले ही कर ली है। खास तौर पर जो डोमैस्टिक वर्कर्स अनॉथराइज्ड तरीके से जाती हैं, वे आंध्र प्रदेश और तेलंगाना के गोदावरी और कडप्पा जिले की हैं। मैंने दोनों के मंत्रियों को बुलाया। जो ऐसी महिलाएँ गई हुई थीं और जिनको शोषण के कारण हम लोग वापस लेकर आए, उनको भी बुलाया और उनके साथ बैठकर हमने मीटिंग की। उन्होंने रो-रो कर कहा कि आप उनका जाना बैन कर दीजिए, बिल्कुल डोमैस्टिक वर्कर्स भेजिए ही मत।

मैंने फिर कंसल्टेटिव कमेटी की मीटिंग बुलाई जहाँ राय बँट गई। वहाँ सबने एकमत से नहीं कहा कि आप इसको बंद कर दीजिए। यह कहा कि यह पेट की भूख का मामला है, इसलिए इसमें कुछ और करिये। इतना मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को बताना चाहती हूँ कि हमने यह शोषण रोकने के लिए यह काम किया कि कोई भी रिक्रूटमेंट एजेन्ट के माध्यम से ऐसी महिला नहीं जाएगी, कोई डोमैस्टिक वर्कर नहीं जाएगा। केवल सरकारी एजेन्सियों के माध्यम से जाएँगी और सरकारी एजेन्सियों को हमने कह दिया कि

आप कोई पैसा लिए बिना उनका रिक्लूटमेंट करेंगे और केवल सरकारी एजेन्सियों के माध्यम से जाएँगी। कोई ऐसी जो स्लेवरी वाली बात है जो इन रिक्लूटमेंट एजेन्सियों के माध्यम से जाती थीं, उसको हमने बंद कर दिया है।

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY: Madam Speaker, I am thankful to you for allowing me to ask a Supplementary.

Now, as on today, the Immigration Regulation Act of 1983 regulates only those recruiting agents which are falling within the purview of the Act, and they recruit low-skilled workers. But those who recruit high-skilled workers and professionals remain outside the ambit of the law. Not only this, the students who had enrolled themselves outside, are also outside the ambit of the Immigration Regulation Act of 1983.

In view of this, whether the Government is contemplating any law or a Bill, which covers the entire recruitment industry for overseas employment irrespective of the nature of the employment for which they recruit the workers or even covering those students who go for studies.

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : अध्यक्ष जी, यह बिल्कुल सही है कि हमारा जो एक्ट है, वह केवल उन्हें रेगुलेट करता है जो ईसीआर कंट्रीज़ में जाते हैं। उस एक्ट का नाम ही ई.सी.आर. 1983 एक्ट है तो 1983 का जो एक्ट है, क्योंकि सबसे ज्यादा सुरक्षा उन्हें ही चाहिए। वे दसवीं फेल हैं, उनकी शिक्षा इतनी कम है कि उनको सुरक्षा चाहिए, इसलिए यह जो 1983 का एक्ट है, यह केवल उन्हें ही रेगुलेट करता है, बाकियों को रेगुलेट नहीं करता। लेकिन हम इस कोशिश में हैं कि हम इस एक्ट को बदलें। जो नया एक्ट है, वह कंसल्टेटिव कमेटी के माध्यम से बाकी हम ओपन रख लें, क्योंकि ये कह रहे हैं तो हम चाहते हैं कि यह एक्ट बदला जाये, यह पुराना भी बहुत है, 1983 का है, इसके प्रावधान भी बहुत आउटडेटेड हैं। इसकी जगह एक नया इम्मीग्रेशन बिल हम लोग लाना चाहते हैं।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : शॉर्ट क्वेश्चन का ही टाइम है।

श्री भगवंत मान: शुक्रिया, मैडम, बहुत शॉर्ट है। क्योंकि पंजाब से बहुत भारी संख्या में गल्फ कंट्रीज़ में पंजाबीज़ काम करते हैं, मैडम सुषमा स्वराज जी के साथ जब इराक के मामले में काम किया था, इनको सब डिटेल्स पता हैं तो मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जैसा कि मंत्री महोदय ने अपने जवाब में कहा है कि वे पासपोर्ट रख लेते हैं। भारतीयों को एक एजेण्ट दूसरे एजेण्ट को हैंडओवर कर देता है, किसी न किसी वजह

से कोई बीमार हो जाये या किसी की मृत्यु हो जाये या कोई न कोई जो कम्पनी के चंगुल से बच जाते हैं तो वे जब भारतीय दूतावास में सम्पर्क करते हैं तो उनको कहा जाता है कि आप कम्पनी से एन.ओ.सी. लेकर आइये। कम्पनी तो एन.ओ.सी. देती नहीं तो क्या विदेश मंत्रालय की तरफ से ऐसा कोई प्रावधान हो सकता है कि जो जख्मी हो गये हैं या कम्पनियों के चंगुल से बचकर निकल गये हैं, उनको भारत के इमरजेंसी कार्ड पर वापस बुलाने का प्रावधान हो सके? ऐसा बता सकते हैं, मंत्री जी।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आपका प्रश्न हो गया है। आपने उत्तर दिया है।

12.00 hours

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : जो बात भगवन्त मान जी ने कही है, वह सऊदी अरब में लागू है कि वे एन.ओ.सी. मांगते हैं और हम लोग इसलिए इस पर बातचीत उनके साथ भी कर रहे हैं कि जिसके शोषण से निकल कर भागा है, उसे वह एन.ओ.सी. कैसे देगा। इसलिए जो एम.ओयूज़. हम उनके साथ कर रहे हैं, उन एम.ओयूज़. में बदलाव लाने की बात कर रहे हैं, वहां पर उनका अपना शरीयत का एक रूल है, जिसमें वे कहते हैं कि आप एन.ओ.सी. लाकर के दीजिए। लेकिन यह अपने आपमें एक अन्याय है और मैं उनकी बात से पूरी तरह सहमत हूं कि जिसके शोषण के कारण से वापस आना चाह रहे हैं, वह एन.ओ.सी. कैसे देगा। इसके ऊपर हमारी बातचीत सऊदी अरब से चल रही है।

12.02 hours**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री, प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री, कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री, परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री तथा अंतरिक्ष विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (डॉ. जितेन्द्र सिंह) : महोदया, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:

(1) (एक) नॉर्थ ईस्टर्न स्पेस एप्लीकेशंस सेंटर, उमियम के वर्ष 2014-2015 के वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) तथा लेखापरीक्षित लेखे।

(दो) नॉर्थ ईस्टर्न स्पेस एप्लीकेशंस सेंटर, उमियम के वर्ष 2014-2015 के कार्यकरण की सरकार द्वारा समीक्षा के बारे में विवरण (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण)।

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3216/16/15]

(2) (एक) इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ स्पेस साइंस एण्ड टेक्नोलॉजी, तिरुवनंतपुरम के वर्ष 2014-2015 के वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) तथा लेखापरीक्षित लेखे।

(दो) इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ स्पेस साइंस एण्ड टेक्नोलॉजी, तिरुवनंतपुरम के वर्ष 2014-2015 के कार्यकरण की सरकार द्वारा समीक्षा के बारे में विवरण (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण)।

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3217/16/15]

(3) कंपनी अधिनियम, 1956 की धारा 619क की उप-धारा (1) के अंतर्गत निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण):-

(एक) अंतरिक्ष कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड, बंगलोर के वर्ष 2014-2015 के कार्यकरण की सरकार द्वारा समीक्षा ।

(दो) अंतरिक्ष कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड, बंगलोर का वर्ष 2014-2015 का वार्षिक प्रतिवेदन, लेखापरीक्षित लेखे तथा उन पर नियंत्रक-महालेखापरीक्षक की टिप्पणियां ।

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3218/16/15]

(4) संविधान के अनुच्छेद 320(5) के अंतर्गत संघ लोक सेवा आयोग (परामर्श से छूट) संशोधन विनियम, 2015 जो 25 अगस्त, 2015 के भारत के राजपत्र में अधिसूचना संख्या सा.का.नि. 655(अ) में प्रकाशित हुए थे, की एक प्रति (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण)।

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3219/16/15]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (1) Review by the Government of the working of the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2014-2015.
- (2) Annual Report of the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2014-2015, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 3220/16/15]

... (*Interruptions*)

12.02 ½ hours**COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
15th Report**

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (KARUR): I beg to present the Fifteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

... (*Interruptions*)

12.03 hours**COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA
DEVELOPMENT SCHEME, LOK SABHA (2015-16)
3rd and 4th Reports**

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (KARUR): I beg to present of the following reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on MPLADS:-

- (1) 3rd Report (16th Lok Sabha) of Committee on MPLADS, Lok Sabha regarding Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 1st Report on the Proposals from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for modifications in the MPLADS guidelines for purchase of animal ambulances and for the construction of more than one community centre in the same village/local areas.
 - (2) 4th Report (16th Lok Sabha) of Committee on MPLADS, Lok Sabha regarding Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 2nd Report on the Proposals from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation for modifications in the MPLADS guidelines on naming of assets created under MPLADS after the name of eminent personalities/national icons/freedom fighters and using MPLADS funds for civil construction works in schools as per norms of the Right to Education Act, 2009 respectively.
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12.03 ½ hours**STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT,
TOURISM AND CULTURE
227th to 229th Reports**

MOHAMMED FAIZAL (LAKSHADWEEP): I beg to lay on the Table the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture:-

- (1) The Two Hundred Twenty-seventh Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in its Two Hundred and Twentieth Report on the Demands for Grants (2015-16) of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.
- (2) The Two Hundred Twenty-eighth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in its Two Hundred and Twenty-first Report on the Demands for Grants (2015-16) of Ministry of Shipping.
- (3) The Two Hundred Twenty-ninth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in its Two Hundred and Twenty-second Report on the Demands for Grants (2015-16) of Ministry of Tourism.

... (*Interruptions*)

12.04 hours**ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER****Discussion on flood and drought situation in Tamil Nadu and other parts of the Country**

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, considering the flood situation in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh due to heavy rains and also drought in some parts of the country, a request to take up a discussion has been made by hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs in the House today. If you all of you agree, we can take up the discussion on the issue under Rule 193 immediately. I have received some notices on this issue and Dr. Venugopal has given notice at the first point of time. So, if the House agrees, we can take the 193 discussion immediately.

... (*Interruptions*)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes madam, we all agree. ... (*Interruptions*)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : खड़गे जी, मैंने आपका स्थगन प्रस्ताव ग्राह्य नहीं किया है। मैंने यह भी कहा है कि जो इश्यू आप उठाना चाहते हैं, वह कल ही डिस्कस हो चुका है।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : इस पर गृह मंत्री जी ने पूरे तरीके से उत्तर दिया है। इसलिए आज इस इश्यू को उठाने का कोई कारण नहीं है।

... (व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: No.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): We want to discuss it. We want to cooperate with that.... (Interruptions)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : खड़गे जी, यह को-ऑपरेशन नहीं है। कल आपने उत्तर सुना भी नहीं है। I am sorry.

Hon. Members, please go to your seats.

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : ऐसा नहीं होता है। Try to understand.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Khargeji, I know.

... (Interruptions)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप लोग खड़े हैं। ऐसे में मैं बात नहीं करूंगी।

... (व्यवधान)

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Let them go to their seats.

12.06 hours

(At this stage, Shri Kodikunnil Suresh and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: When they were here, you spoke.

श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडू : हमने चेयर से रिक्वेस्ट किया है।

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे : हम भी रिक्वेस्ट कर रहे हैं। लेकिन, एक का रिक्वेस्ट मानना और दूसरे का नहीं मानना, यह भी ठीक नहीं है।... (व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

... (Interruptions)... *

श्री एम. वैकैय्या नायडू : स्पीकर के ऊपर टिप्पणी करना अच्छी बात नहीं है। मेरा सुझाव है कि अगर आपको स्पीकर अनुमति दें, तो आपको जो बोलना है, आप बोलें।

मगर, चेन्नई में बहुत भयंकर स्थिति है। मैं उसके बगल में रहता हूँ। मैंने खुद अनुभव किया है। मुझे मालूम है कि चेन्नई का दर्द क्या है। इसलिए मैंने कहा कि चेन्नई के ऊपर चर्चा को पहले लिया जाए।... (व्यवधान)

खड़गे जी, मैंने आपके बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा। आप लोग हमारे मंत्री के बारे में इतने अपमानजनक शब्दों का प्रयोग करते हैं। आप प्रधान मंत्री जी के खिलाफ़ नारा लगाते हैं। यह क्या तरीका है, यह मुझे समझ में नहीं आ रहा। आप थोड़ी-सी सहिष्णुता दिखाइए। **Please have some tolerance towards the mandate of the people also.** जनता ने हमें जनादेश दिया है। आप थोड़ी सी उसकी मर्यादा रखिए।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : माननीय खड़गे जी, पहले आप मेरी बात भी सुनिए। आपने जो स्थगन प्रस्ताव दिया था, यह हाउस भी जानता है कि उस स्थगन प्रस्ताव पर, कल ही नहीं, बल्कि परसों भी पूरा दिन इन सब बातों पर चर्चा हो चुकी है। वह विषय, जिसे आपने अपने स्थगन प्रस्ताव में दिया था, और यह भी विषय, सब विषय चर्चा में उठा था। **If I am not wrong**, जब गृह मंत्री जी ने पूरी बात का जवाब दिया, उसमें भी वह इश्यू आया था। लेकिन, उस समय आप लोग कोई भी यहां सुनने के लिए बैठे ही नहीं थे, आप चले गए। इसलिए ऐसा नहीं होता है। रोज़-रोज़ एक ही बात पर चर्चा नहीं होती है। मैंने स्थगन प्रस्ताव अग्राह्य किया है। इसलिए अब इसको उठाने का कोई सवाल नहीं होता है।

... (व्यवधान)

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे: मैडम, एक मिनट आप मेरी बात सुनिए।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : नहीं, मैं आपको आपके विषय के बारे में बोलने नहीं दूंगी।

... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : आप नियम-193 के तहत चर्चा चाहते हैं या नहीं, इतना बता दीजिए।

* Not recorded.

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे: मैडम, मुझे बस एक मिनट बोलने का मौका दीजिए।... (व्यवधान)

मैडम स्पीकर, मैं आपसे कोई विवाद करना नहीं चाहता हूँ। मैंने उनका पूरा भाषण यहीं बैठ कर सुना है।

माननीय अध्यक्ष : नहीं, विवाद का कोई कारण ही नहीं है। ऐसा नहीं होता है। I am sorry.

... (Interruptions)

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे: मैडम, मेरा कहना यही है कि हमने एक नोटिस दिया था। उस नोटिस में यही था।... (व्यवधान)

माननीय अध्यक्ष : नहीं, नहीं, ऐसा कुछ नहीं है।

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे: मैं आपसे कोई विवाद नहीं करना चाहता हूँ। मैंने उनका पूरा भाषण यहीं बैठकर सुना है। मेरा कहना यह है कि हमने जो नोटिस दिया था, उसमें यह लिखा था कि ...*

HON. SPEAKER: No, I am sorry.

श्री एम. वैकैय्या नायडू : मैडम, ऐसा कोई वक्तव्य नहीं दिया गया है।... (व्यवधान) यह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जाना चाहिए।... (व्यवधान) यह गलत है।... (व्यवधान) It is a politically motivated campaign. हम इसको चैलेंज करते हैं और हम इसे स्वीकार नहीं करते हैं।... (व्यवधान)

HON. SPEAKER: I am sorry. I have disallowed his remarks on *Dalit* community. No, I am sorry, it will not go on record.

... (Interruptions)... *

HON. SPEAKER: Kharge Ji, no, nothing will go on record because I have disallowed that.

... (Interruptions)... *

HON. SPEAKER: No, I am sorry.

12.08 hours

At this stage, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge and some other hon. Members left the House.

* Not recorded.

12.09 hours**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377***

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Matters under Rule 377 shall be laid on the Table of the House. Members who have been permitted to raise matters under Rule 377 today and are desirous of laying them may personally hand over text of the matter at the Table of the House within 20 minutes. Only those matters shall be treated as laid for which text of the matter has been received at the Table within the stipulated time. The rest will be treated as lapsed.

शून्य काल शाम को छः बजे लिया जाएगा।

(i) Need to take adequate measures for maintenance and rejuvenation of sites of archeological importance situated in far-flung and remote areas of the country

डॉ. महेन्द्र नाथ पाण्डेय (चन्दौली) : देश के दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों में तमाम ऐसे मठ और मंदिर मौजूद हैं, जो अपने आप में देश की सांस्कृतिक धरोहर को संजोए हुए हैं। लोगों का ध्यान देश के शहरी क्षेत्रों में मौजूद इन स्थलों की ओर ही आकृष्ट होता है, जबकि देश के दूरस्थ कस्बों तथा ग्रामीण इलाकों में स्थित इन पुरातत्व के अति महत्व के स्थलों की तरफ ध्यान न जाने से सदियों पुराने स्थल उपेक्षित तथा उपयुक्त रख-रखाव के बगैर अपनी जीर्णवस्था में खड़े हैं।

अतः मेरा केंद्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि वह इन स्थलों के संरक्षण तथा उपयुक्त रख-रखाव हेतु तत्काल उचित कदम उठाए।

* Treated as laid on the Table.

(ii) Need to exempt employees of Gujarat Safai kamdar Vikas Nigam from Section 10 (26B) of Income Tax Act, 1961.

डॉ. किरिट पी. सोलंकी (अहमदाबाद) : गुजरात सरकार द्वारा किये गये अथक प्रयासों के बावजूद भी गुजरात के सफाई कर्मचारियों को धारा 10(26बी) आई.टी. एक्ट-1961 के अंतर्गत आयकर से छूट का मामला अभी तक विवाद में फंसा हुआ है। उपरोक्त अनुच्छेद के अंतर्गत भारत के सभी राज्यों के गरीब, अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति और अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग के लोगों के उत्थान के लिए वचनबद्ध हैं। लेकिन आयकर विभाग, गुजरात सरकार ने उपरोक्त अनुच्छेद को पूर्णतः अनदेखा करते हुए सफाई कर्मचारियों पर पूरा आयकर लगा दिया, जिसमें अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति और अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग के लोग भी आते हैं।

गुजरात सरकार ने इस संदर्भ में अनेक पत्र भारत सरकार को लिखे हैं ताकि इन सफाई कर्मचारियों को आयकर में छूट मिले। “गुजरात सफाई कामदार विकास निगम” को विशेष तौर पर मैला ढोने वाले, कूड़ा बीनने वाले और मलिन कार्यों के लगे लोगों के उत्थान के लिए और उनके विकास के लिए ही बनाया गया था। गुजरात सफाई कामगारों की नियुक्ति में गरीब तबके के लोगों को आयकर से मुक्त करने हेतु राज्य सरकार से कई अनुशंसाएं केंद्र सरकार को प्रेषित की जा चुकी हैं, जो अभी तक लंबित है।

अतः मेरा केंद्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि “गुजरात सफाई कामदार विकास निगम” को बिना किसी शर्त के आयकर मुक्त किया जाए।

(iii) Need to run daily train between Sikar and Delhi and also increase local train service on Sikar-Loharu-Rewari route.

श्री सुमेधानन्द सरस्वती (सीकर) : मैं माननीय रेल मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित कर निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र सीकर (राजस्थान) को दिल्ली से जोड़ने वाले रेल मार्ग पर ब्रॉडगेज परिवर्तन के बाद जो रेल सेवाएं आरंभ की गई हैं, उसमें कुछ रेलगाड़ियाँ बढ़ाई जाएं। वर्तमान में सीकर से दिल्ली के लिए सप्ताह में केवल दो दिन एक एक्सप्रेस रेलगाड़ी चलाई जा रही है, इसे सप्ताह में सभी दिन नियमित रूप से चलाया जाए। चूंकि यह गाड़ी दिन के समय है, अतः एक अन्य रेलगाड़ी रात्रि के समय चलाई जाए जा सीकर व दिल्ली दोनों स्थानों से रात्रि के समय चलकर सुबह अपने गंतव्य पर पहुंचे। इसके अलावा, कुछ लोकल सेवा सीकर-लुहारू-रेवाड़ी भी बढ़ाई जाए, जिससे मेरे क्षेत्र की जनता को यात्रा में आ रही समस्याओं का समाधान हो सके।

(iv) Need to award exemplary punishment to those involved in crimes against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

DR. UDIT RAJ (NORTH WEST DELHI): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards rising atrocities against SCs/STs and women in almost all parts of the country and the utter failure of the Governments machineries to stop these acts and also the urgent need to ensure exemplary punishment for those guilty of such crimes. The murder of two children of a Dalit family in Faridabad; the high incidence of such atrocities in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and also such incidents in other states can be seen from the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) data. It is very important that local law enforcement officials as well as the general public be sensitized to these issues and a stronger mechanism be developed to ensure that such atrocities are not repeated. Thorough, independent probes should be conducted into all these incidents so the perpetrators as well as erring state government officials are punished.

(v) Need to put in place a mechanism for monitoring clinical trials on humans for ensuring their safety and payment of compensation.

श्रीमती जयश्रीवेन पटेल (मेहसाणा) : भारत में दवाइयों के चिकित्सीय परीक्षण (क्लीनिकल ट्रायल) से मरने वालों या घातक रूप से पीड़ित होने वाले लोगों की तादाद 17 हज़ार से भी ज्यादा है, जिसमें से 3458 मौतें हुई हैं और 14,320 ऐसे मरीज हैं जिनके ऊपर इन परीक्षणों का घातक असर हुआ है। वर्ष 2005 से क्लीनिकल ट्रायल के कानून में जो ढील दी गई, उसक चलते नागरिकों के ऊपर दवाओं के परीक्षण बेलगाम हो गए हैं। जिन लोगों पर यह परीक्षण किया जाता है, उनको मुआवजा भी नहीं दिया जाता। इसके चलते भारत को “गिनी पिग” बनाया जा रहा है।

अतः मेरा केंद्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि देश में ‘क्लीनिकल ट्रायल’ को सही ढंग से निगरानी करने, मुआवजा देने और मरीजों की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने की ओर ध्यान दिया जाए तथा जब तक यह व्यवस्था पुख्ता नहीं हो जाती, तब तक के लिए इस पर रोक लगानी चाहिए। तभी भारत को “गिनी पिग” बनने से रोका जा सकेगा।

(vi) Need to check the rampant adulteration of kerosene in the country.

श्री रत्न लाल कटारिया (अम्बाला) : मैं उपभोक्ता मामलों के आदरणीय मंत्री जी के ध्यान में लाना चाहूँगा कि विभाग की सख्त कार्रवाई के बाद भी पिछले कुछ वर्षों से सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के माध्यम से बिकने वाले मिट्टी के तेल में काले तेल को मिलाने का धंधा ज़ोरों से चल रहा है। इस गिरोह ने देश के कई राज्यों में अपने पैर पसार लिए हैं। यहाँ तक कि इस गिरोह ने वाहनों को भी ऐसा रंग दे दिया है, जैसा कि इण्डियन ऑयल कंपनी (आई.ओ.सी) व भारत पेट्रोलियम के माध्यम से पब्लिक डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन सिस्टम (पी.डी.एस.) से बांटने वाले ट्रक का होता है। इन्होंने अपने वाहनों के अंदर ही अंदर काले तेल की टंकियाँ लगा ली हैं। मिलावट का यह खेल 500 करोड़ रूपयों से भी अधिक का है।

अतः मेरा केंद्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि सरकार मिट्टी के तेल में काले तेल की मिलावट करने वाले इस गिरोह को नेस्तनाबूद करने के लिए तत्काल उपयुक्त कदम उठाए।

(vii) Need to change the mode of disbursal of funds relating to interest subsidy on agriculture loans to farmers.

श्री अजय मिश्रा टेनी (खीरी) : किसानों को खाद, बीज व अन्य कृषि संबंधी आवश्यकताओं की आपूर्ति हेतु प्राथमिक सहकारी समितियों द्वारा सहकारी तथा राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों से ऋण उपलब्ध कराया जाता है। किसानों को कम ब्याज दर पर ऋण उपलब्ध कराने हेतु किसानों से 3 प्रतिशत ब्याज दर पर ऋण उपलब्ध कराया जाता है परंतु शेष ब्याज में से 6.7 प्रतिशत ब्याज दर केंद्र सरकार तथा एक प्रतिशत ब्याज प्रदेश सरकारों द्वारा अदा किया जाता है, जिससे बैंकों को नुकसान न हो। बैंकों द्वारा किसानों को जो ऋण दिया जाता है, उसकी वसूली के समय किसान से तीन प्रतिशत ब्याज लेकर शेष ब्याज पहले प्राथमिक सहकारी समिति द्वारा देकर बैंक का भुगतान कर दिया जाता है परंतु केंद्र व राज्य सरकारों द्वारा बाद में भुगतान करने के कारण प्राथमिक सहकारी समितियों को आर्थिक समस्या का सामना करना पड़ता है, जिसके कारण समितियों द्वारा किसानों को उपलब्ध करायी जाने वाली सुविधाओं पर असर पड़ता है।

अतः मेरा केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि केंद्र सरकार बाद में प्राथमिक समितियों को जो ब्याज सब्सिडी का भुगतान करती है, उससे सीधे बैंकों का भुगतान कर दे तथा किसानों के ऋण भुगतान के समय अतिरिक्त ब्याज प्राथमिक सहकारी समितियों से बैंक द्वारा न लिया जाए। इससे प्राथमिक सहकारी समितियों का कार्य भी ठीक चल सकेगा तथा समिति किसानों को सुविधाएं समय पर उपलब्ध करा सकेंगी।

(viii) Need to operationalise all automatic gauge recorders to ensure proper monitoring of distribution of river water among Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan.

श्री पी.पी. चौधरी (पाली) : राजस्थान और पड़ोसी राज्यों में पानी के बंटवारे को लेकर विवाद काफी वर्षों से चला आ रहा है। इस संबंध में राजस्थान द्वारा अनेक बार केंद्र सरकार व माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय से हस्तक्षेप करने का अनुरोध किया गया है। राज्यों के बीच जल बँटवारे को लेकर हुए समझौतों के अनुसार राज्यों में जल का वितरण नहीं हो रहा है। पंजाब व हरियाणा राज्य प्रायः राजस्थान को उसके हिस्से का पानी उपलब्ध नहीं कराते हैं, विशेषकर बुवाई के समय राजस्थान को कम मात्रा में पानी दिया जाता है, जिससे किसानों के हितों पर विपरीत असर पड़ता है।

इस संबंध में 31 दिसंबर, 1981 को हुए समझौते के अनुबंध (3) के अनुसार भाखड़ा ब्यास प्रबंधन मंडल को सभी संबंधित राज्यों को निर्धारित मात्रा में पानी वितरण सुनिश्चित करने हेतु सभी आवश्यक उपाय तथा गेज डिस्चार्ज कर्व, स्वचलित गेज रिकॉर्डर लगाने हेतु अधिकृत किया गया है ताकि पानी का समुचित वितरण हो सके। वर्ष 2011 में हुई बी.बी.एम.बी. बोर्ड की 208वीं बैठक में स्वचलित गेज रिकॉर्डर लगाने हेतु 22 साइटों का अनुमोदन किया जा चुका है। 6 साइटों पर स्वचालित गेज रिकॉर्डर स्थापित कर चालू कर दिए गए हैं तथा 15 साइटों पर विश्व बैंक द्वारा पोषित हाइड्रोलॉजी परियोजना द्वितीय चरण के अंतर्गत स्वचालित गेज रिकॉर्डर लगाने का कार्य पूर्ण कर लिया गया है, लेकिन अभी तक संचालन प्रारंभ नहीं किया गया है।

अतः मेरा माननीय ऊर्जा और जल संसाधन मंत्री जी से अनुरोध है कि सभी स्वचालित गेज रिकॉर्डर का संचालन इसी वर्ष से प्रारंभ करने के निर्देश देने की कृपा करें ताकि राज्यों में जल के बँटवारे का विवाद सुलझाने के साथ-साथ पानी के सही बँटवारे की सही मॉनिटरिंग की जा सके।

(ix) Need to provide adequate compensation to farmers distressed due to loss of crops caused by deficient rains and pest attack in Seoni and Balaghat districts of Madhya Pradesh.

श्री बोध सिंह भगत (बालाघाट) : देश में मध्य प्रदेश के अंतर्गत सिवनी एवं बालाघाट जिलों की अनेक तहसीलों एवं ग्रामों की खरीफ 2015 की धान, सोयाबीन एवं अन्य फसलें कम वर्षा एवं कीट प्रकोप (भूरामाहो, पीला रोग) तथा अन्य बीमारियों के कारण भारी मात्रा में नुकसान हुआ है। फसलें पूरी तरह नष्ट हो चुकी हैं। कृषक काफी चिंतित एवं परेशान हैं। जीविकोपार्जन का कोई साधन नहीं होने के कारण कृषकों के सामने जीने-मरने का संकट उत्पन्न हो चुका है। फसल नुकसान के सर्वे के आंकलन के अनुसार कृषकों को कोई मुआवजा राशि प्राप्त नहीं होने के कारण उनमें तीव्र आक्रोश एवं असंतोष व्याप्त है।

अतः मेरा केंद्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि सरकार कृषकों के इस संकट की घड़ी में तत्काल मुआवजा राशि दिलाने हेतु व्यवस्था करने की कृपा करें।

(x) Need to provide at least 1000 MW of power from the Central pool to Karnataka reeling under the power crisis.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (DHARWAD): Karnataka is facing a major power shortage. The state is currently having a shortage of power ranging between 1500 MW and 2000 MW. While the State's requirement is 167 MU (Million Units) per day, it receives only 127 MU, resulting in a shortage of 40 MU. Further aggravating the situation, the Udipi Power Corporation Limited (UPCL) thermal plant, which was providing 1200 MW, has suddenly tripped. The Raichur Thermal Power Station (RTPS) (200 MW) is down. The problem at Bellary Thermal Power Station (BTPS) unit is also yet to be resolved and centra generating stations are supplying only 250 MW. Wind generaion too has fallen alarmingly from 1000 MW to just 300 MW. The worst suffers are the small and medium enterprises. As most of them do not have captive power plants, they have to depend solely on the State power generating units. In the light of the severe power crisis in the State, I request the Union Government to provide atleast 1000 MW of power to the Karnataka from the Central Pool as soon as possible.

(xi) Need to set up a Component Unit in Blood Bank at Sanwaliya Government General Hospital, Chittorgarh, Rajasthan.

श्री चन्द्र प्रकाश जोशी (चित्तौड़गढ़) : चित्तौड़गढ़ संसदीय क्षेत्र के जिला मुख्यालय चित्तौड़गढ़ में स्थित सांवलिया जी राजकीय सामान्य चिकित्सालय क्षेत्र का सबसे महत्वपूर्ण चिकित्सा सेवा का केन्द्र है। पूरे जिले से सैकड़ों मरीज प्रतिदिन विभिन्न बीमारियों के इलाज के लिए यहाँ आते हैं। राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग के महत्वपूर्ण केंद्र के कारण जिला मुख्यालय के चारों ओर स्थित राजमार्ग से हजारों वाहन प्रतिदिन निकलते हैं। दुर्घटनाओं के कारण यहां पर नियमित रूप से मरीजों को रक्त की आवश्यकता पड़ती है। वर्तमान में उपरोक्त चिकित्सालय में जिले का एकमात्र सरकारी ब्लड बैंक है जिसमें वार्षिक रूप से 9 हजार यूनिट रक्त संग्रहण होता है। इस चिकित्सालय के अतिरिक्त भी अन्य चिकित्सालयों में मरीजों को रक्त उपलब्ध करवाया जाता है। वर्तमान में संग्रहित रक्त दुर्घटनाओं, थैलिसीमिया, कैंसर रोगियों एवं आपातकालीन सेवाओं में 40 से 50 प्रतिशत उपयोग हो पाता है। क्षेत्र की आवश्यकता एवं रक्तदान द्वारा उपलब्ध रक्त का अधिकतम मरीजों के उपयोग के लिए ब्लड कम्पोनेन्ट यूनिट होना आवश्यक है। इस सुविधा के उपलब्ध होने के बाद रक्त का सर्वोत्तम उपयोग हो पाएगा। कम्पोनेन्ट यूनिट होने से रक्त के वर्गीकरण द्वारा मरीज को आवश्यक कम्पोनेन्ट ही दिया जा सकेगा एवं दान दाताओं द्वारा दिए गए रक्त से अधिक से अधिक मरीज लाभान्वित हो सकेंगे।

अतः मेरा माननीय स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्री जी से अनुरोध है कि चित्तौड़गढ़ जिला मुख्यालय पर स्थित श्री सांवलिया जी राजकीय चिकित्सालय के वर्तमान ब्लड बैंक में कम्पोनेन्ट यूनिट को स्थापित कर आमजन को चिकित्सकीय सुविधा उपलब्ध करायी जाए।

(xii) Need to grant a special package to Rajasthan for promotion of tourism in the State.

COL. SONARAM CHOUDHARY (BARMER): Rajasthan occupies place of distinction on the world tourist map for its rich cultural and historical heritage. The Parliamentary Constituency which I represent in this august House consists of many prominent sites like the historical Sonar Fort of Jaisalmer which was built in the year 1156, Patwa, Havelis of Nathmalji & Salamsinghji, Parshvnath Temple and Kapavriksha (the tree renowned for granting all wishes), Temples of Keradoo in Barmer, famous Well of Batadoo, etc which are the living examples of stone carving. Similarly, the historical fort of Siwana of Mughal Era, Pall of Veer Durga Dass situated in the hills of Chhappan, Kuldra and Kharwa villages of Jaisalmer depict the glorious history of bravery of Rajputana. Besides the places of religious importance are found in abundance like Tanotrai in Jaisalmer, Dungarrai Temple in Mohangarh, eminent Baba Ram Dev Temple in Ramdeva, Jain pilgrim centres like Lodarva, Nakoda Temple, Hinglaj Temple, the famous Temple of Brahmaji in Asotra, etc. The sand dunes, Kapaleshwar of Chohten, Haldeshwar Mahadev Temple famous as mini mount Abu are all places of attraction. All these places of historical, religious and rich cultural heritage are places of much tourists interest. Domestic and foreign tourists visit these places and as per a survey 20% of foreign tourists visit Jaisalmer. However, as per ground realities, this area is neglected with regard to promotion of tourism. In case all the above sites are included in the list of Swadesh Darshan, Prasad scheme as well as Special Desert Project, the importance of these places would automatically go up and Rajasthan would get a further boost on the World Tourism Map.

I most earnestly urge upon the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Minister of Tourism to grant package to Rajasthan for Tourism.

(xiii) Need to extend Bundelkhand region like benefits to areas along river Yamuna in Akbarpur Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh.

श्री देवेन्द्र सिंह भोले (अकबरपुर) : मेरे निर्वाचन क्षेत्र अकबरपुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) में कानपुर नगर की चार विधान सभाएं कल्याणपुर, महाराजपुर, घाटमपुर, बिठूर एवं कानपुर देहात जनपद की अकबरपुर रनियां विधान सभा सम्मिलित हैं। लोक सभा का क्षेत्र माँ गंगा नदी के बिठूर से शुरू होकर दक्षिणी सीमा में यमुना नदी से सीमांकित होता है। दोनों नदियों के बीच के क्षेत्र में कानपुर नगर एवं कानपुर देहात जनपदों का अधिकांश भाग उबड़-खाबड़, पठारी, अनुपजाऊ एवं यमुना नदी के किनारे का क्षेत्र बीहड़ के रूप में है। इस क्षेत्र की सामाजिक, आर्थिक, भौगोलिक एवं वनस्पतिक स्थितियां बुन्देलखण्ड जैसी हैं। इसलिए उत्तर प्रदेश के सीलिंग एक्ट में यमुना की गहरी धारा से 16 किलो मीटर तक उत्तर की ओर जोत सीमा का निर्धारण बुन्देलखण्ड के समान निर्धारित करने का प्रावधान किया गया है जिससे स्पष्ट है कि राज्य सरकार ने भी इस क्षेत्र को बुन्देलखण्ड जैसा माना है परंतु अत्यंत खेद का विषय है कि बुन्देलखण्ड जैसी परिस्थितियों को नजरअंदाज करते हुए अभी तक इस क्षेत्र को बुन्देलखण्ड जैसी सुविधाओं से कानपुर नगर एवं कानपुर देहात को वंचित रखा गया है।

अतः मेरा केंद्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि मेरे निर्वाचन क्षेत्र अकबरपुर सहित कानपुर नगर एवं कानपुर देहात के क्षेत्र जो यमुना नदी के किनारे से बुन्देलखण्ड क्षेत्र से जुड़े हुए हैं, को बुन्देलखण्ड जैसी सुविधाओं से परिपूर्ण किये जाने की आवश्यकता को देखते हुए शीघ्र उचित कदम उठाये जाएं, जिससे इस क्षेत्र के निवासियों को इसका लाभ मिल सके।

(xiv) Need to ensure safety of sacred Ram Setu between India and Sri Lanka.

श्री केशव प्रसाद मौर्य (फूलपुर) : मैं सरकार का ध्यान संपूर्ण भारत एवं संपूर्ण हिंदुओं की आस्था का महाकेन्द्र, श्री रामचरितमानस में उल्लिखित श्री भगवान राम द्वारा लंका पर विजय प्राप्त करने हेतु बनाए गए अत्यंत प्राचीन भारतीय धरोहर भारत-श्रीलंका के मध्य स्थित श्री रामसेतु की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

भारतीय ज्योतिषों, पुरातत्व विभाग तथा नासा के वैज्ञानिकों के अनुसार रामसेतु का निर्माण लगभग साढ़े 17 लाख वर्ष पहले हुआ था। नासा के वैज्ञानिकों के अनुसार संपूर्ण विश्व में इतनी प्राचीन मानव निर्मित कोई भी धरोहर नहीं है। रामसेतु भारत-श्रीलंका के मध्य ऐसा जलमार्ग है जिससे अंतर्राष्ट्रीय जहाजों को गुजरने हेतु भारत को कर देना होगा। यदि यह नहीं होगा तो कोई भी विदेशी जहाज अपने मनमाने ढंग से आवागमन कर सकता है। सबसे हैरत कर देने वाली बात तथा शोध का विषय तो यह है कि यह रामसेतु ईंट-पत्थर से न बनकर अत्यंत मूल्यवान 'लीथियम' तत्व से बना है। रामसेतु के नीचे लीथियम का अपार भण्डार है जिसकी कीमत अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर अरबों-खरबों में है।

किंतु बड़े दुख की बात है कि पिछली सरकार द्वारा 'पचौरी कमेटी' बनाई गई थी जिसकी रिपोर्ट में यह कहा गया है कि इसे तोड़ने से बंगाल की खाड़ी में भारत के पश्चिम तट के जहाजों को आने-जाने में धन और समय की बचत होगी। यहां तक कि इस कमेटी ने अपने प्रतिवेदन में रामसेतु के अस्तित्व से ही इंकार कर दिया था। पिछली सरकार इसे तोड़कर इसका सौदा विदेशों से करना चाहती थी। इसके लिए उसे तोड़ने हेतु मशीनें भी लगाई गईं।

अतः मेरा केंद्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि रामसेतु की सुरक्षा एवं संरक्षण हेतु सख्त से सख्त कानून बनाया जाए अथवा वर्तमान कानून को और अधिक कड़ा किया जाए जिससे कोई भी सरकार अथवा देश भविष्य में उसे किसी प्रकार की क्षति न पहुंचा सके।

(xv) Need to relax the norm under Swachh Bharat Mission to facilitate construction of School level toilets in the country.

SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA (CHAMRAJNAGAR): I would like to draw the attention towards the fact that the Union Government is implementing so many programmes to provide education to children by spending huge amount every year. We can see, there is a spurt in students' admission in Schools, especially after the Right to Education (RTE) Act and also mid-day-meal scheme. But the available basic infrastructure facilities are turning out to be inadequate to meet their daily needs because of change in norm under Swachh Bharat Mission that prevents taking up works on building toilets in Schools.

As per present norms under Swachh Bharat Mission, only individual toilets and community toilets can be built, omitting School-level toilets. The lack of toilet facilities in Schools, especially in Girls' Schools, force them to wait in serpentine queue.

Hence, I urge the Union Government to relax the norm under Swachh Bharat Mission and provide permission to build School-level toilets.

(xvi) Need to announce a revival package for the flagging cashew industry of Kerala.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): I would like to highlight the problems being faced by Cashew industry in the country. Cashew industry employs around 5 lakh workers, mostly women and from among Dalit communities. Out of this, around 2 lakh people are from Kollam district of Kerala alone. Now the industry is facing severe crisis and the factories are on the verge of closure. The reason is that the factory management imports raw cashew from foreign countries at higher price, process here and make finished product before marketing it. Now the finished product is not cost effective compared to the production cost and the owners are running into huge loss. This has forced them to close down the factories as a result thousands of families are falling into debt. Hence, I urge Ministry of Commerce and Industry to intervene in the matter urgently and announce a revival package for the cashew industry.

(xvii) Need to convert the stretch of National Highway No. 49 between Madurai and Dhanuskodi in Tamil Nadu into a four lane road.

SHRI A. ANWHAR RAAJHA (RAMANATHAPURAM): Infrastructure augmentation in the country got a boost with enhanced road connectivity when previous NDA government gave a thrust to it. Laying of 4 Lane highways under the Golden Quadrilateral Project proved to be a land mark achievement. National Highways Authority of India entrusted with this responsibility had announced then the linking of Delhi-Rameswaram with much fanfare. Unfortunately that remains incomplete even now. Recently, another announcement was made linking Madurai-Dhanuskodi through NH 49 and laying a 4 lane road to a stretch of 192.7 kms. This would meet a purpose of linking headquarters Madurai with Ramanathapuram, linking pilgrim centres Madurai and Rameshwaram that draw pilgrims from all over the country and linking strategically important border point Dhanuskodi with the National Capital. It is learnt that even this latest project is sought to be curtailed and only up to Paramakudi a 4 lane road (87 kms) will be laid while Ramanathapuram will only get a 2 lane with paved shoulder for a stretch of 120 kms. It is totally disappointing. At a time when the Union Minister of Roadways is talking about laying a Sky Road between India and Sri Lanka across the Gulf in the Bay of Bengal it is necessary for the Union Government to complete entire stretch up to Dhanuskodi without any further delay. Hence, I urge upon the Centre to take urgent and immediate steps in this regard considering the overall benefits.

**(xviii) Need to take suitable steps to retrieve Kachchathivu island
from Sri Lanka.**

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH BABU (CHENNAI NORTH): The centre's apathy to the plight of Tamil Nadu fishermen continues. Over 1000 fishermen have been so far killed or maimed by the Sri Lankan Navy. This brutality continues even after the change of guard of Sri Lanka. Narrowed into a tiny area, they are deprived of their traditional fishing rights and their livelihood is shattered.

Whether Kachchathivu was a disputed territory or a ceded one is the bone of contention before the Apex court, where the cession is challenged by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

The Raja of Ramnad had the sovereignty over Kachchathivu. Geology Professor M.S. Ramasamy stated that Kachchathivu, but its land mass, was an integral part of Tamil Nadu. The church there was built by Ramasamy Padaiyachi, a Tamilian. All these are documented. So there can be no dispute. It was also under the permanent occupation of Tamil Nadu fishermen.

While the median line was drawn in equidistance on the Bay of Bengal and the Gulf of Mannar, as mandated by the International maritime law, it was not so on the Palk Strait, sine Kachchathivu lies closer to Tamil Nadu.

1974 and 1976 agreements were mere executive orders and were not ratified as mandated by Section 8 of the 1974 agreement.

The present Government on the one hand is trying to retrieve the island, on the other hand to evade the question of Kachchathivu, the centre is proposing deep sea fishing as an alternative. To facilitate this, the centre has to allot Rs. 1520 crore as special fund and also a recurring grant of Rs. 10 crore per annum for maintenance & dredging.

Sri Lankans are scutteing any Settlement of this issue.

Hence, the solution lies in the retrieval of Kachchathivu, which is a sovereign right of Tamil Nadu.

(xix) Need to make mandatory 100% reservation in packaging norms for foodgrains and sugar in Jute bags for the year 2015-16.

SHIRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL (JAYANAGAR): As we are well aware, next to cotton, jute is the most important natural fibre and has the second highest production among all natural fibres of the world. The environment aspect, biodegradability of jute and importance of the jute industry in Eastern and North Eastern India seek 100% mandatory packaging norms under the JPM Act.

From November 2012 mandating reservation norms for packaging of foodgrains in jute bags continued upto 90%. Similarly in November 2012 itself mandatory norms for packaging of sugar in jute bags was reduced to 40% from 100%. The jute industry received a further set back when the mandatory reservation norms for sugar was reduced to 20% in February, 2013 and this has continued for the last two years. Jute industry has had a very difficult year in 2014-15 when production fell from a high of 16 lakh metric tonnes in 2012-13 to 12.5 lakh metric tonnes. High price of raw jute and perception that demand for raw jute may outstrip availability has led to surge in raw jute price across the states of West Bengal, Assam, Bihar, etc. On the export front jute industry has failed to capture new market and protect old markets because of the 75% cash subsidy that is being sanctioned by the Bangladesh Government for export of finished jute goods from Bangladesh. More important is the fact that since 01.04.2007 India does not have any export incentive policy. Livelihood of 3-5 lakh workers in the organised jute industry and 40 lakh farmers growing jute for the jute industry which is primarily located in Eastern and North Eastern India, restoration of 100% mandatory packaging norms for both sugar and foodgrains will send the right signals to the jute industry as well as manufacturing sector.

To protect the jute industry which is one of the oldest manufacturing industries of India and pivotal to the survival of the manufacturing sector in West Bengal, I would like to request the Government to kindly ensure 100% mandatory reservation for packaging norms for foodgrains and sugar in jute bags for the year 2015-16.

(xx) Need to conduct proper environment impact assessment of the proposed Super Thermal Power Project of NTPC in Chhattisgarh.

DR. PRABHAS KUMAR SINGH (BARGARH): NTPC is setting up a Super Thermal Power Plant in the Raigarh district of Chhattisgarh and the site is only 2 Kilometres from the Odisha- Chhattisgarh inter State border. The public hearing for the project was done in December 2011 in Chhattisgarh only. No information with regard to the conduct of public hearing was circulated in the villages of Odisha which are likely to be affected by this project. The proceedings of the Expert Committee of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change are also silent on proximity of the plant to Odisha-Chhattisgarh boundary. My fear is that the environment appraisal of the project has been done without taking into consideration the impact of pollution on the villages of Odisha located near the Odisha-Chhattisgarh border. My demand is that a proper environment impact assessment must be conducted and the opinion of the people of Odisha living near the plant site be taken into consideration before proceeding further as they are in the affected Zone.

(xxi) Need to regulate the private coaching/tuition centres in the country.

श्री कृपाल बालाजी तुमाने (रामटेक) : देश में प्राइवेट ट्यूशन संस्थान/क्लास चलाने वालों की मनमानी चल रही है तथा विद्यार्थियों से मनमानी ट्यूशन फीस 1,25,000/- से 2,50,000/- तक ले रहे हैं और संचालक कुछ किए बिना ही मालामाल हो रहे हैं। इसका बोझ गरीब परिवार के विद्यार्थियों पर बढ़ता जा रहा है।

स्कूलों/महाविद्यालयों की प्राइवेट ट्यूशन संस्थानों/क्लासों के संचालकों की सॉट-गॉट होती है तथा शिक्षक विद्यार्थियों को ट्यूशन लगाने की सलाह देते हैं। ट्यूशन क्लासों में परीक्षा में आने वाले प्रश्नों को पढ़ाया जाता है। इस वजह से विद्यार्थियों में गुणवत्ता का अभाव होता है। ऐसे विद्यार्थी अपना भविष्य कैसे बना सकते हैं? देश में अवैध रूप से चल रहे ट्यूशन संस्थान/क्लास पर अंकुश लगाने वाला कोई भी बोर्ड न होने के कारण गली-गली में ट्यूशन क्लास/संस्थान खुल रहे हैं जिनका लेखा-जोखा किसी के पास नहीं है।

अतः मेरा केंद्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि ट्यूशन संस्थानों/क्लासों का पंजीकरण, फीस निर्धारण, उनके लिए नियमावली और निरीक्षण होना बहुत जरूरी है। इसके लिए बोर्ड का गठन किया जाए जिससे उन पर बोर्ड का नियंत्रण रहेगा और मनमाने तरीके से वूसली जा रही ट्यूशन फीस पर लगाम लगाने में सहायता मिलेगी।

(xxii) Need to pay attention to drop out problems plaguing IITs and NITs.

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): IITs are premium national institutes. Creamy and meritorious students make it to IITs to pursue their career. But, in the last 3-4 years, there is sharp increase in drop out rate of students from IITs. The rate of drop out is increasing year-after-year. In 2012-13 and it registered all time high 757 in 2014-15. Highest drop out rate is in Roorkee in 2013-14 it was 188 and went up to 228 in 2014-15. The worrying factor is that a relatively new IIT, Hyderabad has also registered dropout rate of more than 100% between 2013.14 (15 dropouts) and 2014-15 (39 dropouts). The situation is no better in NITs either. More than 2350 dropped out from NITs between 2012 and 2015.

I understand, one of the main reasons, as per one survey conducted, is most of the students study engineering due to parental push resulting in inability of students to cope with academic pressure.

So, I request HRD Ministry to give counselling to parents at the time of admission, to take special care of those students whose performance, after entering into IIT or NIT, is not up to the mark and follow the pattern of IIT, Madras and Kanpur where there are only 8 dropouts during the above period.

(xxiii) Need to set up Tribal Research Institutes (TRI) for the welfare of Scheduled Tribe Community of Aralam Farm in Kannur in Kerala and also to provide basic amenities.

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER (KANNUR): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a matter regarding the need to set up Tribal Research Institutes (TRI) for the welfare of Scheduled Tribe People of Aralam Farm in my Constituency Kannur Parliamentary Constituency, State of Kerala.

The Aralam Farm was established by the Government of India in the year 1970 with the assistance of erstwhile Soviet Union. It is situated in the Kappad and Aralam Villages of the Thalassery Taluk of Kannur District, 56 Km away from Thalassery and Kannur Town and 16 Km from Iritty Town. It was subsequently taken over by the SC & ST development Department, Government of Kerala and it distributed half of the area to the landless tribals and run the remaining area as a Farm for the welfare of tribals.

There are about 2000 Scheduled Tribal families living in the hilly region Aralam farm today. Tribals are economically, educationally and politically backward. There is complete lack of awareness about the various development schemes and programmes implemented by the Government and are also lacking in facilities like Aanganwadi, Schools, Hospitals and proper transportation, etc.

Hence, I request the Hon'ble Minister to take urgent steps to spread awareness among the Tribal people about the various development schemes through training and by setting up TRIs in this area and also to provide the basic amenities to the Aralam Scheduled Tribe Colony of Kannur district, Kerala.

(xxiv) Need to take steps for development of Cashew sector in the country.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): The socio-economic condition of cashew nut workers is very bad. The average total expenditure is significantly higher than the average income. The living condition of cashew workers is highly dependent on the total number of working days. Due to the import-export policy and the imposition of tax, the factory owners are not able to provide sufficient number of working days. The cashew sector is facing serious problem. The intervention of Government is required for increasing the number of working days to 250, financial assistance for mobilizing working capital, special arrangement for procurement of raw nuts, streamline policy on procurement of raw nuts and sale of Kernels, promotion and expansion of marketing, financial support and technical support for value added products, project for diversification, etc. Hence, I urge upon the Government to initiate urgent action for resolution of the issues of the issues in cashew sector in the country particularly in Kollam, Kerala.

12.10 hours**DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193****Flood and drought situation in Tamil Nadu and other parts of the Country**

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Dr. P. Venugopal has authorized Shri T.G. Venkatesh Babu to speak.

DR. P. VENUGOPAL (TIRUVALLUR): Madam Speaker, on behalf of me, I authorize Mr. Venkatesh Babu to take part in this discussion. Thank you.

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH BABU (CHENNAI NORTH): Thank you for allowing us to have a discussion under Rule 193 on the flood and drought situation arising in Tamil Nadu. ... (*Interruptions*)

12.10 ½ hours

(At this stage, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge and some other hon. Members left the House.)

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Madam, Speaker, the comments about the community should not go on record. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

... (*Interruptions*)... *

श्री एम. वैकैय्या नायडू : उन्होंने जाते समय भी बोला। उन्होंने कहा कि दलित के खिलाफ बोला। दलित के खिलाफ किसी ने नहीं बोला। वी.के. सिंह ने भी नहीं बोला। ... (व्यवधान) इसलिए इसको बार-बार उठाना, उनका अपमान करना, यह अच्छा नहीं है। वह बाढ़ के बारे में चर्चा नहीं चाहते, तो यह उनकी च्वाइस है। ... (व्यवधान)

* Not recorded.

HON. SPEAKER: I have already told that nothing will go on record. जो ईश्यू मेंने डिसएलाऊ किया हुआ है, तो इसका कारण ही नहीं कि इसे लिया जाए।

... (*Interruptions*)*

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Venkatesh Babu, please continue.

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH BABU: First of all, I would like to express my gratitude and sincere thanks to our hon. leader, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for giving me an opportunity to speak on the flood situation arising in Tamil Nadu due to incessant rains.

Most of the parts of Tamil Nadu get rains during the months of October to December through Northeast Monsoon. But this year an unusually very heavy and extreme rainfall occurred in almost all districts of Tamil Nadu. The four northern districts of Tamil Nadu, *i.e.*, Chennai, Tiruvallur, Cuddalore and Kancheepuram had unprecedented rainfall. In many areas the downpour was very heavy in a short duration of time.

Normally, the monsoon brings incessant rains for a period of three months giving enough time for draining out and restoration. But this year the rainfall that is due for three months fell on three days time consecutively. Neyveli in Cuddalore district, which was already devastated by Thane Storm three years back, received 437 millimetre of rain on 9th November alone. Chennai received the second heaviest monthly rainfall recorded in the past more than 100 years in just 20 days of November 2015.

Between November 8th and November 16th widespread rainfall occurred in almost all the districts of Tamil Nadu. There were heavy to extremely heavy rainfall from 8th November to 26th November. The average rainfall in the State in 12 days from 4th November was 217 millimetre. In a few hours more than 100 millimetre downpour occurred on an average. In four districts, the actual rainfall for this season up to November 15th was 382 millimetre, whereas the normal

* *Not recorded*

average rainfall for the entire season of three months of Northeast Monsoon is 290 millimetre only.

According to the Meteorological Department, a deep depression of high intensity formed in the Bay of Bengal, hit Marakkanam in Cuddalore district on 10th November. It was followed by another low pressure system which brought additional rains to Tamil Nadu and aggravated the situation still further.

According to the Indian Meteorological Department, the State has recorded excess rainfall of 32 per cent between October 1st and November 15th. Even the Department was taken aback as it could not forecast such a devastating and unprecedented rainfall and cyclonic effect of such a magnitude.

Overflow from Andhra which also received heavy rainfall from Krishnanpallam Dam to Kosasthalai river and from Pichatur Dam to Arani river aggravated the problem still further. Based on the forecast adequate precautionary measures were taken by the State Government and all the departments were put on alert. Monsoon preparedness meeting was held on 1st October by the Chief Secretary followed by video conferences organised by the Principal Secretary between 26th October and 5th November to gear up the administration to face any eventuality and necessary instructions were issued.

Disaster Management Plan was prepared and kept ready. Taluka level district management plan was also drawn and all the concerned were put on alert. All these precautionary measures were taken on the instructions of the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. *Puratchi Thalaivi* Amma, but for the leadership and timely action taken by Amma, untold miseries and unprecedented destructions could not have been averted. Despite all the precautions taken, damages caused by the unprecedented rainfall were heavy in almost all the districts. It was extensive in four districts of northern Tamil Nadu. To put in the words of a leading magazine, 'it was a deluge'.

Undeterred by the devastation, the well oiled machinery of the State embarked on immediate relief and restoration work.

The overflow from the filled up tanks and reservoirs further aggravated the problem. Amma's Government had overhauled the entire drainage system recently, but even that could not drain out the floods. The State was on the anvil of restoring 121 reservoirs in Chennai city for storing of rainwater before the monsoon struck a heavy blow. Even the rainwater harvesting, the much acclaimed plan of execution by Amma, could not suffice.

The demographic nature of Tamil Nadu, especially Chennai city, was its undoing. The major reservoirs and their waterways were encroached upon by the greedy realtors in connivance with the previous DMK regime. The 3,000 acres of marshy land at Pallikaranai situated in the city, which can hold much of rain water, was also encroached upon. All this contributed to the flooding and inundation of many parts of the city.

The unprecedented rainfall and the fury of nature have caused extensive damage in the State - 14,35,695 houses were inundated, four lakh people were evacuated to 539 relief camps and provided with shelter, food, water, clothing and medical assistance. Nearly 21,30,000 food packets were distributed to the people who were affected. Hundreds of water tankers were pressed into service to provide drinking water, 121 special camps were organised for vaccinating 85,111 cattle and 32,551 de-worming doses were administered and 120 tonnes of free fodder were arranged.

In areas where there was total disruption of power supply, generators were moved for immediate restoration of power supply. Additional staff was deputed. Hundreds of transformers, electric poles and conductors were replaced in no time.

The floods caused extensive damage to dwellings, crops, infrastructure, including roads, bridges, drainage and sewage systems, government buildings etc. Road blocks extending to hundreds of kilometres were repaired and traffic was restored within a few hours.

Enumeration of huts damaged was done on daily basis and reliefs were distributed immediately.

Several teams were formed to assess the loss. Twelve teams of NDRF, four teams of SDRF and five teams of Coastal Security Force, 500 personnel of Fire and Rescue Services, 160 men from the Army, with eight inflatable and four pedal boats and one all-terrain vehicle, were deployed in four districts alone. Additionally, two columns of Navy with six boats and six helicopters from Air Force were put in service. SDRF, Coastal Security Guards, Fire and Rescue Services of the State Government, along with the civilian officials of various Departments, and Ministers were tirelessly participating in the rescue operations.

Lakhs of State Government staff were engaged in relief operations throughout the State along with the NGOs. The hon. Chief Minister, after visiting the flood affected areas, sanctioned Rs. 500 crore on the 16th of November for relief and restoration work. Immediately relief was arranged to the families of 169 people who lost their lives. Relief was provided to 2,038 cases of loss of cattle and 60,672 cases of loss of poultry and 98,650 cases of hut damage. One additional set of books, notebooks and uniforms were supplied to students who lost them in the floods. For those who lost their ration cards, duplicate ration cards were given immediately. All the relief works were done on a war-footing.

At this juncture, I, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government, express my thanks to the Central forces but for whose timely service the enormous relief works could not have been accomplished. After assessing the damage, a memorandum was submitted to the Government of India by the Tamil Nadu Government seeking Rs. 2,630.85 crore for temporary restoration and Rs. 5,850.34 crore for permanent restoration totaling to Rs. 8,480.93 crore from the NDRF fund for the flood damages suffered. The Central team has also visited the flood-affected areas and made an assessment to be placed before the Centre.

Our hon. Chief Minister, *Amma*, in her letter to Prime Minister on 23rd November requested for the immediate release of Rs. 2,000 crore for urgent relief work. In her letter, our hon. Chief Minister quoted that the initial assessment done requires higher finance, which is well

beyond the resources available with the State including the SDRF, and that the extent of damage is still unfolding and many weeks of monsoon is still left. I profusely thank the Prime Minister -- on behalf of our *Amma* and the Government that she heads -- for the immediate relief rendered and the fund released.

I cannot but remind this House that during the much more devastating Thane storm, the previous UPA Government -- in which DMK was a partner -- released only Rs. 500 crore and that too after much hesitation and delay. Our Government then was left to carry out the relief operation on its own. DMK, which criticized the initial allocation of Rs. 500 crore by *Amma* as insufficient, donated only Rs. one crore. The people of Tamil Nadu are asking : "All right, now Rs. one crore is here as relief fund. Where is the remaining Rs. 1.75 lakh crore?". This is what the people of Tamil Nadu want to know.

The Opposition Parties are trying to take advantage of this calamity. Instead of helping the relief operation, massively undertaken by our Government, they are criticizing the relief work. The Tamil Nadu unit of BJP and Central Ministers were no exception for it, but they forget the track record of *Amma's* Government in disaster management of natural calamities. The excellent and speedy relief operation carried out by the Tamil Nadu Government under the leadership of our beloved *Amma* during the Tsunami holocaust was praised by the entire world. It was acclaimed by none other than the former President of USA, Mr. Clinton. The disaster management work undertaken by *Amma's* Government during the Thane storm was hailed as a role model for the entire nation. This time also we will get the appreciation of the right-thinking people for the tremendous work done by us to save the people of Tamil Nadu and to mitigate their sufferings.

Our *Amma*, as frequently quoted by her, is 'by the people' and 'for the people'. The civic infrastructure including rails, roads and buildings need to be

strengthened to withstand rain and resulting flooding. This also calls for changes and improvement in urban planning methods and norms. The long-term need is for better water management and measures to conserve water, which can turn even flood into a boon, and with one more month of active North-East monsoon left, the rainfall figures in the State are expected to really shoot-up. Another spell of heavy rains is predicted by the Meteorological Department from 29 November 2015, particularly, in the southern parts of Tamil Nadu. Even now, there have been extremely heavy rainfalls continuously pouring, which are devastating Chennai, Tiruvallur and Kancheepuram Districts.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to consider this calamity as a National calamity because of its large-scale devastation and release immediately the entire demanded amount of Rs. 8,480.93 crore from the National Disaster Response Fund for flood damages suffered by the State of Tamil Nadu.

I would like to state that timely release of adequate funds by the Union Government will help Tamil Nadu to undertake temporary and permanent restoration of infrastructure and other utilities on war-footing basis.

With sincere prayers for being considerate, let me conclude, Madam.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (KARUR): The issue under Rule 193 about which he spoke just now is a very serious matter. The Central team visited our State, but we do not know what recommendations they have made. Also, heavy rains started once again and people are suffering a lot. If our Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh is here, we would be very happy, but anyway the State Minister is here. I would request Shri Rajnath Singh Ji to come over here. It is a very serious matter and that is what I wanted to state.

HON. SPEAKER: Just now the discussion has started. You can also speak on this issue. The discussion, which has started just now, is on flood and drought situation prevailing in several parts of the country.

Now, I call Shri P.C. Mohan.

SHRI P.C. MOHAN (BANGALORE CENTRAL): Madam, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on this issue.

The southern parts of our country, especially in Tamil Nadu and in the neighbouring State of Andhra Pradesh, it has been raining very heavily for the past three weeks. The situation in Tamil Nadu, especially in Chennai, is worse. As we all know, we have been watching on the TV also and people who are coming from there have been telling us that the situation is so bad that schools have been shut down, airports have been closed, train services have been cancelled and the people are living in a very grim situation there.

I thank the Centre for its intervention. Our Prime Minister Shri Modi spoke to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu the other day assuring her all help from the Centre. He spoke to Jayalalithaa Ji on the flood situation in parts of Tamil Nadu and assured her all possible support and cooperation in this unfortunate hour. I thank the Prime Minister for giving such a nice statement about which people are very happy.

Ten teams of the National Disaster Rescue Force have already been dispatched, four of which are already in Chennai, and the rest will be flying in tomorrow. At the same time, we are all requesting the Chief of NDRF to send more teams from Bengaluru and Andhra Pradesh.

Karnataka, being their neighbour, we sympathize with the people of Tamil Nadu and Andhra. We know the situation which they are facing and I would like to tell them that they have our complete support. Thank you.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (KOLKATA UTTAR): Madam, the situation is very grim because both floods and drought have affected our country. Vast areas are under flood and half of India is affected by drought. The data shows that 302 out of 614 districts are reeling under drought, which is the highest since 2009; and forty per cent of the area in different parts of India is affected by floods.

Along with Chennai and other parts in Tamil Nadu, floods have very badly affected the State of West Bengal also. I have raised this issue on the floor of the all-Party meeting convened by you on 25th of November. The State Government asked for a relief of Rs. 6,000 crore, and I questioned the Government as to how much money was allotted by the Centre to grapple with the situation. Then, very promptly, Shri Venkaiah Naidu assured me that he would send a reply and accordingly he had sent a reply stating, "Dear Sudip *Da*, as per the information that we have got, Bengal got the entire amount of Rs. 367 crore which has been released from SDRF for this year."

Further details will be available tomorrow afternoon." I will possibly get to know the further information. When we asked for Rs.6,000 crore, how did SDRF release only Rs.387 crore? What is the system of assessment? The Central team goes and it comes back. How do they assess the gravity of the situation? They go together to make the assessment of the situation. But when they take the decision, they do it of their own. We broadly disown this.

Tamil Nadu is, no doubt, affected very badly. Let them get more money. We have full support for them. What I heard yesterday was that their demand was up to a certain extent. But a very minimum amount has been released. The situation is becoming very difficult to be tackled by the States' own monetary resources. I would say that the Central Government on the one side is not releasing the money on time and on the other, the State Government is not capable enough to tackle the situation up to that limit with their own sources. Many Central projects are also being affected. Right from August, there has been no rain in the country except in a few places. So, the drought is also equally affecting. West

Bengal is a sufferer of both flood and drought. Four districts particularly, Burdwan, Bankura, Purulia and West Midnapore are affected by floods. There is unprecedented rainfall on one side and drought on the other side. This is actually a serious condition. We propose that farmers and the flood affected people ought to be provided with drinking water, food and alternative seeds. On the other side, DVC is not giving water. Tenughat project of West Bengal has no water. How can this situation be overcome? I would request the Central Government to give necessary instructions to release DVC water for this purpose, in consultation with the State Government at the earliest possible time.

Due to flood and due to drought very poor people and farmers lose their income and assets. They are to face a distress sale. They become much poorer. They do not become poorer. They become the poorest. I would also suggest one thing. The Government has a huge stock of food grains under FCI. The Food Corporation of India can supply more amount of food grains to the flood affected areas and to the drought affected areas.

In deficit monsoon, death of farmers is also very much alarming. I would say that the Central assistance is also being reduced for ICDS project. Earlier, the Central Government used to give them lion's share of the fund to run the ICDS projects. Now it has been said that the State will share the maximum portion and the Centre will give the remaining portion. It is another burden on the shoulders of the Government. We keep saying here that the West Bengal Government has to repay a debt of Rs.2,30,000 crore and against that loan taken by the previous Government every year the Central Government takes Rs.20,000 crore from the State Government of West Bengal. In that regard we have categorically said that if we are repaying the old loans taken by the previous Government out of the loans being given by the present Government, it is a precarious condition.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sudip-da, you are here and Saugata-ji is here. The system is like that. Whether it is this Government or that Government it makes no difference. State Government means the West Bengal Government.

Earlier it was CPI (M) Government and now it is Trinamool Government. That is the system in India. If there is some other way you suggest it. You can give a new idea to the effect that a new Government need not take care of whatever the previous Government has done. But such a situation is not there under the Constitution. I am just taking this liberty because you raised this issue earlier also.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: I agree with you. What I meant was that a Government which ruled the State of West Bengal for 34 years had run a huge debt of Rs.2,30,000 crore and the repayment burden of that fell on the new Government of the State, for which the Central Government naturally deducts Rs.20,000 crore every year.

Now some positive steps have to be taken by the Central Government. I want to know what are the functions of the following Centrally-aided projects. These things happen very broadly. Can we involve additional days of work under MNREGA project? Diesel subsidy scheme for farmers in affected areas, enhancement of ceiling on seed subsidy, interventions for saving horticulture crops, implementation of additional fodder development programme, allocation of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), availability of seeds and other inputs for *khari* 2015, crisis management plan for drought for the year 2015, how are all these schemes rising to the occasion?

Madam, such instances of floods and droughts have to be managed with imagination, with some farsightedness and advanced planning. We have to make a proper plan in advance. These affect our country any time any moment, nobody can say. Global warming is manifesting in these weather changes. The whole world is now becoming conscious of the effects of climate change. There was a huge convention in Paris very recently and these issues have been raised and discussed there.

As regards functioning of the State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF), nowadays there is a system wherein the Central Government gives money to the State fund in advance. But if the flood or drought becomes worse, then the Government has to

spend the money primarily. The Government of West Bengal has already spent more than Rs.1,000 crore in spite of the huge financial crisis it is in. The State Government has asked for Rs.6,000 crore but only Rs.367 crore were released and that too is yet to be received. I came to know about this relief order from Mr. Venkaiah Naidu-ji.

Madam, I would submit that flood situation in Tamil Nadu be dealt with on priority. But the situation being faced by West Bengal due to floods and droughts is a very serious situation. Government of India should rise to the occasion with all sorts of assistance. It should discuss with the Chief Minister of the State in a broad way. The recommendations of the central teams that visit and assess the situation should not be taken as final. The Chief Ministers of the States are made by people's representatives. When they are asking for some financial assistance, it should be taken up on priority.

This discussion was very important and I think those States which are affected by drought and floods, especially West Bengal, which I represent, and Tamil Nadu should be taken on priority.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): Hon. Speaker Madam, the issue that has been raised under Rule 193 is a very pertinent and sensitive one. We all have witnessed the ferocity and the frenzy of the nature in Tamil Nadu in the recent past. Virtually the entire country has been ravaged by the fury of nature frequently which even took a toll of lives in addition to huge financial loss. We are undergoing a severe environmental and ecological disaster and the community of the world is pondering over it in order to deal with this kind of situation.

In India, we have various meteorological divisions. Somewhere we are destined to face drought, somewhere it is flood and now due to fury of nature, even the desert has been flooded and those areas which earlier witnessed the huge rainfall are facing the drought-like situation. So, naturally no area could be as usual demarcated as flood-prone or drought-prone area now because it is the freak of the nature which determines the fate of any area of our country.

I am also hailing from a State which is prone to flood like other flood-prone areas. This year also, a large swath of West Bengal has been ravaged by flood. People have lost their crops, their properties, their livestock etc. but no succour worth its name, no assistance worth its name has been provided to those flood-affected people of the State in spite of high-flown promises that were made frequently.

I would also like to draw the attention of the House and the Government that we cannot dictate the nature on our own terms. At least we can mitigate the sufferings of the common people provided we have the appropriate post-disaster management facilities available with us.

A number of institutions have been created on for dealing with these unforeseen and unprecedented situations. For your kind recall, I can cite the Cyclone Phailin in Odisha and Cyclone Hudhud in Andhra Pradesh. Due to the Cyclone Phailin, Odisha incurred a loss of more than Rs. 30,000 crore; for Cyclone Hudhud, Andhra Pradesh incurred a loss of more than Rs. 1,00,000 crore.

In order to adopt to environmental vulnerabilities, the Government needs to provide 2.5 per cent of the GDP, that is, more than Rs. 3,00,000 crore. ...
(*Interruptions*)

Here my esteemed colleague Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay had cited the issue of Bengal floods. He was striving hard in order to save the face of his leader who happens to be the Chief Minister of West Bengal and who used to remain busy in holding *melas*, festivals, etc., whereby crores of rupees are being spent only to satisfy her ego but insofar as farmers and flood-affected people are concerned she always remained indifferent to those hapless people. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: He is talking about *melas* and festivals. How is it related? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: It is relevant. You just referred to your government. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: It is your government also. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: It is the State Government, the West Bengal Government, that is, your Government. ... (*Interruptions*)

The West Bengal Government is an indebted government. You are pleading for financial moratorium, etc. from the Central Government but the fact is that when you assumed power you were well aware that you were inheriting a State which was a debt-ridden State. So, from the beginning you had to be pragmatic in your expenditure and in running the government, where you have failed miserably. Now, the debt burden has gone up to Rs. 3,00,000 crore; nobody will help you to salvage the situation besides God. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Two more Members from your party want to speak on this.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Even in West Bengal, farmers are committing suicide. It is a regular feature. In West Bengal, the minimum support price which is meant to be given to these farmers so that they are not compelled to

indulge in distress sale is not being given. The entire infrastructure in West Bengal is in a shambles.

All the institutions in West Bengal are viciously politicised. That is why, the farmers are not being given their due in spite of availability of funds. Minimum Support Price is now Rs.1410 and Rs.1415 plus bonus. But the farmers are compelled to sell their produce as is determined by the middlemen. So, the fate of the poor farmers is now being dictated by the middlemen in connivance with the political apparatchiks of the State of West Bengal. Even the irrigation facilities are not being provided. That has been referred to by my esteemed colleague. DVC is not being run by the Central Government only. The States of West Bengal and Jharkhand are co-sharing the DVC. Before discharging water, you should put your argument in a befitting manner so that in future there should not be any disturbance for irrigation.

I would request the Central Government to provide the money that is required for the State in the way that is very known to the Central Government. Institutional credit should be given to those farmers. In India, only 2.3 per cent of institutional credit is being given to those poor and marginal farmers. I would like to know how many areas of West Bengal are being covered by crop insurance because only 18 to 19 per cent area of our country is under crop insurance. So in order to give some relief to those flood and drought affected farmers of our country, we should offer something which may help them to survive in this situation.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Madam, I was a witness myself or a victim myself when rain was ravaging Chennai. The Railway Convention Committee was on tour and I was travelling from Bhubaneswar to Chennai. That was on 15th November, 2015 and on that day, there were dark clouds over Chennai and roads were flooded. The moment our flight landed at Chennai Airport, I was really very apprehensive whether I can reach my hotel or not. But the General Manager of Southern Railway told me that we can navigate. He used the word 'navigate'. I looked up to his face and told him that he is using the word 'navigate'. He said that Sir, we have to ply through vast mass of water. But our roads are good and we can go through.

I was a bit apprehensive because a Committee tour itself is not a single Member affair and it can only have its impact if more Members come and participate. Subsequently, Mr. Venugopal and other Members also arrived. But we were all confined for two days in that hotel only. We could not go out. That is supposed to be the main centre of Chennai and our point of discussion went around relating to the Chennai main station which is in a low lying area. Most of the officers who were controlling traffic, they were more concerned how to restrict the movement of train and how to make passenger, at least, to go out and come in so that nobody would say that the train service has collapsed. They did a better job in that. But yesterday we all came to know, we saw the visuals in the television that the whole Chennai airport is flooded. That shows that since last so many days, for the last 20-21 days, there has been incessant rain, that is the North-Eastern monsoon which normally comes in the middle of November and continues till mid-January but never ever, as I had heard in Chennai that day, they had witnessed this type of heavy rain in Tamil Nadu. Large parts of Tamil Nadu have been flooded. Lakhs of people have been inundated. Their houses have been flooded. Three districts of Southern Andhra Pradesh also have got incessant rain. This has something to do with the Al Nino effect. If the water in the Pacific Ocean gets heated up, then we get this type of torrential rains or heavy showers in some parts

and we experience drought in some other parts. Many areas do not get rain as usually they should get.

When we were there, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu went around, Shri Venugopal will agree with me. It is because this was a point of discussion not only in Chennai itself. How could a Chief Minister move around the city when the whole city is flooded? That is how a leader of calibre in a State should function. She demonstrated it. Her instruction was to go to the people. One of our hon. Member of Parliament from the AIADMK is a Member of our Committee and when we telephoned him and asked him as to where he was and that we were in his State and he replied that he was in his Constituency and that the instruction from his party was that he had to be with the people. He was some 300 kilometres away from Chennai. But that place was also affected by incessant rain and people were suffering. As much support as was possible was being provided to the people. But that was not adequate. No Government can provide whatever is possible in a normal ways, life goes on, the Government can provide. But at least the Government gave a sense that the Government machinery was with the people. When some disaster strikes that is how the Administration should react to at the first instance.

As I had said on earlier occasions, the first thing is to rescue the people when a disaster strikes. The second is to provide the people with relief and then comes rehabilitation. These are the three 'R's that are to be followed when disaster strikes any place. First the people should be rescued. That is what our hon. Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik had done when Phailin had struck the State of Odisha in 2013. The Southern part of Odisha was affected. More than 10 lakh people were evacuated from the affected area. This is a lesson which we had learnt after 1999 super cyclone. At that time there was a different Government in power in the State. When the Administration informed the people that the wind is coming with this magnitude of velocity and they were asked to shift to a better place for shelter. People did not leave. In 1999 when the Administration informed the

people that the wind was coming with this magnitude of velocity and they were asked to shift to a better place for shelter, people did not leave. But in 2013 when prediction about Phailin had come, more than 10 lakh people were evacuated and people came on their own to the cyclone shelter to different other places. Rescue was done. Hardly two or three people died and that was because of accident at other places. But people were evacuated to cyclone shelters. They stayed in those places for 7 to 10 days and then went back after the cyclone receded.

13.00 hours

But my concern here is this. The Government of Tamil Nadu has demanded around Rs. 8480.93 crore for immediate help. They have also given a suggestion that the State Disaster Response Fund also should be borne by the Government of India. Odisha has been demanding the same thing. During the time of Phailin, repeated requests had been made.

I endorse what the Government of Tamil Nadu has said and I expect that the Government will take action. The hon. Prime Minister himself has said on an earlier occasion regarding the flood situation in Chennai and the surrounding areas of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

My only request here is, flood had occurred in Mumbai. All of us were surprised to know as to how Mumbai could be flooded like this. But subsequently, we came to know that due to the choking of Mithi River, water discharge was not happening normally. A lot of habitations have come up in those areas which has choked the discharge of rain water or storm water. That had actually caused flood in Mumbai. A similar situation has also happened in Chennai. Subsequently, after the flood recedes, I think there is a need to go into this aspect also. It may be legal or illegal but you have to allow free flow of water to the sea. If that happens, this type of flood will not occur.

Madam, Bhubaneswar is a planned city. It is on a high ground. Normally, during my childhood days, I used to see that whenever rain falls in the morning, the whole lane gets flooded but after three to four hours, the total city becomes

clean and dry. But today, most of those areas have been choked through which water should go out. That is why, when the Minister for Urban Development including the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs was here, I was thinking of suggesting about having a discussion on the planned development of our urban areas. It means urban growth is happening but planned growth is actually not happening.

I come from a city which is more than 1100 years old. That is a recorded history. Even before that, habitations must have been there. Two mighty rivers also flow on both sides of the city. But we are not flooded by river water. We are flooded by our drain waters because the city is like a cauldron. The river bed is high and we have to pump out the water into the river bed. I have been trying my best to get some more funds from the Union Government but to my ill luck, during the last 18 years, not much has happened whenever Odisha is being considered. Of course, it needs merit but Bhubaneswar and Puri get the first priority and Cuttack is always relegated to the background. But here, I will take this advantage while participating in this discussion. For the last two to three days, I have been trying to raise this issue in the 'Zero Hour'. Somehow or other, I have not been that lucky to raise it. It is relating to Phailin issue which Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury had mentioned. It struck us in 2013. It received the attention of the United Nations which said that the best disaster management had been done in Odisha under the leadership of the Chief Minister. But as the Minister of State for Home Affairs is here, I would like to draw his attention to this aspect. As regards the National Disaster Response Fund, there was a High Level Committee meeting chaired by Shri Sharad Pawar, the then Union Minister for Agriculture. The State Government pointed out an error. As there was a commitment that this much of money will flow but it did not go. And the State Government pointed out the error.

The Chief Minister received a letter on 10th September, 2014 from the Ministry of Home Affairs informing him that the expenditure of Rs. 399.83 crore

was approved. The Minister himself committed to that in this House when I had raised this issue last year. But this was subsequently not given effect to. This was pointed out by the Chief Minister to the Prime Minister also on 15th January, 2015. On 4th March, 2015 a formal decision at the High Level Committee was supposed to be taken. In between three High Level Committee meetings have already taken place. One was on 14th January, another was 24th March and the third was on 29th May. Despite the Chief Minister's repeated requests, despite our pleadings, despite the United Nations appreciating it, despite the Home Ministry also approving it, this money has not flown. It is not much. It is just Rs. 400 crore. This is something, we feel, has been denied. It has been denied to us and it needs to go.

We will be discussing later on the drought situation in the country.

HON. SPEAKER: No, this discussion includes drought also.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Drought is much more wide-spread and the country is affected by the drought to a very great extent. We will miss the point. I am not dealing with drought now. My point relates to flood situation.

Of course, today the Minister has said that flood cannot be predicted and rainfall can be predicted. This is what he stated when he was replying to one hon. Member from Maharashtra, Shrimati Poonam Mahajan's question. He was answering to her question. No doubt flood cannot be predicted. But today what is happening because of the erratic monsoon. Suddenly, we have cloud burst in one place. This happened in 1982 in Odisha. Beyond Hirakud, there was cloud burst and there was a heavy rainfall which flooded large parts of Odisha. That had happened.

Now, science has developed. I think weather forecast in our country also has developed and it has come to the international standards. Recently, in Paradip they have also put up an ultra-modern weather forecasting mechanism. That needs to be replicated in other coastal areas, which can also tell us that we are expecting cyclone which will bring in more rainfall.

With these words, I would urge upon the Government to look at Tamil Nadu and West Bengal; and in-between Odisha is also there. So, look at Odisha also. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Thank you.

Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.10 p.m.

13.09 hours

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Ten Minutes past
Fourteen of the Clock*

14.13 hours

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Thirteen Minutes past
Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Hon. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193
Flood and drought situation in Tamil Nadu and
other parts of the Country ... Contd

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu.

... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SUGATA BOSE (JADAVPUR): Sir, I will take just one minute.

Just before the Lunch Break, one hon. Member unfortunately made certain adverse remarks about the Chief Minister of West Bengal while Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab praised the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and Odisha rightly so. I want to set the record straight that in July, when there were floods in West Bengal, the Chief Minister along with some of us was in London. We had gone for a very important visit to attract investment to the State of West Bengal. The Chief Minister of West Bengal, upon hearing the news about the weather forecast and the impending flood situation, cut short her visit. We all came back. The Chief Minister personally monitored the flood situation from Nabanno, her headquarters. She took exemplary action. I would also like to express the solidarity of the people of West Bengal with the people of Tamil Nadu as they face the current flood situation.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Sir, I totally agree with the hon. Member. Even I was feeling in the morning that this is a debate where we are discussing about the misery of the people. If we convert this also into a political debate and then try to criticize each other, no meaningful purpose can be served. People are in distress. We need to express our concern

from the House to those people so that they get some confidence that Parliament of India is discussing about us, something will happen to us. They will have some confidence. Any reference to any Chief Minister, I heard a mention was made about the West Bengal Chief Minister at that time, and the same should be avoided. If any personal remarks about the Chief Minister are made, that should be removed from the records.

Secondly, I am not here to respond to the debate, I, as an individual, who lived partly in that area also, I lived partly in Chennai, partly in Bengaluru, partly in Hyderabad, partly in Delhi, and partly in my place. I move around. Just now, my daughter and granddaughter had shown some pictures of Chennai. They are really moving. I am in touch with Chennai on a daily basis. And also with Andhra Pradesh where six districts are also affected. We are getting updates.

Just now, the Meteorological Department has given another warning that in another 24 hours, the situation may worsen. Water has entered into the airport, and run-way; flights were all stranded; trains are not moving. Just now the news is that Egmore Railway track is partly washed away, partly submerged also. Bus Stands are not functional. Some of the people are living in the first and second floors. Water has entered the ground floor. I cannot explain the plight of the ordinary people. Fortunately, in Chennai, compared to other parts of the country, slums are comparatively less because successive Governments have taken up welfare measures by setting up Slum Clearance Boards. Hon. Deputy Speaker was himself a Minister in the Government of Tamil Nadu. Those areas, which are on the side of the Coovam river, particularly Velachery, and northern Chennai low lying areas, are full of water. Women are trying to swim, which they could not; any number of boats would not help the situation.

Today morning, I want to share with the House, the hon. Prime Minister had preliminary discussion with the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, hon. Minister of Defence, hon. Minister of Finance and myself. We have exchanged information. The hon. Prime Minister spoke to Madam, Jayalalitha *ji*, and

conveyed to her that whatever support is required, that would be given by the Government of India. But the point is that it is not an ordinary situation. I want to tell the House that there are floods in different parts of the country, even in Andhra Pradesh also but this situation in Chennai and nearby Kancheepuram is totally different. In 100 years, this is the highest rainfall and floods. People are moving through boats, wherever boats are available. There is totally no road traffic anywhere in the city. People are advised to stay indoors.

Now, a warning is coming that in another 24 hours the situation may further aggravate. My standing up today morning is just to convey to the people of Tamil Nadu, more particularly the people of Chennai and other areas affected by floods, that Parliament of India is concerned about you, something is being done; be a little confident. This is not the time to criticize each other. Naturally, there will be anxiety among the people. Certain television channels are going and asking the people as to what they have got. Naturally, one must understand. Who are the people who will serve the suffering people? Again, they are the employees, who are also human beings, and their houses are totally drowned. They are not able to come out of their houses. That is another problem. That is why, wherever required, Navy has been pressed into service; Army has been put on alert; they are extending a help hand. The NDRF teams have been dispatched and they are doing their best in Chennai. There is need for further teams, and support from the Centre, that also would be given to them.

With regard to the situation at Chennai Airport, with the permission of the Chair, I just want to show some photos here. This is the photo of some children trying to climb to the first floor of the airport. Water is coming into the airport from the rivers. This is the situation inside the airport. This is another photo of a person with a two-wheeler. His two-wheeler is totally drowned. So, this situation is something unheard of and unprecedented. The lifts are also totally filled with water everywhere.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (KOLKATA UTTAR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I just got information about six of my relatives who are in Chennai. They went to the airport for the validation of their air tickets. But Air India is not responding. Neither are they giving stamp of revalidation nor are they helping them in any way. They are simply saying that all flights are cancelled. So, this should be given importance and this issue should be sorted out on priority.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: You are right. I just got information also that there are 300 and odd people who are stranded in Chennai Airport and there is no means of communication for their movement. I have alerted the Ministry of Civil Aviation also asking them to rush some food and other requirements to those passengers. Nothing can be done immediately to airlift them by an alternative flight because when the runway is full of water, you cannot expect any special flight to come and land there. But at the same time, their daily requirement also has to be taken care of. It is good that you have brought it to my notice. I have already had a word with the Ministry of Civil Aviation officials and I will be requesting them again.

Sir, relief camps have been set up by the Government of Tamil Nadu at various places and also by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Two columns of Army Garrison Infantry Battalion have been pressed into service in Tambaram and also in Urappakkam areas of Chennai after the Government of Tamil Nadu sought the assistance of the Army. The Navy is on standby for any help. What I am thinking is, - it is just my loud thinking – normally if you press Army into the normal work, what sort of impact will it have on the State Administration? This is to be thought of. So, the State Government has to take a call and I feel – this is the feedback I got – that there is a need for the Army to go into different areas of the city and try to help the people wherever required as per the guidance of the State Government, because the purpose is that the State and Centre should come to the rescue of the people and provide them essential daily requirements and also lift them to comparatively safer places. That should be the priority.

The Home Minister, immediately after this discussion, is going to hold a high level meeting. The Prime Minister has already told him to conduct this meeting. They are also trying to coordinate with different agencies. The Director of Chennai Airport Shri Deepak Shastri has informed that 400 passengers are stranded at Chennai Airport. They are being taken care of. NDRF Teams are there to help them.

Without adding anything further, I only request all the Members, let the entire House express solidarity with the people who are suffering in that State and in the region. I would also like to mention whether it is the flood situation in Andhra Pradesh or West Bengal and also about the drought situation in different parts of the country, meaningful suggestions can be given by hon. Members as to what can be done on a short-term basis and what can be done on a long-term basis. Sudipda raised the issue of NDRF and SDRF norms. The hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs is here and the Cabinet Minister is also coming. They will be able to explain about it in detail and if there are any more meaningful suggestions, the Government would be willing to accept them and take them in a serious manner and see to it that whatever can be done is done. That is my request.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to make a suggestion for the consideration of the House. While deliberating on this issue, I said that the flood situation in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh is a very serious issue. West Bengal also was affected by flood. Looking at the gravity of the situation, as has been narrated by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, let this discussion be confined to flood alone. We can take up the discussion on the drought situation separately on a different day. Let all political parties and their leaders discuss on this flood situation that is prevalent in Tamil Nadu and various parts of Andhra Pradesh so that we all can speak in one voice about this situation and express our solidarity with the affected people.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you all accept it, we can restrict it to the flood situation.

.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: The seriousness will not be felt. Drought is a different thing and flood is a different thing. I agree with Bhartruhari ji. Let us confine to flood situation today and subsequently we can discuss.... (*Interruptions*) Though the Government has to reply twice; the Minister has to reply twice and all; I do not mind. I will be requesting my colleagues also that let us today focus our attention on the flood situation in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, wherever floods are there. ... (*Interruptions*) In Puducherry also there is a serious flood situation. The hon. Member has also given a notice about the same. So, let us focus on that and subsequently we can think about discussing the drought situation in Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka where most of the districts are in drought situation, Odisha, Maharashtra especially the Marathwada region and all.... (*Interruptions*)

श्री धर्मेन्द्र यादव (बदायूँ) : उपाध्यक्ष जी, चूंकि स्पीकर साहिबा ने कह दिया था कि बाढ़ के साथ सूखे पर भी चर्चा सम्भव है। चूंकि स्पीकर साहिबा ने कोट किया तो मेरी रिक्वेस्ट यह है, वह चाहे स्पीकर साहिबा के समय की कही हुई बात हो, कोई निर्णय हो या कोई अन्य निर्णय हो, स्पष्ट कर दिया जाये। जहां हमारी भावनाएं, संवेदनाएं तमिलनाडू की जनता के साथ हैं, आन्ध्र प्रदेश की जनता के साथ हैं, वहीं उत्तर प्रदेश के लोग भी सूखे की चपेट में हैं तो उस पर चर्चा होनी है या नहीं होनी है, इस पर उपाध्यक्ष महोदय स्पष्ट कर दें, यह हमारी प्रार्थना है।

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Already the Minister has made it very clear.

... (*Interruptions*)

श्री एम. वैकैया नायडू : चर्चा होनी चाहिए, साइमलटेनियसली हो जाये। ... (*Interruptions*) I leave it to the wisdom of the House, Sir. I leave it to the collective wisdom. Let others also say what they want to say.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: On both sides, you can speak.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): Sir, already the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister told that drought can be discussed separately. Today, only we should concentrate on flood and the connected things. So, it is better. अगर वह सैपरेट लिया गया तो उसका उत्तर भी एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्टर देंगे। इसके लिए होम मिनिस्टर और सम्बन्धित मंत्री उत्तर देंगे, इसीलिए दो डिफरेंट मिनिस्ट्री रहने की वजह से यह बेहतर होगा कि ड्राउट अलग लिया जाये और फ्लड को अलग लिया जाये। मोर्निंग में ऐसा हुआ, वह निश्चित है कि कन्फ्यूजन हुआ, इसीलिए इसको सैपरेट करके फिर उसको आप कल या परसों कर दीजिए।

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. Whatever the House feels, that can be conveyed to the Speaker also. We can convey to the Speaker what you felt. That can be changed according to that only.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Already the Speaker gave that opinion; that is why I am telling.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir, in this House, nobody will listen except Naidu sahib's word. So, we are requesting him.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay, this can be conveyed to the Speaker.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: People are getting drowned in flood; still you are after my blood.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: I am not after your blood.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay; Shri Thota Narasimham.

SHRI THOTA NARASIMHAM (KAKINADA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, thank you for allowing me to speak on this important issue initiated by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Venkaiah Naidu *ji*.

Andhra Pradesh has a vast coastline of about 974 kilometres, which is the second largest in the country next to the Western Coast of Gujarat. We have the longest coastline on the Eastern Coast of India. Ours is one of the most vulnerable States in India to cyclones, heavy rains and floods, being situated along with the Bay of Bengal, which is known to be the most unpredictable sea in the whole world for cyclones and natural calamities. Sir, 341.9 lakh people – that is 69.2 per cent population – of Andhra Pradesh are living in nine coastal districts.

Due to low pressure formed on 14th November, 2015, heavy rainfall has been received from 15th to 22nd November, 2015 in the districts of Nellore, Chittoor, Kadapa and Prakasam districts and also in parts of other districts, Anantapur, West Godavari, East Godavari and Krishna. Rains are still continuing in Nellore and Chittoor districts.

The maximum hourly rainfall received was 106 mm. It is unprecedented in any of the past events happened in our State. A maximum of 400 mm rainfall has been received in Bodipadu of Nellore district.

Heavy rainfall received in the neighbouring districts of Krishna, West Godavari, East Godavari and Anantapur caused extensive damage to the standing crops and also to the public infrastructure.

Sir, I shall now come to damages. These heavy rains caused large-scale breaches to minor, medium and major irrigation tanks, and many rivers overflowed which caused flooding of fields, villages and towns. As a result, 2,273 villages in all, 46 Mandals in Nellore district, 39 Mandals in Kadapa district and 53 Mandals in Chittoor district and parts of other districts were affected. About 25 lakh population were affected and 146 villages were inundated.

A large number of houses were destroyed. Agriculture and horticulture crops were severely damaged. All aqua farms were washed away, and fishing equipments like boats and nets also got affected. Road and bridges, drinking water, infrastructure and power utilities were also damaged on a large-scale. Nellore is the worst affected district in these rains. It is followed by Chittoor and Kadapa. There were also damages in Anaparthi district, Prakasam district, Krishna district, West Godavari district, East Godavari district, etc.

Our hon. Chief Minister, Shri Chandrababu Naidu garu and our hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Shri Venkaiah Naidu garu are continuously monitoring the situation and aerially surveyed the affected districts of Nellore and Chittoor. Our Chief Minister has written a letter to the hon. Prime Minister on 19th November, 2015 explaining the devastation and sought a sum of Rs.1,000 crore as an advance amount to our State, Andhra Pradesh.

In regard to human loss, 54 deaths were reported. 2,514 houses were fully damaged and 16,672 houses were partially damaged.

In regard to the loss in the agriculture sector, as per preliminary estimates, a total of 3.10 lakh hectares of crops were damaged in nine districts. It may be valued at Rs.1,419.34 crore.

Now, I come to the loss in the power sector. 3,769 poles, 539 distribution transformers, 146 sub-stations and 364 km power lines were damaged. The cost of damages to electric poles, transformers and sub-stations, etc. has been estimated at Rs.26.30 crore.

In the irrigation sector, a total of 331 tanks and 263 supply channels and canals were breached. The loss relating to the irrigation sector has been estimated at Rs.780.77 crore.

In the Roads and Buildings sector, a total of 1,441.33 km of road surface were damaged. The estimated amount required for restoration both temporary and permanent is Rs.699.27 crore.

Likewise, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Horticulture, Panchayat Raj, Municipal and Urban areas, RWS, Handlooms & Textiles and all other sectors were also badly affected. The preliminary estimated loss in respect of all these sectors is Rs.3,819 crore.

When *hud hud* cyclone affected Vizag, the hon. Prime Minister visited on 14th October, 2014 and announced a sum of Rs.1,000 crore as an advance amount. Till today, we received only a sum of Rs.844.59 crore. We would request the Union Government to release the balance amount immediately.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, ours is a newly divided State and a handicapped State. This cyclone is a last straw on the camel's back. The saying in Telugu is, "Mulige nakka meeda tatikaya padi nadum virigindi ani". This truly reflects the situation that exists in Andhra Pradesh today.

We have been facing so many financial problems. Without Central assistance, it is very difficult for us to take up the relief operations. In view of the major devastation, we request the Central Government to release an amount of Rs. 1,000 crore as an advance from the NDRF.

With these few words, I conclude. Thank you.

*SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER (KANNUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset I would like to express our wholehearted support and solidarity towards the suffering people of Tamil Nadu. We are very close with Tamil Nadu. Sir, your State and our State are the immediate neighbours.

As we are all Indians, the sorrow of the people of Tamil Nadu is our sorrow; difficulties of the people of Tamil Nadu are our difficulties. The whole House is with Tamil Nadu.

The Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Venkaiah Naidu ji described the devastation of Tamil Nadu and the kind of serious and alarming situation, the people are facing especially in Chennai and surrounding places. So, I would urge upon the Central Government to extend all possible support and assistance to the State of Tamil Nadu to recover from this disaster.

Sir, now, I would like to speak in Malayalam because my friends, brothers and sisters from Tamil Nadu understand my Malayalam well. So, let me know speak in Malayalam. In our country, natural calamities of various kinds happen. There is drought, flood, and other times there is earth-quake or some other disasters.

When there is drought we talk about water conservation, and rain water harvesting, when there is flood, our concern is how to pump out the water and drain it out to the sea. Our country has advanced much in the area of science and technology. We have our achievements. We talk with pride about Mangalyaan. . But even today, in the field of disaster management when there are natural calamities we are not able to face it perfectly. It could be drought, flood or other natural calamities, we have not evolved scientific and technological modalities to encounter disasters. It is a sad fact that we have failed in disaster management. There is frequent talk by the Government about smart cities; and we also welcome it. We do need smart cities. But sir, before we think of smart cities; why cannot we achieve scientific and technological expertise, to tackle natural disaster?

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.

Chennai is an ancient city. But that ancient city has today become a leading metropolis. Today, lakhs of people in Chennai are in the grips of flood, and they do not know what to do. Not just the Indians the world must be watching us.

The people of Chennai, have the support of all Indians. They dont have food, drinking water and even places to live, because water has inundated their houses. Shops have been inundated. Airports and run ways have been flooded.

*“Water, water every where
not a drop to drink”*

So disaster is such that passengers stranded in the airport do not have drinking water. If what I have heard is true, this is the greatest flood disaster of this century. Such is the magnitude of the tragedy that the people of Tamil Nadu is facing.

So, if we survive this flood somehow, then what will be the after effect, the other disasters that are awaiting us?

Tamil Nadu is going to see a greater tragedy. I have to request the Minister and the Government that they will have to sent food and drinking water. But alongwith it ,an expert medical team should be sent to Tamil Nadu at the earliest. They should be flown into the affected area. Few days from now Tamil Nadu is going to face epidemics.

SHRI P.KUMAR (TIRUCHIRAPPALLI) : All the steps have been taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu.....(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER : In future, we are going to face. I am not taking about the present. Hon. Amma has already taken all the steps. We know and we are supporting you. You have taken all the required steps. The Government of India has also taken the steps. Hon. Prime Minister telephoned Hon. Chief Minister. We have read about this in the newspapers. I am not criticizing but wherever the flood occurs in our country or in the world, I am thinking about the after effects. Thousands of people are going to suffer the epidemic. I am mentioning about the epidemic. It is going to occur. Epidemic means diseases. For future, we want to take this thing very seriously. Medical team, food, drinking and all the required facilities should be provided by the Government. The State Government is doing that. That Central Government has already declared that whatever the amount the State requires, we will provide. We welcome that.

Sir, All I want to say is that, the problem that Tamil Nadu faces today, no other State has faced in the same magnitude. Do we have proper drainage facilities in our cities? Is there any drainage in our cities, even in our States? There is no drainage. In Trivandrum, there was rain for two days and it has flooded everywhere. What is the scientific method to face these floods?

So while we talk of smart cities, we will also have to think and evolve ways and means to tackle such natural disasters before they strike us. The State Government and the Central Government should together discuss and evolve ways and means to do it.

At least in future we should be able to pre-empt or reduce the intensity of such disasters. We have taken giant strides in science and technology. Then why is it that, when it comes to disaster management we are still found lacking? We are still a failure in meeting this challenge.

In future, we need the scientific and technological backing to tackle disasters. Such disaster management skills should reach all areas, especially when flood disasters strike.

Indeed drought too is a disaster. And it is also a fact, all over India, women especially mothers bear brunt of natural disasters. Whatever be the step, we will support whole-heartedly the Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu. Thank you.

SHRI MEKAPATI RAJA MOHAN REDDY (NELLORE): Thank you Deputy Speaker Sir for giving me an opportunity to speak on the devastating floods caused in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry.

Sir, for the last consecutive three years, there were no rains in Tamil Nadu and in the southern parts of Andhra Pradesh. Actually, we usually experience rains under north-east monsoon. For the last three years, there were no rains and there was a total failure of north-east monsoon. Actually, there was severe drought in many parts of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

We were very happy for the initial rains that occurred. All the farmers were very happy thinking that rain is coming and at least this year they can have their crops and like that. But unfortunately, heavy rains, that too in a short period, caused devastating effects. For example, Chennai has experienced rains breaking 100 year old record. It was 100 years back that 108 cm rain had come in Tamil Nadu. This year, that too last month alone, 119.73 cm of rain has come. Nellore, being adjacent to Chennai, also experienced rains the same way. That way many standing crops, whatever standing crops are there, have been damaged. Particularly, in Nellore alone, around 25,000 acres of aquaculture was there. Maybe, it is even more. Each acre costs Rs.6 lakh to Rs.7 lakh for the aqua farmers to harvest. All 25,000 acres of aquaculture have been washed off. That itself comes to Rs.1500-1700 crore.

All crops of standing bananas and betel leaves have been damaged. Nellore paddy nurseries have been damaged whereas in West Godavari and East Godavari, standing crops of paddy have been damaged. In West Godavari, two lakh acres and maybe, in East Godavari 1.5 lakh acres of paddy have been damaged. In the same way, in Anantapur, which was actually a drought-prone area, the farmers have raised some groundnut crops and their crops have also been damaged. In Andhra Pradesh, particularly, Nellore, Chittoor and Kadapa are the worst affected districts.

National Highway No.5 connecting Chennai to Kolkata has been breached near Gudur in Nellore district. Thousands of vehicles have been stranded on both sides. It was there for 5-6 days and thereafter only, they could fill up that breach. The breach has occurred because of, maybe, insufficient vents created without there being a proper design. Shri Venkaiah Naidu also visited that place. He is also under that impression and it has come in the Press also. Whereas the railway track is intact because they have provided sufficient vents for the free flow of water. However, such vents are not provided on the National Highway. That is why, the breach has occurred. Even now because of yesterday's rains, another breach has occurred and they are yet to close that breach. So, that way, when that being the case of national highway, all the State Highways and major district roads have been washed off. Many villages have been cut off from outside world. So, almost all properties of Government Department, State Highways and district highways have been damaged. Even poultry has been damaged. Many poultry farmers are also in a great distress.

So, that being the case, the Central Government has to come in a big way to the rescue of the State Government. Otherwise, among the farmers, as everybody knows, there are a number of suicides in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra and in some other places. Unless the Central Government comes to the rescue of the farmers as well as people, it is very difficult for the State alone to come to the rescue of the people. That is why, I request the Central Government to send a team immediately, assess the damages properly and assist the State Government in a big way to tide over this difficulty. Thank you very much.

SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN (CUDDALORE): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I express my sincere thanks and indebtedness to my beloved leader Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu – Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for giving me an opportunity to take part in this important discussion on flood situation in several parts of the country.

Tamil Nadu is periodically subjected to various natural calamities, especially cyclonic storms and depressions in the Bay of Bengal. Cyclones Nisha and Thane had done extensive damages in the past. The recent unprecedented rains in Tamil Nadu during Northeast Monsoon had resulted in extremely heavy rainfall in just a few days hitherto unknown for many decades. Tamil Nadu has taken the brunt of torrential rainfall and fierce winds. Many areas marooned in the coastal and interior districts like Cuddalore, Kancheepuram, Chennai and Tiruvallur. These districts had suffered heavy and extensive damages to life of people, cattle and poultry.

Cuddalore District in Tamil Nadu suffered extensive damage due to recent incessant rains. Neyveli, Kurinjipadi, Panruti and Chidambaram areas of this district received 437 millimetre of rainfall in just 6 hours on 9th November, 2015. Cuddalore district received 324 millimetre of rainfall on 8th November, 2015 and 9th November, 2015 resulting in floods causing extensive damage to lives and property.

Extremely heavy rainfall of 342 millimetre flooded Kancheepuram town on 13th November, 2015. Many *taluks* of Kancheepuram district suffered very heavy to extremely heavy rainfall of 275 millimetre on 16th November, 2015. As many as 12 *taluks* and 686 villages were badly affected in Kancheepuram district. As regards Tiruvallur district, it received a heavy rainfall of 604.5 millimetre within a short span of 10 days which is more than the average rainfall of 604.1 millimetre received during the entire period of North East Monsoon.

Similarly Chennai received the second heaviest monthly rainfall recorded in the past more than 100 years in just first 20 days of November 2015 and is still

continuing. Chennai received unprecedented rainfall of 1139 millimetre between 28th October, 2015 and 20th November, 2015. In Chennai city, 859 locations were inundated for days together. Chennai and nearby areas were the worst hit and over 170 lives have been reportedly lost throughout the State due to rain related incidents.

Heavy rains have increased levels of rivers in Vellore district. Appukkal river has overflowed and flooded two villages near Anaicut on 24th November, 2015. Heavy rain had caused some flooding in other villages in the district, as well as Vellore city, where affected families have been evacuated. A number of 432 villages have been affected by floods and heavy rain.

In Southern Tamil Nadu, Thoothukudi district was affected a lot. People in 20 localities were rescued and evacuated by boat. Six relief camps have been set up to house those displaced. Local authorities are also providing food and other relief items to the victims. Though the rains and floods have battered all over northern part of Tamil Nadu and coastal districts of Tamil Nadu, I would like to highlight the heavy damages caused by the floods in Cuddalore District and neighboring places. There was much disruption of life and public inconvenience. The loss of property is huge. The economic cost of reconstruction of damaged structures and facilities will be very high.

As the fury of the rain continues, it will take a long time for rehabilitation of the affected people, most of whom are poor. Incessant rains and floods led to loss of lives, damages to huts and dwellings, crops and livelihoods. There were also extensive damages to infrastructure including roads, bridges, drainages and sewages, government buildings, etc. Though all precautionary measures were taken, there was heavy, very heavy and extremely heavy rainfall for days together causing extensive damage to infrastructure. The reservoirs and minor irrigation tanks and ponds got filled up soon and their overflow aggravated the problem.

Meanwhile, the Cuddalore district and Chennai district administrations are taking a series of steps in various sectors including health in the backdrop of the heavy rains.

In 16 local bodies of the Cuddalore district, generators were being used to supply power even as 1,000 employees from other districts have been deployed to repair faults and restore electricity. About 35 medical camps had been established and medical services were being delivered.

Fishing sector has taken a huge hit. Fishing crafts which were anchored on the beach were lost in the sea. Many mechanized boats, FRP Vallams and catamarans were partially damaged. A total of as many as 3,047 engines and 8,106 nets belonging to fishermen were damaged.

Floods also battered the road network. The State Highways for a length of 5,694 kilometres have been damaged due to heavy rains. Five bridges and 234 culverts were also damaged. It is estimated that an amount of Rs. 405.35 crore is required to carry out temporary restoration and a sum of Rs. 1,426.53 crore is required for permanent restoration of the damaged roads in the State of Tamil Nadu.

But for the leadership provided by hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu *Puratchi Thalaivi* Amma and the timely action taken by the State Administration, the State would have witnessed untold miseries and unprecedented destructions. Hon. Chief Minister, *Puratchi Thalaivi* Amma announced an immediate fund of Rs. 500 crore for relief and restoration in the State. When rains that should have been realized in three months pour within a few days, any number of preventive measures will not suffice as stagnation and resulting damage are unavoidable.

Given the scale of suffering as a result of the rains, the government machinery was in full swing, with Ministers and officials including those from police and Fire and Rescue Services working relentlessly day and night to restore normalcy while relief measures had been taken up on a war-footing. The government machinery under the dynamic leadership of hon. *Puratchi Thalaivi* Amma has been working day and night to ensure normalcy.

Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has taken a number of steps to minimize the losses. People from low-lying areas were evacuated and moved to shelters. People from the inundated areas were shifted to relief camps and provided food, shelter, clothing and medical assistance. As many as 22 lakh food packets were distributed to people rescued and affected by floods.

Measures were taken to provide safe drinking water and early restoration of power supply. Immediate relief is being provided to families of those who lost their lives due to floods. In addition, relief is also provided for loss of cattle and poultry. Besides, relief is being distributed to 98,850 cases of hut damage and 3,202 cases of damage to houses. Thousands of electric poles were replaced and medical camps were organised in all the relief camps. Under the guidance of *Puratchi Thalaivi* Amma, books, note-books, ration cards and uniform sets were provided to the flood affected people and students.

15.00 hours

In Neyveli, NLC is badly affected. Lignite mining and power generation took a hit as mines were inundated. The power generation was a meagre 600 MW against the installed capacity of 2,990 MW. The management has also switched-off the conveyor belt system that carries lignite to the thermal stations because of heavy rainfall. A contingency plan has been put in place and lignite excavation and power generation would resume shortly. Most of the blocks in the Neyveli Township were inundated with flood water entering houses. Roads leading to Neyveli were also cut-off due to heavy

rain. As rain continued unabated, authorities suspended power supply as a precautionary measure.

Pumping out of excess water from the Neyveli mines has added the miseries of the people living around NLC. Nearly, 300-1200 cusecs of water pumped out from NLC mines to river Paravanar in Kurinjipadi Taluk caused heavy flooding and damages to life in nearby villages. I wish to record that NLC has big responsibility to mitigate the damages caused due to the pumping of excess water. It would be appropriate for NLC to spend from their funds designated for their CSR activities. Also, NLC should lend their support to the District Administration and State authorities for all precautionary and damage control activities like strengthening and raising of bunds and de-silting of the river Paravanar.

The civic infrastructure including drains, roads and buildings needs to be strengthened to withstand the rain and flooding. This also calls for changes and improvement in urban planning methods and norms. The long-term need is for better water management and measures to conserve water, which can turn even flood into a boon.

It is pertinent to mention that the main agricultural seasons like Samba, Thaladi and Navarai depend entirely on the North-East monsoon. The rainfall during this period decides the fate of agricultural economy of the State of Tamil Nadu. Thus, agricultural economy has got a severe hit by the recent floods. Tamil Nadu suffered huge loss of crops, livestock, fisheries and infrastructure. This calamity is so severe that it should be treated as a natural calamity and the entire expenditure towards relief and restoration -- over and above the State Disaster Response Fund -- should be borne by the Government of India.

Hon. Chief Minister, *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma*, has submitted a Memorandum to the Government of India seeking assistance of Rs. 2,630.58 crore for temporary restoration and Rs. 5,850.34 crore for permanent restoration totaling to Rs. 8,480.93 crore from the National Disaster Response

Fund for flood damages suffered by the State of Tamil Nadu. Hon. Chief Minister, *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma*, has made a request to the Hon. Prime Minister *vide* a letter dated 23 November 2015 for immediate release of Rs. 2,000 crore.

The Inter-Ministerial Central team has visited different places affected by floods in the State to assess the damage. The team led by Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs included representatives of the Ministries of Agriculture, Finance, Rural Development, Drinking Water and Power from Delhi; representatives of Ministries of Road Transport and Highways and Health from Chennai; and Central Water Commission, Bengaluru.

I sincerely pray and hope that the Union Government would be more considerate in this regard after assessing the damages caused in the State due to recent floods. Hon. Prime Minister expressed his deep anguish and grief about the loss of at least 170 lives in Tamil Nadu due to incessant rains and floods. While addressing the nation through the 14th edition of *Mann Ki Baat* radio programme, hon. Prime Minister said that he was saddened to witness devastation and deaths in Tamil Nadu and expressed faith in the strength of Tamil Nadu. Hon. Prime Minister attributed the nature's fury to the effect of global warming and climate change. Even now, Chennai, Cuddalore and adjoining areas are experiencing torrential rains and damages are increasing. Hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister has explained in depth the alarming situation prevailing in Chennai and sub-urban areas.

I urge upon the Union Government to consider this calamity as a national calamity because of its large-scale devastation and release immediately the entire demanded amount of Rs. 8,480.93 crore from the National Disaster Response Fund for flood damages suffered by the State of Tamil Nadu. I would like to state that timely release of adequate funds by the Union Government will help Tamil Nadu to undertake temporary and permanent restoration of infrastructure and other utilities on war-footing basis. Thank you.

KUMARI SUSHMITA DEV (SILCHAR): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for this opportunity to let me participate in an important debate, something that is saddening to see – the unprecedented floods that have affected the State of Tamil Nadu. It is of grave concern that the loss of lives and property are devastating. Some of the visuals that I have seen on television or in the print media are rattling. The nation stands with the people affected and with the Government of Tamil Nadu in such a dire situation.

From my experience as a Member of Parliament from the State of Assam, I understand and appreciate that no matter how progressive a State is, no matter how economically wealthy a State is, in times of floods and natural calamity, we all look to the Central Government for assistance. I am happy to see that the hon. Prime Minister has spoken with the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. I hope the Government of India will take every logistic measure to facilitate the Government of Tamil Nadu. People are stranded which tells me that the State will need additional helicopters and boats. People who have lost their homes must be given clothes, medicines and more importantly, food grains. We would like to know if NDRF is playing an active role in rescue operations, and how many doctors have been sent by the Government of India.

I know what a natural calamity can do to a State because of my own experience in the State of Assam. I have seen the calamities that have affected the States of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and other parts of India, but I hope that the Government of India will rise to the occasion. The biggest challenge that the State Government of Assam faced after floods was about rebuilding of infrastructure, which my other colleagues have stated. The hon. Chief Minister of Assam asked for almost Rs. 2,000 crore following the floods in September, 2015 only to rebuild infrastructure and communication networks. But unfortunately, we have got only some Rs. 300 crore. We had also asked for Rs. 600 crore for rescue operations, which we have not received. It is appropriate to say that the National Flood

Commission states that the area liable to floods in Assam stands at 31.60 lakh hectares.

It is almost 9.4 per cent of the total flood prone area of the country. The State of Assam has repeatedly requested that floods which recur year after year should not be simply looked at something that is recurring and need no attention. But we wanted that floods should be declared as a national calamity. The Government of Assam has written. But except for a few media houses that cover the floods of Assam, we see no attention that the national media has given to the floods of Assam, which Chennai has got. I am happy for it. Every day I wake up in the morning to see young women, children and old people all stranded in the floods of Chennai. I pray for them that they come out of it.

I come from an area that is known as the Barak Valley in the State of Assam. Barak River is our asset. But it also floods every year just like the Brahmaputra Valley. I am pained to say that in 1981 the Brahmaputra Board was established by an Act of Parliament. As per my belief and information, the current Government has made plans to restructure. But till today when we debate about parliamentary time being put to good use, that Bill has not yet been introduced by the Water Resources Minister. Therefore, it is my humble request that in the next Session, please bring the new Bill which restructures the Brahmaputra Board which has been dissolved. I hope that we will see constructive measures being taken. I also request that the flooding of Barak River, we had hoped, would be alleviated due to the Tipaimukh Dam. What is the fate of that project till today? We do not know about it. I hope this Government will take it up with the Government of Bangladesh so that the river basins of Barak Valley can be saved from flooding.

I end my speech once again by saying that we stand by the people of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal who are suffering because of the recent floods.

DR. KAMBHAMPATI HARIBABU (VISAKHAPATNAM): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on the situation arising out of the floods in various States of the country. The recent depression in Bay of Bengal caused heavy rains and also caused the damage in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry and other States.

Andhra Pradesh is blessed with very long sea coast line of 974 kilometres. Having long sea coast, we have advantages and also disadvantages. The advantage is that the sea coast contributes to the economic development of the State. The disadvantage is that the State is going to have frequent cyclones. Because of cyclones, we are having lot of damages in various parts of the State. Last year, we had faced a very big cyclone called 'Hudhud' which hit the city of Visakhapatnam. This year, the cyclone caused heavy rains in three districts of Andhra Pradesh, that is, Chittoor, Kadapa, Nellore and also caused damaged in other districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Prakasam and Krishna District.

Because of the heavy rains, there was a lot of damage for the transport system. Roads were damaged. Vehicular traffic has come to a halt. The National Highway-16 which connects Chennai and Kolkata was breached and the road traffic has come to a halt. As far as the breach of the national highway is concerned, I have a suggestion to the Government and particularly to the Department of Road Transport. My esteemed friend from the YSRCP Shri Reddy spoke about this. The National Highway and the railway line pass in parallel.

When the railway bridges are intact, what is the reason for the national highway to be breached? The main reason is lack of proper design. Proper vents were planned on the railway bridges to discharge the flood water from one side to the other. However, the national highway on many occasions acts as a check dam and does not allow the flood water to flow from one side to the other side. The vents provided on the national highway are very narrow, the culverts are very narrow and they do not allow the discharge of the flood water to the other side. This is the main reason for the breach to happen on the national highway. I request

the National Highways Authority of India to check the national highway for the capacity of the culverts and the vents so as to see that this type of situations do not recur in the future.

As far as the Railways are concerned, they have diverted some trains and some trains were cancelled which has caused a lot of problem for the passengers. In Nellore and Chittoor Districts, the State Government has taken proactive steps to establish about 61 relief camps. Senior IAS officers were deputed to oversee the relief operations and people in distress were being taken care of. Government of Andhra Pradesh has the experience of facing the natural calamities and taking up relief operations. Our Chief Minister stayed at the places of distress to oversee the rescue operations. Hon. Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Venkaiah Naidu also visited the area, reviewed the relief operations and assured that proper assistance would be given to the flood affected people.

The major loss caused by the cyclone is the loss of agriculture. Crops were damaged, cattle were lost and goats were lost. The second major loss suffered is to the aquaculture. Nellore District is the hub of aquaculture activity. The State of Andhra Pradesh contributes one third of the shrimp exports from the country. I think about 8,000 hectares of shrimp culture area was totally damaged and a lot of losses happened.

Loss of life is minimised. About 35 people lost their lives and 14,000 people have been evacuated to relief camps. Government of Andhra Pradesh announced an *ex-gratia* payment of Rs.5 lakh for each victim. I am also thankful for international organisations. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society (IFRC) provided some relief assistance through Indian Red Cross and I am very much thankful to them. I request the Government of India to come forward to provide necessary relief to take care of the problems in Andhra Pradesh where the flood has caused a lot of damage.

Thank you very much.

श्री धर्मेन्द्र यादव (बदायँ) : उपाध्यक्ष जी, पिछले कई दिनों से जिस तरह से तमिलनाडु, आन्ध्र प्रदेश, विशेषकर चेन्नई और उसके आस-पास क्षेत्रों में जो बाढ़ के हालात हैं, उसके लिए सबसे पहले मैं अपनी, अपनी पार्टी और प्रदेश की ओर से वहां के जनमानस को यह विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूं कि ऐसे संकट के समय पूरा देश आज उनके साथ है।

मैं सुन रहा था एआईएडीएमके के साथियों को, मैं समझता हूं कि तमिलनाडु सरकार बेहतर काम करने का प्रयास कर रही होगी। मैं केन्द्र सरकार से अपील करूंगा कि जो तकरीबन 8500 करोड़ रुपये तमिलनाडु सरकार ने मांगे हैं, उसकी बिना ज्यादा समीक्षा किए, क्योंकि केन्द्र सरकार समीक्षा बहुत करती है, कई बार सदन में घोषणाएं भी कर देती है, उसके बाद भी पैसा नहीं देती है, यह मेरा अनुभव है उत्तर प्रदेश के मामले में और अन्य प्रान्तों के मामले में भी। इसलिए चाहे कोई योजना रोकनी पड़े, लेकिन ऐसे संकट के समय, जहां देश का बड़ा भूभाग, बड़ा जनमानस प्रभावित हो, जहां जन, धन, मकानों और जानवरों के रूप में तमाम तरीके से नुकसान हुआ है और लगभग 200 लोगों की डेथ हो चुकी है, मैं केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध करूंगा कि तमिलनाडु एवं आन्ध्र प्रदेश सरकार की जो भी मदद हो सकती है, पूरी मदद करें। मैं वहां के जनमानस को यह विश्वास दिलाता हूं कि पूरा देश इस संकट में उनके साथ खड़ा है। इन्हीं भावनाओं के साथ अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं। धन्यवाद।

SHRI R. RADHAKRISHNAN (PUDUCHERRY): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I thank the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister for taking up this discussion on emergency basis. Heavy rains have been pounding the Union Territory of Puducherry and Karaikal region for past few days. Large areas of Puducherry and Karaikal have been inundated with water. A large number of houses, agricultural land and farmers have suffered immensely due to floods. Puducherry is an adjoining district of Cuddalore. So you can know that the extent of damage that has been done in Puducherry is very high and unprecedented.

The hon. Chief Minister has written to the hon. Prime Minister and hon. Home Minister reporting the damages and requested for release of Rs. 182.45 crore. At this instant, I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister and hon. Home Minister for sending the Central team immediately to assess the situation. After the Central team has left, the current rains have created much more damage and the situation is very grim there. So, the hon. Chief Minister has once again written to the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister to release an interim relief of Rs 100 crore. That will greatly benefit in helping the people of Puducherry and continuing the relief work in Puducherry.

We are not part of the SDRF. So, there is no fund provided under the Disaster Response Fund. The UTDRF has not been constituted. I request the Government to immediately constitute the UTDRF. That will definitely help us to give the funds on time. I request the Government to provide all necessary help to the Union Territory of Puducherry. Since we are land-locked with Tamil Nadu, we would also like to raise the concern of our neighbouring State of Tamil Nadu which is greatly affected by floods. Definitely, we share the concern of the Members from Tamil Nadu also. We require a timely and good assistance from the Central Government to tide over this situation. Kindly take it up on priority. Thank you.

श्री भगवंत मान (संगरूर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, देश के साउथ में तमिलनाडु, आंध्र प्रदेश और पुदुचेरी में जो बाढ़ की स्थिति पैदा हुई है, उस पर आज हम उस पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं। मैं आपका आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे बोलने का दिया।

महोदय, मैं पंजाब से आता हूँ। इस संकट के समय में तमिलनाडु, आंध्र प्रदेश और पुदुचेरी के लोगों के साथ हम खड़े हैं। जब बाढ़ आती है तो ज्यादा नुकसान किसानों का होता है। उनकी फसलें मर जाती हैं। पंजाब में हर साल कोई न कोई प्राकृतिक आपदा आती है। पिछले साल ओलावृष्टि हुई, बेमौसमी बारिश हुई और बाढ़ भी आयी। उसके बाद सूखा भी पड़ा। लेकिन किसानों को मुआवजा देने का क्राइटेरिया बहुत वीक है। यह केवल चर्चाओं और घोषणाओं तक ही सीमित रह जाता है। यह ग्राउंड लेवल पर नहीं पहुंचता है। इस तरह की प्राकृतिक आपदा जब देश में कहीं भी आती है तो वह सिर्फ चर्चा या घोषणा तक ही सीमित नहीं रहनी चाहिए, ग्राउंड लेवल पर वहां के लोगों की मदद की जानी चाहिए। जिन लोगों का नुकसान हुआ है, चाहे वह प्रॉपर्टी का हो, चाहे फसल का हो या जान-माल का नुकसान हो। ऐसे संकट के समय में पूरा देश तमिलनाडु के लोगों के साथ खड़ा है। पंजाब में घग्गर नदी है, जिसमें हर साल बाढ़ आती है। यह कन्फर्म होता है और घग्गर नदी बाढ़ के साथ नुकसान लेकर आती है। उसकी सफाई और घोषणाओं पर जितने पैसे का ऐलान कर दिया जाता है, उसका आधा भी ग्राउंड लेवल पर नहीं पहुंचता है, इसलिए घग्गर नदी के आस-पास रहने वाले लोगों ने, जिनमें खनोरी, सरदूलगढ़, सतराणा और मूनक हैं, बाढ़ को अपनी किस्मत का हिस्सा मान लिया है कि सरकारें कुछ नहीं करती हैं, यह हमारी किस्मत में है। लोगों को किस्मत पर न छोड़ कर यदि सरकार अमली रूप में, ग्राउंड लेवल पर प्राकृतिक आपदा जहां आती है, वहां पहुंचे, सिर्फ चर्चा और घोषणाओं तक सीमित न रहकर जो ऐलान हुए हैं, वह ग्राउंड लेवल तक पहुंचे। इसके अलावा पूर्व अनुमान के यंत्रों को भी अपडेट करने की जरूरत है। बाढ़ का पूर्वानुमान और उसके बाद लोगों को बाहर सुरक्षित निकालने का काम अपडेट होना चाहिए।

मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से आग्रह है कि वह तमिलनाडु, पुदुचेरी और आंध्र प्रदेश के लोगों की इस संकट के समय में ज्यादा से ज्यादा सहायता करे। धन्यवाद।

श्री बदरुद्दीन अजमल (धुबरी): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका बहुत आभारी हूँ कि इस सीरियस इश्यु के ऊपर, जिसने आज पूरे मुल्क को हिला दिया है, इस पर आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया। तमिलनाडु, हैदराबाद और पुदुचेरी में आज फ्लड की गंभीर स्थिति है। मैं इस मामले में आपको यकीन दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि हम आपके साथ में हैं। पूरे मुल्क की हमदर्दी आपके साथ में है और भारत सरकार से उन्होंने जो भी डिमांड की है, वह उन्हें पूरी की पूरी देनी चाहिए। चूंकि मैं असम से आया हूँ और हमारे होम मिनिस्टर साहब यहां बैठे हैं, उन्हें भी असम के बारे में पता है कि असम की बाढ़ का मसला हमारा नसीब बन गया है। अभी अगर पूरे मुल्क की बात करें तो 2008 में बिहार में कोसी नदी की बाढ़ के कारण बहुत जबरदस्त तबाही हुई, 2013 में उत्तराखंड में तबाही हुई, 2014 में कश्मीर में सैलाब से तबाही हुई। उत्तराखंड की तबाही की जब इस साल बरसी हुई तो दिखाया गया कि वहां के लोगों को कुछ भी नहीं पहुंचा। इसी तरीके से कश्मीर में भी हालात अभी तक बहुत खराब हैं। लेकिन आज जो बाढ़ से तबाही हुई है, मैं समझता हूँ कि इसके मामले में हुकूमत कोई परमानेंट सोल्यूशन सोचे, ताकि यह बार-बार न आये और यदि यह आती है तो पहले से लोगों को इत्तिला दी जा सके, ताकि इतनी बड़ी तबाही और बर्बादी से बचा जा सके।

इसी के साथ मैं असम के बारे में कहना चाहूंगा कि हर साल ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी में बाढ़ आती है। इससे पहले भी मैंने कई मर्तबा इस मामले को यहां उठाया है कि ब्रह्मपुत्र की वजह से खासकर मेरा इलाका धुबरी, जहां से मैं आता हूँ, इसके अलावा बारपेटा, ग्वालपाड़ा और पूरे असम में माजुली और धेमादी में हर साल तबाही और बर्बादी आती हैं। वहां लाखों लोग बेघर हो जाते हैं, लाखों हैक्टेअर जमीन बर्बाद हो जाती है। अभी हमारे असम में 2014 में धुबरी में क्लाउड बस्ट हुआ, 2015 में सितम्बर के महीने में असम के मुख्तलिफ इलाकों में बाढ़ आई। इससे पहले वाले में 42 लाख से ज्यादा लोग मुतास्सिर हुए और घरों से बेघर हो गये, फसलें बर्बाद हो गईं, उनकी तबाही हो गई। इसी तरीके से इसी साल अगस्त और सितम्बर के महीने में 12 लाख से ज्यादा लोग मुतास्सिर हुए। इसके अलावा 1988, 1984, 1977, 1972, 1962, 1954, 2004 और 2012 में इसी तरीके की तबाही पूरे असम में आई। इस फ्लड और इरोशन की वजह से माली नुकसान की हालत बहुत ज्यादा खराब है। मैं धुबरी से आता हूँ, वहां भी बहुत इरोशन होता है।

इसके अलावा इंडो-बंगलादेश बार्डर के बारे में मैं श्री किरिन रिजीजू से खास करके कहूंगा कि वहां के कालीरल्गा और मालीरल्गा के मामले को मैं पांच सालों से उठा रहा हूँ। वहां बंगलादेश का बार्डर भी टूट गया है और वहां का पूरा सब-डिविजन खत्म हो जायेगा। मैंने बार-बार मिनिस्टर से कांटैक्ट किया, लेकिन उस मामले में कोई काम अभी तक नहीं हुआ।

As per official records, from 1997 to 2007, 1,050 square kilometers, that is, 1,27,245 hectares of land has been eroded which displaced 30 lakh people from

their original places and seven per cent of the total land of the Brahmaputra valley of Assam. Moreover, a study revealed that from 1951 to 2000, an area of 4,29,697 hectares has been eroded by the rivers in Assam.

The State has incurred losses due to floods to the tune of almost Rs. 13,000 crore since Independence. The average annual loss due to flood in Assam is to the tune of Rs. 200 crore. In 1998, this loss was about Rs. 500 crore and during the year 2004 it was about Rs. 771 crore.

सर, असम सरकार ने अभी 2000 हजार करोड़ रुपये का पैकेज मांगा था, लेकिन हर साल यह तबाही ऐसे ही हो रही है, आखिर ये लोग कहां जायेंगे। जब माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी जब इस मर्तबा जीतकर आये थे तो हमने बधाई दी थी तो उन्होंने कहा था कि नार्थ-ईस्ट के लिए हम कोई स्पेशल पैकेज देंगे। मुझे उम्मीद है कि वह तमिलनाडु और अन्य जगहों का जरूर ख्याल रखें, लेकिन असम को भी न भूलें। असम को भी बाढ़ के समय पूरी मदद दें।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं। धन्यवाद।

SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR (CHENNAI CENTRAL): Thank you, Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. The State of Tamil Nadu, particularly Chennai, has been experiencing incessant rains for the past nearly one month which has not been recorded over the century. It has thrown the lives of the most parts of our State and the entire city of Chennai out of gear. Many residential houses and buildings were inundated and submerged in the flood water. Lakhs of people have been rendered homeless and valuables worth crores of rupees lost.

Our Government of Tamil Nadu under the dynamic leadership of Puratchi Thalaivi Amma is closely monitoring and working round the clock to rescue the people and to prevent the outbreak of any epidemic.

Adding fuel to the fire, from 1st December 2015, another spell of rains started pouring in causing huge damage and inconvenience to the affected people. Many of the lakes and ponds are overflowing. Chennai Airport has been totally water-logged and more than 700 passengers have been stuck in the Airport. Chennai Airport is said to be shut for Air Traffic.

Suburban train services both at Chennai Moore Market to Arakkonam and Trains from Tambaram to Kancheepuram and more than 20 express trains have been cancelled. Weather Forecast has warned that more heavy rain is expected in Chennai and Tamil Nadu for the next four days. Coast Guard, Navy and Army teams have been deputed for rescue work.

Our State Government is also working with the Centre to assist in the relief operations. Food, temporary shelter, transport, special medical camp etc. are being arranged round the clock by the State Government for the flood affected people. Hon. Prime Minister has also expressed his serious concern on the present flood situation in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Considering the gravity of the situation, I humbly urge upon the Union Government to immediately release the required funds to bring back the entire State of Tamil Nadu and Chennai to normalcy. Thank you.

DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN (CHENNAI SOUTH): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there have been extremely heavy and torrential rains in Tamil Nadu with two spells of sudden downpour occurring in a very short span of time, that is from 8th November 2015 to 16th November, 2015. This has caused extensive damage to huts and houses and there has been loss of life too. This extremely heavy downpour has led to flash floods in Chennai, Cuddalore, Kanchipuram and Tiruvallur districts. The entire State and the district machinery, under the dynamic leadership of our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, were deployed for immediate relief and restoration works. Rescue operations were carried out on war footing basis by using boats and Indian Air Force coast guard helicopters. National Disaster Response Force was also pressed in service. The State Government also took the assistance of Indian Army and Coast Guards for rescuing people in marooned areas.

Sir, with regard to Chennai, Chennai has experienced unprecedented rain from 28th October onwards. Chennai has received 1039 mm of rainfall between 28th October 2015 and 20th November, 2015. The maximum rainfall in a single day, 235.5 mm, occurred on 15/11/2015. Normal life of the residents of Chennai was badly affected not only due to heavy rain downpour but also due to high level of water in Cooum, Adayar and Kosasthalaiar basin as a result of discharge of surplus water from Chembarambakkam and Poondi lake. Due to this intensive and continuous excessive rainfall, roads, subways, street lights and storm motor drains were damaged. Due to rise in the level of release of water in the river, the flood water could not be discharged by the storm water drain causing inundation in the city for four to six days continuously. In Chennai city 859 locations were inundated for days together.

Our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma took steps on war footing basis. Sir, 550 heavy duty pump-sets, 57 JCBs, poclain machinery and 49 fire service vehicles were deployed. Due to heavy rains coupled with wind at the speed of 60 to 70 kms per hour, 898 trees had fallen. All 22

subways in Chennai city were flooded due to heavy rain and de-watering efforts were taken to drain out excessive water. With the help of other Departments, 50 boats were deployed for rescue operation and relief centres were opened to provide shelter to the people. Medical camps were established and treatment was given to people who suffered during the flood.

The Chennai city had experienced extensive damage and will incur huge expenditure to mitigate the sufferings of people, commence essential services, repair the damaged infrastructure and bring back the city to normalcy.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, lakhs of people have been relocated and accommodated in relief centres and provided with food, safe drinking water, sanitation and health-care facility. The State has also suffered a huge loss of crop, livestock, fisheries and infrastructure. As there is a need to reduce the level of suffering and to mitigate the distress so as to bring the affected people out of shock and trauma of suddenly losing their means of livelihood, the State has to provide relief by means of giving gracious assistance as an immediate help for loss of livelihood, belongings and personnel.

Immediate restoration of infrastructure facilities is the need of the hour. With the available funds at the State Government under SDRF and otherwise, it is not possible to meet the immediate requirement. Hence, the requirement of funds to the extent of Rs.2630.58 crore has been projected. The State Government would need a sum of Rs.2630.59 crore for immediate temporary restoration and Rs.5850.34 crore for subsequent permanent restoration. The total requirement sought from the Central Government is Rs.8480.93 crore.

The calamity is of such a severe nature that it should be treated as a national calamity. Our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had requested that the entire expenditure towards relief and restoration over and above the State Disaster Response Fund should be borne by the Government of India.

DR. PRABHAS KUMAR SINGH (BARGARH): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. On behalf of my Party and on my own behalf, I am deeply concerned for the people of Tamil Nadu and other southern States. The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has taken a lot of measures to meet the situation. At the same time, I would request the Union Government to extend whatever help is possible. They should be given funds to meet the challenges.

Sir, my State of Odisha, is every year visited by floods and cyclones like Hud Hud and Phailin. Such natural calamities are visiting Odisha every year. This year, there is severe drought. Around 25 districts and 173 blocks are severely affected by drought. Our Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik, has already taken a lot of measures to meet the challenges. He has already given Rs.1000 crore to the farmers. At the same time, we have asked for an assistance of around Rs.1667 crore from the Central Government to combat the drought situation.

Therefore, on behalf of my State, I would request the Union Government to release the funds at the earliest. We have not received an amount of Rs. 400 crore sanctioned for Phailin. I would request the Central Government to give Rs.400 crore also to the Odisha Government.

श्री राजेश रंजन (मधेपुरा) : महोदय, नेचर गाइड बाई गॉड, गॉड गाइड बाई नेचर, दोनों प्रकृति और परमात्मा, जब इन दोनों के नेचर को मनुष्य छोड़ेगा तो ऐसा ही कुछ होगा। अभी देश के प्रधानमंत्री ने भी विदेशों में जाकर ग्लोबल वार्मिंग की बात कही है। मैं बहुत ही आग्रह के साथ कहना चाहूँगा कि भगवान ने इंसान को बनाया और अब इंसान भगवान को बनाने लगा है। जब इंसान भगवान को बनाने लगेगा तो फिर क्या भगवान किसी को छोड़ेगा? बुरा जो देखन मैं चला, हम तो उसमें नहीं जाएंगे, एक इंसान, एक आदमी सड़क पर जा रहा था। एक व्यक्ति मर गया, उसने पूछा तो कहा कि आदमी मर गया और देखने गया तो कहता है या अल्लाह, आँख बच गया। इस सदन में बैठने वाले हम लोग वैसे ही हैं, हर साल यह देश मर जाता है और हम लोग यहाँ बैठकर रोते हैं या अल्लाह आँख बच गई। मैं पूरी संवेदना के साथ अंतःकरण से, हृदय से तमिलनाडु के तमाम गरीबों को, वंचितों को, आम आदमी को बिहार की ओर से, पूरे देश की ओर से हम उसके प्रति संवेदना प्रकट करते हैं। जिस हिम्मत के साथ वहाँ की मुख्यमंत्री अम्मा ने, जो इस प्राकृतिक विपदा में खड़े होकर वहाँ के लोगों की मदद की है, वह इसके लिए एक बार नहीं हजार बार बधाई की पात्र हैं। उनको पूरे देश की ओर से बधाई देनी चाहिए। वैसे ही वह एक बड़ी पुरुषार्थ वाली महिला हैं। गृह मंत्री जी, मैं दिल से कहना चाहूँगा कि आपसे आग्रह है कि कश्मीर में सुनामी आई और बहुत सारी चीजें हुई तो देश के प्रधानमंत्री जी वहाँ गए थे। मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह इतनी बड़ी विपदा है तो इस भाषण से पहले और यहाँ, जो हम लोग करते हैं कि हमरा ब्याह में तू नटवा, तोरे ब्याह में हम नटवा, यह जो पगड़िया की तरह हम लोग नाचते फिरते हैं, गरीबों के आँसू नहीं पोछते हैं, तो हम चाहेंगे कि सबसे पहले वहाँ जाकर देश के प्रधानमंत्री जी को या गृह मंत्री जी को, किसी एक व्यक्ति को जाकर देखना चाहिए कि आखिर वहाँ कितनी चीजों की आवश्यकता है। वहाँ बिना गए, यहाँ से भाषण देकर, 193 पर चर्चा करके कुछ भी नहीं किया जा सकता है। इसीलिए हम चाहेंगे कि पूरा देश ऐसे क्षण में तमिलनाडु की जनता के साथ खड़ा हो। ...(व्यवधान) आंध्र प्रदेश, तमिलनाडु, पांडिचेरी सबकी बात मैं कह रहा हूँ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप इस बात को अभी भी देख रहे होंगे कि इस देश में सामाजिक संदर्भों में कुछ बातें आई थीं। हमारे आध्यात्मिक गुरु ने 12 लाख वर्षों के बाद साउथ और नॉर्थ पोल चेन्ज होने की बात कही है और कई आध्यात्मिक गुरुओं ने इस बात को कहा है, कई साइंटिस्टों ने भी इस बात को कहा है। यह नॉर्डन इलाके से चेन्ज होने की बात को हमारे साइंटिस्टों ने संज्ञान में लाने का काम किया है। मेरे दो तीन सबमिशन इस संबंध में हैं कि भारत के वैज्ञानिकों को ज़रूर इन मुद्दों को गंभीरता से लेना चाहिए कि आखिर जब इतना बड़ा नेचर का चेन्ज होना है जिसमें सब कुछ का बदलाव होना है और हमारे प्रधान मंत्री ने विदेश में जाकर ग्लोबल वार्मिंग और विकसित कंट्रीज़ के बारे में जो बात कही है, हमको उन बातों

से भारत में भी सीख लेनी चाहिए कि प्रकृति के साथ छेड़छाड़ नहीं की जा सकती है। हम आग्रह करना चाहेंगे कि इन सारी संभावनाओं को हमारे वैज्ञानिकों को तलाशना चाहिए। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हम जहाँ से आते हैं, वहाँ बिहार में कोसी, महानंदा, गंडक, गंगा, कमला, बलान नदियों का अंबार है। बिहार 14 नदियों का अंबार है जितनी नदियाँ हिन्दुस्तान में कहीं नहीं हैं। सबसे ज्यादा बाढ़ की त्रासदी यदि किसी ने देखी है तो वह कोसी ने, हमारे क्षेत्रों ने, मधेपुरा, पूर्णिया, कटिहार, दरभंगा, सुपौल, सहरसा, इन इलाकों ने देखी है। आज तक बिहार सरकार की संवेदना तो रहती नहीं है, अतः मैं आग्रह करना चाहूँगा कि बाढ़ का स्थायी निदान कैसे हो, कैसे नेपाल में हाई डैम बनाकर हो या नेपाल से वार्ता करके हो, हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी के अच्छे संबंध हैं। मेरा सिर्फ इतना सबमिशन है कि कोसी, गंगा और महानंदा तथा गंडक नदियों को जोड़कर कैसे उस पानी को मध्य बिहार में ले जाया जाए और वहाँ बाढ़ की रोकथाम कैसे की जाए, यह किया जाना आवश्यक है। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मेरा एक बार पुनः आग्रह है कि प्रकृति से छेड़छाड़ न करें और जो नॉर्थ और साउथ पोल चेन्ज हो रहे हैं, इस पर वैज्ञानिकों को काम करना चाहिए कि बहुत बड़ा बदलाव आने की बात है और प्रधान मंत्री जी को तमिलनाडु जाकर वहाँ की जनता के प्रति संवेदना प्रकट करनी चाहिए। बहुत बहुत धन्यवाद।

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: In the morning the hon. Speaker took the sense of the House for an immediate discussion under Rule 193 regarding flood situation in the States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal and droughts in some parts of the country. During the discussion, several Members including the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and leaders expressed that keeping in view the gravity of the situation in the States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal, the discussion may be restricted specifically to the flood situation. If the House agrees we may take up drought situation at a later at a later time. Accordingly, we may confine the discussion and reply to the flood situation only. I hope the House agrees.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Sir, yes.

SHRI VARAPRASAD RAO VELAGAPALLI (TIRUPATI): Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. One of the really affected areas is the Tirupati constituency where all the seven Assembly constituencies have been affected. Agricultural activities have been completely washed away. The nurseries also have got washed away. Most of the roads have got damaged and cut off from other places. The hon. Chief Minister, including my Party leader Shri Jaganmohan Reddy has surveyed the area. Several of the houses where the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the OBCs live, the entire thatched houses and the mud houses have been completely washed out. The aqua culture which is extremely famous in our area, the Tirupati constituency, about 10000 hectares of land worth Rs. 15000 crore got washed away and the people engaged in this activity need assistance like concessions in electricity and all. The other thing is that the holy temple at Tirupati, never in the history of 100 years, has got inundated. But thanks to the management, the Executive Officer and the Chairman of TTD for which they are able to successfully help the people to have the *darshan* of the Lord.

Similarly, we also have an important temple in Kalahasthi. That also has got badly affected. Another important area which has got badly affected is Venkatagiri which is famous for the weavers. Most of them are handloom weavers. Water has gone into their machines and so, they are not able to weave for the last one month. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government of India and the State Government to immediately come to the rescue of the farmers of aquaculture and weavers.

Lastly, I request the hon. Prime Minister on this aspect as the flood situation is extremely serious. He may take an aerial survey particularly over Chennai and Tirupati areas so that people will be grateful to the Government of India.

SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI) (ANAKAPALLI):
Hon. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I thank you for permitting me to speak on this serious issue.

As per the information available on 20th November, many people have lost their lives in various rain-related incidents as rains continued, triggered by the North-East monsoon. It has battered several districts of Andhra Pradesh during the past one week. According to the press reports, 35 people were killed in different rain-related incidents like wall collapses in several districts which bore the brunt of the heavy downpour. At least 14,000 people were shifted to relief camps in Nellore and Chittoor districts.

The districts of Chittoor, Nellore, Cuddapah and Anantapur were the worst-hit due to heavy rains. Several rivers and rivulets were in spate following the rains. Low-lying areas were inundated in villages and towns in the affected districts. As a result of this, crops suffered extensive damages.

Last year, we had Hudhud in Andhra Pradesh. Our State is the second largest coastal State. So, every year, we have a minimum of three to four cyclones and thousands of people are getting evacuated. By these cyclones, we are facing heavy loss of life and property. As per primary assessment, a loss of about Rs. 3000 crore has occurred and our hon. Chief Minister, Shri Chandrababu Naidu has taken all required steps including precautionary and relief measures but on behalf of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, I humbly request the Government of India to immediately sanction Rs. 1000 crores as interim relief to our State. Only then, we can re-equip ourselves as our State is a new State. As such, we have a lot of problems and moreover, the natural calamities are also causing a lot of trouble to the people of Andhra Pradesh.... (*Interruptions*)

I would request the hon. Minister to depute a Central team to visit the flood affected districts of Andhra Pradesh to assess the damage and provide sufficient medical aid to deal with the health problems faced by the people.

MOHAMMED FAIZAL (LAKSHADWEEP): Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the discussion under Rule 193 on the subject of flood situation in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal.

First of all, I stand here to express our Party's solidarity to the flood-affected areas, specially the people of Tamil Nadu, and we stand by them. At the same time, I also extend my Party's sincere thanks to the efforts taken by the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Jayalalithaa for rescuing the affected people over there.

We have been witnessing such issues earlier also. This is not the first time we are coming across such natural calamities. We have been discussing these issues prior to this also under Rule 193 on several occasions. But I would like to clearly mention one point here. We need to identify the reason as to why floods are happening and our scientists or experts need to sit and brainstorm to find out the reason and then get rid of the problem.

As Shri Mahtab was telling, the cause for this flood is obstructing the natural flow of water, may be due to construction or due to some other reason. We need to find a permanent solution. We should reach such a situation where our country should not face such natural calamities which take the lives of our people.

I would request the Government to come out with such solutions so that such calamities do not occur in future. I also support the demand made by the State Government of Tamil Nadu and all assistance be extended to them as early as possible. Thank you.

श्री रामेश्वर तेली (डिब्रूगढ़) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि तमिलनाडु में जो बाढ़ आई है, उसमें जितना हो सके, वहां के लोगों की सहायता की जाए। बाढ़ आने के बाद वहां अम्मा ने जिस तरह से कार्रवाई की, वह सराहनीय है। मैं केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि वह तमिलनाडु सरकार को जितना हो सके, उतना हेल्प करे।

महोदय, मैं असम से हूँ। असम एक ऐसा स्टेट है, जो चारों तरफ से पहाड़ों से घिरा है। पहाड़ी स्टेट में जब बारिश होती है तो असम में भी बारिश आ जाती है और असम में भी बाढ़ आ जाती है। असम में हर साल बाढ़ आती है। केन्द्र से जिस तरह की सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए, उस तरह की सुविधा नहीं मिलती है।

असम में शायद अगले साल भी बाढ़ आएगी। मैं केन्द्र सरकार से दरखास्त करता हूँ कि उसे इसके लिए पहले से जागरूक रहना चाहिए।

श्री कौशलेन्द्र कुमार (नालंदा) : आदरणीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, तमिलनाडु और आंध्र प्रदेश में पिछले एक सप्ताह से लगातार भयंकर बारिश के कारण बहुत क्षति हुई है। इसमें लगभग 170 लोगों की जानें गई हैं। खासकर, चेन्नई शहर पूरा पानी में डूबा हुआ है। रेल मार्ग, सड़क मार्ग, हवाई मार्ग इससे लगातार बाधित हैं। दिल्ली की सरकार एन.डी.आर.एफ. के द्वारा जो सहायता कार्य कर रही है, वह सराहनीय है। अम्मा जी, जो इस आपदा में वहां के लोगों के साथ खड़े रहकर जो उनकी मदद कर रही हैं, उसके लिए मैं अम्मा जी की कार्य की सराहना करता हूं।

महोदय, मैं बिहार से हूं और बिहार के बारे में बोलकर दो-तीन मिनट में अपनी बात समाप्त कर दूंगा। बिहार लगातार दस वर्षों से कभी कोसी नदी, तो कभी कमला नदी की त्रासदी से उबर नहीं पा रहा है। मैं समझता हूं कि इसका स्थायी रूप से निदान करने के लिए माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को पहल करना चाहिए। वे नेपाल सरकार से बात करें। अभी पप्पू जी भी बता रहे थे कि नेपाल सरकार से बात करके उत्तरी बिहार को बाढ़ से निजात दिलाएं। इसके लिए निश्चित रूप से एक केन्द्रीय टीम बने। वह सारी जगहों की स्थिति को समझे, चाहे वहां सुखाड़ हो या बाढ़ हो, और इस तरह से उसका निदान निकलना चाहिए, न कि सिर्फ संसद में इस पर चर्चा होती रहे और हम लोग उससे पीड़ित होते रहें।

महोदय, तमिलनाडु और आंध्र प्रदेश के लोगों के साथ आज पूरा देश खड़ा है। मैं केन्द्र सरकार से मांग करता हूं कि उनके लिए शीघ्र संसाधन जुटाएं जाएं। यहां माननीय गृह मंत्री जी बैठे हुए हैं। मैं उनसे भी विनती करूंगा कि इस स्थिति में वहां के लोगों के साथ मिलकर, उनके साथ कंधे से कंधा मिलाकर, आप उनका सहयोग करें।

श्री निनोंग इरिंग (अरुणाचल पूर्व) : महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। सबसे पहले मैं कहना चाहूँगा कि हमारे तमिलनाडु और आंध्र प्रदेश के जो भाई-बहन हैं, उनके प्रति सहानुभूति और संवेदना हम लोग रखते हैं। हम सरकार से मांग करते हैं कि प्राकृतिक आपदा के समय उनको राहत और बचाव की सहायता देनी चाहिए। सरकार को इसे राष्ट्रीय आपदा के रूप में घोषित करना चाहिए। खास तौर से उपाध्यक्ष हों या उनकी जो टीम ऑफ एमपीज है, जो सांसद हैं, जिस प्रकार से उन्होंने तमिलनाडु के लोगों की दुःख और तकलीफ के लिए संवेदना भेजी है, उसके लिए हम आभारी हैं।

मैं यह भी कहना चाहूँगा कि हमारे यहाँ भी, असम, अरुणाचल प्रदेश आदि सब जगहों पर बाढ़ से पीड़ित होते हैं। हमारे वहाँ जो इश्यूज हैं, खास तौर से हमारे गृह राज्य मंत्री जी अरुणाचल प्रदेश से ही हैं।... (व्यवधान) एक चीज है कि जब भी हम बोलते हैं, तो आप हमें दो मिनट ही देते हैं। अगर आप अरुणाचल प्रदेश के विषय में नहीं सुनना चाहते हैं तो आप हमें क्यों बुलाते हैं? जब हमें बुलाते हैं तो कम से कम दो मिनट का समय तो हमें देना ही चाहिए। हमें एक मिनट में ही बन्द करने के लिए कहते हैं। जो हमें जवाब देंगे, वे राज्य मंत्री तो अरुणाचल प्रदेश से हैं। इसलिए हमारी बात को वे सुनेंगे और उनको जवाब भी देना होगा। सिर्फ यहाँ ही नहीं, बल्कि असम में भी, आप देखिए इस बार भी असम में बाढ़ आई थी तो 92 हजार हेक्टेअर में लोग प्रभावित हुए हैं, कम से कम 90 हजार लोग बाढ़ पीड़ित हुए हैं। हमने दो हजार करोड़ की माँग की, असम में 520 करोड़ रूपए ही दिए। हमने 500 करोड़ की माँग की तो हमें 96 करोड़ की राशि दी, यह पिछले साल की बात है। अभी तमिलनाडु में जो 900 करोड़ घोषित किया है, यह पिछले साल का है। इस साल के लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं, वहाँ किस प्रकार से लोगों को हेलीकाप्टर से मदद दे रहे हैं, किस प्रकार से रिलीफ एंड रिहैबिलिटेशन मैटर्स टेक अप कर रहे हैं, इस पर आप विशेष ध्यान दीजिएगा।

महोदय, मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लूँगा। वह हमारे एरिया के हैं, लेकिन फिर भी जिस प्रकार मैंने बोला था कि अरुणाचल प्रदेश के ऊपर जो चार डैम चीन बना रहा है, उसके विषय में आपने कुछ नहीं बोला, चुप बैठे हैं। आप जरूर इसका जवाब दीजिएगा। यह नहीं होने से असम में बाढ़ की जो समस्या है, वह हर वर्ष आएगी। *It is a river of sorrow. Brahmaputra River is a river of sorrow. If you do not check this, you will have problem with her. Thank you.*

***श्री भैरों प्रसाद मिश्र (बांदा) :** हमारा देश लगातार कई वर्षों से प्राकृतिक आपदाओं के आगोश में हैं । वर्तमान में भी जहां देश के अधिकांश भाग सूखे की चपेट में हैं वहीं तमिलनाडु लगातार नवम्बर माह से अतिवृष्टि के कारण संकट से घिरा हुआ है । जहाँ बारिश ने पिछले सौ साल का रिकार्ड तोड़ दिया है । सब कुछ अव्यवस्थित हो गया है । सैकड़ों लोगों की जानें जा चुकी हैं । अरबों की सम्पत्ति का नुकसान हो चुका है । विमान, ट्रेन व बस सेवायें बंद हैं । अधिकतर इलाके जलमग्न हो गए हैं । परीक्षायें स्थगित कर स्कूल कालेज बंद कर दिए गए हैं । मैं सरकार को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी सहित माननीय गृहमंत्री व पूरी मंत्रिपरिषद इस विषय पर गंभीर है और त्वरित निर्णय लेते हुए राज्य सरकार से वार्ता कर यथा संभव सभी प्रकार की सहायता उपलब्ध करा रही है अभी 23 नवम्बर को ही माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी के निर्देश पर राज्य को 939.63 करोड़ रूपए जारी किए गए हैं । और एक विशेष टीम का गठन कर वहाँ भेजने का कार्य किया गया है । संकट की इस घड़ी में पूरा देश तमिलनाडु की जनता के साथ खड़ा है । मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध है कि राज्य को इस संकट से निबटने के लिए जिस प्रकार की भी जरूरत हो उसे पूरा करने का कार्य प्राथमिकता से किया जाए । वहाँ एक उच्चस्तरीय केन्द्र की टीम मौजूद रहे और वहाँ के नुकसान का यथा शीघ्र आकलन कर नवीन सहायता यथा शीघ्र जारी किया जाए । बाढ़ प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में संचार एवं आवागमन की सुविधाएं शीघ्र बहाल करने हेतु यदि आवश्यक हो तो सेना की भी सहायता ली जाए ।

* Speech was laid on the Table.

*SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA (BALASORE): The whole country expresses its solidarity with the people of Tamil Nadu to face the grave situation arising out of unprecedented rains, which have not happened in the last 100 years. I come from Odisha, which has a long coastline of about 425 kms and my Constituency Balasore has about 80 Kms. Coastline.

We get repeatedly devastated by flood, cyclone, draught like Supercyclone, Phailin, Hud Hud etc. Global warming poses serious challenge to world climate. Climate change is the top most threat to India, world's fastest growing economy as erratic monsoon cause distress in agriculture sector, which employs more than half of India's 1.2 billion population. More than 60 per cent of India's agriculture is rain fed. Rising temperature is a cause of concern.

According to World Bank, a 2 degree celcius rise in temperature will make India's monsoon highly unpredictable and double the need for food imports.

Since 90 per cent of major disaster in the last 20 years have been weather related, it is time that Government of India must not see Chennai as an isolated incident, it is an alarm for a bigger crisis which is coming up and hence the serious crisis with a definite action plan.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

***SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA (ARAKU):** South Indian floods resulted from heavy rainfall during the annual northeast monsoon in November-December 2015. They affected the South Indian States of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh and the union territory of Puducherry. Chennai received the highest ever rainfall for past century, recorded in November, crippling the region's economy. Nearly 200 people have died due to the floods, which have affected over 1.8 million people and have caused damages and losses amounting to over Rs. 20000 crore.

As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, On 9 November, 2015, Chennai received 43 mm (1.7in) of rain in a six-hour period. Neyveli recorded 139 mm (5.5in) on 9 November and 483 mm (19.0 in) on 10 November of rainfall; rains continued to lash Cuddalore, Chidambaram and Chennai continuing rains led to low-lying parts of Chennai becoming inundated by 13 November, resulting in the evacuation of over 1000 people from their homes. On 15-16 November, Chennai received 24.65 cm (9.70 in) of rainfall, the highest amount recorded since November 2005, flooding most areas of the city. The flooding in Chennai city was worsened by years of illegal development and inadequate levels of flood preparedness. Much of the city remained flooded on 17 November, though rainfall had largely ceased.

Though rainfall from the earlier low pressure system ended on 25 November, a second system developed on 29 November, bringing additional rain and flooding. The Indian Meteorological Department predicted heavy rainfall over Tamil Nadu until the end of the week. On 1 December, heavy rains led to inundation in many areas of Chennai, with trains cancelled and the Chennai International Airport closing temporarily. The same day, Chief Minister Jayalithaa announced that, due to the continued flooding and rains, half-yearly school examination originally scheduled for 7 December would be postponed until the first week in January.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

Chennai received 104.9 cm (41.3 in) of rainfall in November, the highest since receiving 108.8 cm (42.8 in) in November 1918. As of 1 December, 147 people in Tamil Nadu were reported to have died due to the flooding since 8 November, while over 70,000 people had been rescued. The cyclone and rains have led to schools and colleges remaining closed across Puducherry and Chennai, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur districts in Tamil Nadu and fishermen were warned against sailing due to high waters and rough seas. The State Government reported preliminary flood damages of Rs. 8481 (US\$1 billion), and requested Rs. 2000 crore (US\$ 299 million) for immediate relief efforts. The persistent rainfall and flooding forced several major automakers in the region, including Ford Motor Company, Renault, Nissan and Daimler AG to temporarily halt production, resulting in estimated losses of Rs. 200 crore (US\$30 million). Industry analysts estimated total industrial losses as a result of the floods to be in the range of Rs. 10000 crore (US\$1 billion) to Rs. 15000 crore (US\$2 billion). Prices of vegetables and fruits significantly increased, as over 50 percent of supplies were affected due to numerous lorries becoming stranded.

The situation still remains worse as there is a prediction for more heavy rains for the next one week. Adayar river is flooding and the water entered the city of Chennai. Tambaram and airfield at arakkonam are closed. Many people are struck in the waters and are looking for the relief operations without food and water. Power supply remains shut in many parts of the city. The airport remain close and all sorts of communications are badly affected. Though the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Hon'ble Jaya lalithaa, has been taking all possible steps to face this disaster the central government has to extend all possible support.

In Andhra Pradesh on 16 November, local authorities closed schools in Chittoor district. Thousands of lakes and ponds across the district began to overflow, with breaches reported in some areas. At Sri Kalahasti, another pilgrimage centre in the region, the Swarnamukhi River was reported to be rising. Three people were swept away by floodwaters in the Varadaiahpalem mandal of

Chittoor district, and water entered some houses. Roads were damaged in many parts of Nellore district, disrupting transport services. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu held a teleconference with the district collectors of affected districts and asked disaster response personnel to be on alert.

Heavy rainfall in Nellore, Chittoor and kadapa districts flooded villages and disrupted transport networks. It was estimated by 18 November that at least 500 km of roads had been damaged by flooding, with the Chennai-Kolkata highway cut the previous day and stranding hundreds of vehicles and motorists; official said it would take days to restore the link. As in Tamil Nadu, the Southern Railway diverted or cancelled numerous trains. Over 10,000 lorry drivers were stranded on the Tada-Kavali national highway in Nellore district; district officers established 61 relief camps in the flood-affected areas and deputed senior IAS officers to oversee the relief operations in Gudur, Naidupet and Atmakur divisions, respectively. Up to 500 tanks were breached as rivers overflowed, forcing administration to suspend rescue operations for marooned villages, though administrators supplied 10,000 food and water packets through the rail network, which managed to operate some trains, while the APSRTC continued to run bus services to less-flooded areas such as Atmakuru, Udayagiri, MARRIPADU and Seetharampuram.

In Kadapa district, the rains tapered off by Wednesday and road links between Tirupati-Kadapa were restored; preliminary estimates were that the district had sustained about Rs. 29 crore (US\$4 million) of agricultural losses. Horticulture farms at Pendlimerry, Chintakommanne, Siddhavatam and Khajipet mandals were also destroyed by the rain. Other heavy agricultural losses were reported in Rayalaseema, Nellore, Prakasam, East and West Godavari districts; the Chief Minister asked agriculture department officials to drain fields at the earliest in order to save crops.

In a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 19 November, Chief Minister Naidu reported preliminary estimates of flood-related damage in Andhra

Pradesh roughly totalled Rs. 3000 crore (US\$ 448 million), including Rs. 1250 crore (US\$ 187 million) worth of agricultural-related damages and Rs. 1025 crore (US\$ 153 million) of damage to infrastructure; he requested central authorities to release Rs. 1000 crore (US\$149 million) for immediate relief efforts. According to Naidu, Nellore district was the most seriously affected, reporting an estimated Rs. 1395 crore (US\$208 million) worth of losses, followed by Chittoor district, which reported losses of Rs. 818 crore (US\$122 million). Kadapa district was also seriously affected, with extensive crop damage reported in East and West Godavari districts and a lesser scale of damage in Anantapur, Prakasam and Krishna districts. The aquaculture industry in Nellore district was catastrophically affected, with over 8000 hectares of fish and prawn ponds destroyed, at an estimated loss of Rs. 250 crore (US\$37 million).

As of 20 November, 35 people were reported to have been killed by flooding in the state, while over 14,000 people had been evacuated to relief camps in Nellore and Chittoor districts.

This being the situation in both states of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, we urge upon the union government to take necessary steps to provide urgent relief through the National Disaster Response force so as to protect the lives of the people of the affected areas. We also request the union to provide for necessary financial assistance to help the states in meeting the exigencies that emerge out of this disaster.

My state of Andhra Pradesh has become vulnerable to the disasters due to the long coastal line. As my colleague Hon'ble Haribabu garu rightly pointed, we have advantages as well as disadvantages. We are already facing a huge financial crisis and this situation is even painful wherein many lives are at stake and economically the state would be affected in all ways. Hence we all firmly express our solidarity towards the affected states and also request the union to extend all possible support. We also firmly express our concern towards the families affected and to the families of people who lost their lives due to this disaster and we stand

to support them unanimously. As Susmita dev rightly said however strong the state is economically, when disaster hits any state, the state normally look towards the Union Government for the support. We humbly urge upon the centre and the Hon'ble Prime Minister to raise to this situation and extend all possible support as may deemed fit in the interest of the nation.

*श्री जनार्दन सिंह सीग्रीवाल (महाराजगंज) : बाढ़ एक ऐसी आपदा है, जिसके कारण सबसे ज्यादा नुकसान किसानों को होता है। मवेशियों के लिए चारा के अभाव के साथ-साथ बड़े पैमाने पर जान-माल का नुकसान होता है। बाढ़ के कई एक कारण भी होते हैं, नदियों में जलस्तर के बढ़ने के साथ अतिवृष्टि भी बाढ़ के कारण हाती है।

वर्तमान में अतिवृष्टि के कारण देश के कई भागों में बाढ़ के प्रकोप से भयावह रूप से जान-माल को हानि पहुंची है।

बाढ़ प्रभावित राज्यों/जिलों/क्षेत्रों को पहले से चिन्हित कर, उससे निपटने हेतु प्रबंध करना चाहिए। बाढ़ से लड़ने में राज्य एवं केन्द्र को आपसी सामंजस्य/सहमति के आधार पर पहले से तैयारी करने की आवश्यकता है। चूंकि पहले से तैयारी नहीं रहने के कारण हानि का अनुपात काफी बढ़ जाता है। बाढ़ का कारण जो भी हो, तैयारी लड़ने की पहले से होनी चाहिए।

मैं अपने स्तर से अपने क्षेत्र एवं राज्यवासियों की तरफ से तमिलनाडु, आंध्रप्रदेश पांडिचेरी के बाढ़ प्रभावित आम-जन को इस दुःख की घड़ी में हर स्तर का सहयोग देने का विश्वास दिलवाना चाहता हूँ। साथ ही ईश्वर से भी प्रार्थना करता हूँ, कि इस क्षण में उन्हें ताकत दे ताकि वे इस दुःख की घड़ी से लड़ने में सफलता प्राप्त कर सकें।

*श्री बीरेन्द्र कुमार चौधरी (झंझारपुर) : तमिलनाडु में बाढ़ पर हो रही चर्चा पर मैं भी अपने विचार रखता हूँ। तमिलनाडु और आंध्रप्रदेश में बिना मौसम के भारी वर्षा से जो तबाही हुई है, उससे पूरा देश दुखी है। मैं बिहार से आता हूँ। बिहार को प्रत्येक वर्ष बाढ़ और सूखा से जूझना पड़ता है खासकर कोसी और कमला नदी से प्रत्येक साल तबाही होती है और लाखों एकड़ फसल बर्बाद हो जाती है। कोसी में तो प्रत्येक वर्ष हजारों एकड़ भूमि कटकर कोसी नदी में समा जाती है और उसको कोई सहायता सरकार की ओर से नहीं मिलती है जिससे वहां के किसानों को भूखमरी की समस्या उत्पन्न हो जाती है।

मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि ऐसी विपत्तियों के लिए कमेटी गठित कर उचित मुआवजा दिया जाए जिससे पीड़ित परिवारों को जीने का मौका मिले।

* Speech was laid on the Table.

***श्री देवजी एम. पटेल (जालौर)** : आज किसानों के सामने सिर्फ समस्या के अलावा कुछ नहीं है। किसानों को कदम-कदम पर मुसीबतों का सामना करना पड़ता है, उन्हें आज़ादी के बाद लगातार सरकारी नीतियों में उपेक्षा का शिकार होना पड़ा है। आज हरित क्रांति के 45 वर्ष होने के बाद भी किसानों की स्थिति दयनीय बनी हुई है। हरित क्रांति के अतिरिक्त श्वेत क्रांति, पीली क्रांति, गुलाबी क्रांति, गोल क्रांति, नीली क्रांति, सिल्वर क्रांति, सुनहरी क्रांति आदि क्रांतियों ने अपने देश में कई दशक बीत गये परंतु किसान की स्थिति में मामूली सुधार की किरण नहीं दिखी है। यह सोचने के लिए मजबूर करती है। आज कृषि एक बहुत ही जोखिम भरा काम हो गया है। इसलिए किसान खेती करना छोड़ना चाहते हैं, किसान पहले कर्ज लेते हैं फिर फसल उगाते हैं, कभी बारिश नहीं होती तो कभी बाढ़ आ जाती है। अगर फसल अच्छी हो तो फसल की इतनी कीमत नहीं मिलती कि किसान का घर चल सके। इस तरह अनिश्चित मौसम, अनिश्चित बाज़ार और कर्ज का दबाव किसानों पर बहुत भार डाल रहा है जिसकी वजह से वे पूरी तरह थक चुके हैं, वही जीवन के दूसरे खर्चे बढ़ते जा रहे हैं और कृषि से होने वाली आय छोटे किसानों के लिए पर्याप्त नहीं रह गई है। अतः किसानों की समस्याओं को गंभीरता से विचार करने की जरूरत है।

कई बार हमारी फसल जल जाती है। मेरे राजस्थान के अंदर आज सांचोर और जालौर के अंदर ईशवगोल, घोड़ाजीरा सब खत्म हो गया। अगर उसको बचाना है तो जो खत्म हुआ है, वह डायरेक्ट बीमे से पैसा पूरा दिया जाए। उसको एक रूपया कर्जा चुकाना न पड़े, तब जाकर हमारा किसान बचेगा। इसीलिए मैं सदन से निवेदन करूंगा कि अगर हम सब मिलकर किसानों का दुख-दर्द दूर करना चाहते हैं तो यही काम करें कि किसान को बचाएं नहीं तो यह देश खत्म हो जाएगा।

कम बारिश की वजह से काम नहीं रहा है अब इनके (किसानों के) खेत में ही काम नहीं है, तो ये लोग कहां से दाढ़ी बनवाने आएंगे, ये भी खाली बैठे हैं, दाढ़ी बनवाने के लिए पैसा नहीं है। अगर बनवाते हैं तो उधार करते हैं, हम भी चार-आठ दिन तक धकेलते हैं, सोचते हैं कि चलो आज नहीं तो कल कर देंगे।

मध्य प्रदेश में बेमौसम बारिश और ओले की मार से पीड़ित एक किसान ने अपने दो बेटों टीसू और बैजू को एक गड़रिये के पास गिरवी रख दिया। मध्य प्रदेश के निमाड़ अंचल में जब सरकारी अधिकारियों को 13 वर्षीय टीसू और 11 वर्षीय बैजू को गिरवी रखे जाने की खबर लगी तो वे हैरान रह गए। तफ्तीश के बाद पता लगा कि तीन बच्चे और गिरवी हैं।

राजस्थान प्रदेश के जालौर-सिरोही संसदीय क्षेत्र में पिछले दो महीने से लगातार हुई मूसलाधार बारिश के कारण नदियों एवं नालों के जल स्तर व तेज बहाव के कारण कई छोटे-मोटे बांध टूट गये। इस

* Speech was laid on the Table.

प्राकृतिक आपदा से स्थानीय लोगों के आवास (मकान) पानी में बह गये। कई पशुपालकों के दुधाय एवं पालतू पशु पानी के साथ चले गये। क्षेत्र में कई गांव-ढाणियां एवं खेत जलमग्न हो गये तथा हज़ारों हैक्टेयर बरसाती फसल पूर्णतया नष्ट हो गयी हैं। व्यापारियों की दुकानों में पानी भर जाने से भी भारी आर्थिक नुकसान हुआ है। इस प्रकार यह अतिवृष्टि नहीं बल्कि अतिवृष्टि से उत्पन्न बाढ़ है।

इस प्रकार प्राकृतिक प्रकोप से सरकार एवं स्थानीय प्रशासन की सक्रियता के कारण जनहानि नहीं होने दी गयी। क्षेत्र में 31 जुलाई, 2015 तक औसतन 796 एम.एम. बारिश दर्ज की गई। पूर्व में लगभग 70 वर्षों में इतनी भारी बारिश नहीं हुई थी।

इस प्रकार क्षेत्र में नदियों एवं नालों के तेज बहाव के कारण क्षेत्र में किसानों की खातेदारी भूमि का कटाव हो गया, जो कृषि योग्य नहीं रही। अतः मनरेगा योजनान्तर्गत भूमि सुधार हेतु किसान सहित सभी वर्गों को शामिल करने की छूट दी जाये। ताकि पुनः भूमि सुधार कर कृषि योग्य बनाई जाये।

इसी तरह मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र में स्थित राजस्थान की ग्रीष्मकालीन राजधानी कहे जाने वाली एक मात्र हिल स्टेशन माउंट आबू पूरी तरह से बर्बाद हो गया। माउंट आबू जाने वाली एक मात्र सड़क पूरी तरह टूट गयी। जिससे हज़ारों पर्यटक ऊपर फंस गये। मेरे क्षेत्र का एक बड़ा पर्यटक केंद्र पूरी तरह से बर्बाद हो गया है। यहां एक ओर सड़क मार्ग गुलाबगंज से है, जो वन विभाग के कारण रूका है। उसे भी बनाया जाए ताकि भविष्य में आने वाली किसी भी समस्या से निज़ात मिले और जान-माल का नुकसान भी न हो।

SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM (KANCHEEPURAM): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I express my sincere gratitude and thanks to our beloved leader hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for giving me this timely opportunity to speak in this august House.

I would like to say that the North-East Monsoon has witnessed extremely heavy rainfall and subsequent floods which resulted in heavy damages and extensive disturbances to lives and properties in the entire Kancheepuram district. Extremely heavy rainfall of 342 mm flooded Kancheepuram town on 13th November, 2015. Many taluks of Kancheepuram district suffered very heavy to extremely heavy rainfall of 275 mm on 16th November, 2015. Thousands of locations were inundated in Kancheepuram district and nearby areas. All the taluks of Kancheepuram district were worst hit and 686 villages were badly affected. Many lives have been lost due to heavy rains and flood-related incidents.

There was inundation of major areas of Kancheepuram district and most of the water bodies like Chembarambakkam and Madurantakam had water more than their normal capacity. At some places, it was above the danger mark. Water overflowing or let out from bursting tanks in many places could only rise and spread causing damage. The magnitude of the disaster was so big that even the help of the armed forces was sought for rescue and relief operations. As the fury of the rains continue, it will take a long time for rehabilitation of the affected people, most of whom are poor. Continuous rains and floods led to loss of lives, damages to huts and dwellings, crops and livelihoods. There were also extensive damages to infrastructure including roads, bridges, drainages and sewages, Government buildings, etc.

16.00 hours

Though all precautionary measures were taken there was very heavy and extremely heavy rainfall for days together causing extensive damage to infrastructure. The reservoirs and minor irrigation tanks and ponds got filled up soon and their overflow aggravated the problem.

The Government of Tamil Nadu under the dynamic and efficient leadership of hon. Chief Minister, *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma* has sought support from the National Disaster Response Fund for flood damages. The Inter-Ministerial Central team deputed by the Union Government has visited different places affected by floods in the State.

I sincerely pray and hope that the Union Government would be more considerate in this regard after assessing the damages caused in the State due to recent floods.

Hon. Prime Minister expressed his deep anguish and grief about the loss of lives in Tamil Nadu due to continuous rain and floods and was saddened to witness devastation and deaths in Tamil Nadu and expressed faith in the strength of Tamil Nadu. He had spoken to our hon. Chief Minister *Amma* and assured full support and cooperation from the Centre.

An unrelenting downpour that lasted around six days led to breaches in tanks and canals, and swollen lakes and rivers rendered thousands homeless and resulted in loss of lives and property. Many persons lost their lives during recent flash floods. An amount of Rs. 4 lakh as per norms of Calamity Relief Fund has been sanctioned to the kith and kin of the deceased.

I wish to record that but for the leadership provided by hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma* and the timely action taken by her State administration, Tamil Nadu would have witnessed untold miseries and unprecedented destructions. Given the scale of suffering as a result of the rains, the government machinery was in full swing, with Ministers and officials including those from police and Fire and Rescue Services working day and night to restore normalcy. *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma* is spearheading the administration to do relief measures on war-footing.

Under the guidance of *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma*, measures were taken to provide safe drinking water and early restoration of power supply. Immediate relief is being provided to families of persons who lost their lives

due to floods. In addition, relief is also provided for thousands for loss of cattle and poultry. Besides, relief is being distributed to thousands of cases of hut damages and damages to houses. Thousands of electric poles were replaced and medical camps were organised in all the relief camps. Text books, notebooks and uniform sets were provided to the students. New ration cards are provided to those poor families who lost their documents of livelihood during the floods.

Agricultural economy has got a severe hit by the recent floods. Tamil Nadu suffered huge loss to crops, livestock, fisheries and infrastructure. The calamity is so severe that it should be treated as a national calamity and the entire expenditure towards relief and restoration over and above the State Disaster Response Fund should be borne by the Government of India.

The civic infrastructure, including drains, roads and buildings, needs to be strengthened to withstand the rains and resulting flooding. Even now there has been extremely heavy rainfall continuously devastating the Chennai, Tiruvallur and Kanchipuram districts.

The Army has been deployed in two suburban areas to undertake rescue on a war footing. Two columns of the Army's Garrison Infantry Battalion have been pressed into service in Tambaram and Oorapakkam. Heavy rain in the catchment areas of the Chembarambakkam reservoir forced the authorities to discharge water at the rate of 20,000 cubic feet per second into the Adyar river.

Chief Minister *Amma* reviewed the situation and deputed Ministers to inspect the affected regions. Many Small lakes in Kanchipuram district were breached due to heavy rains and inflows. *Amma* had given instructions to police, fire and rescue, national and state disaster forces and Coast Guard and other officials to take precautionary measures before releasing surplus water from reservoirs and evacuate people living in low-lying areas.

Trains were delayed and some were cancelled as authorities struggled to cope with the aftereffects of the fresh torrential rains in Tamil Nadu. Kanchipuram district had received more than 18 cm yesterday. The situation has worsened in suburban areas of Tambaram and Mudichur after the Chembarampakkam lake overflowed and an unprecedented 26,000 cusecs of water was being released flooding the downstream areas. These areas had already suffered heavily during the earlier spells of rains.

So, I urge upon the Union Government to consider this calamity as a national calamity and release an amount of Rs. 8,480.93 crore from the National Disaster Response Fund immediately. Thank you.

श्री जुगल किशोर (जम्मू) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका आभार व्यक्त करना चाहता हूँ कि आपने तमिलनाडु, आंध्र, पश्चिम बंगाल और पांडिचेरी में बारिश से हो रही तबाही पर चर्चा करवाई। यह सदन उनके प्रति चिंतित है। केन्द्र ने भी इसे गंभीरता से लिया है। लगातार 25 दिनों से हो रही बारिश से तमिलनाडु, आंध्र, पश्चिम बंगाल और दूसरे क्षेत्रों में तबाही हो रही है। इससे पूरा देश चिंतित है और अवगत भी है। मैं जानता हूँ कि बाढ़ की तबाही से काफी दुष्परिणाम होते हैं। पिछले दिनों जम्मू कश्मीर में भी बाढ़ से काफी नुकसान हुआ। जम्मू कश्मीर के शहरों में पानी भर गया था और गांवों में भी पानी भर गया था। कई लोगों की मौतें भी हुईं। घर ढह गए थे, पशु मारे गए थे, कई पुल नष्ट हो गए थे, रोड, फसल, जमीन, पानी आदि काफी नुकसान हुआ था। टेलीफोन आदि कुछ नहीं चल रहा था। तीन मंजिला मकान डूब गए थे, कश्मीर घाटी पूरी झील बन चुकी थी। जम्मू कश्मीर सरकार बेबस नजर आ रही थी तो उस समय केन्द्र सरकार ने बड़ी गंभीरता के साथ, मैं इस देश के प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र भाई मोदी जी का आभार भी प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ जिन्होंने तुरंत कार्यवाही करते हुए केन्द्र से एक टीम जम्मू कश्मीर भेजी और पल-पल की खबर लेते हुए राहत कार्यों में तेजी लाई। उस समय प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र भाई मोदी जी स्वयं जम्मू कश्मीर गए, लोगों से मिले, उनकी बातें सुनीं, उनकी समस्याओं का समाधान किया और यहां तक कि दीपावली के दिन भी कश्मीर घाटी में उस दुख की घड़ी में लोगों के साथ रहे। उनका दुख-दर्द बांटा और तुरंत राहत पैकेज की घोषणा भी की। पहली बार ऐसा हुआ है कि बाढ़ पीड़ित लोगों के स्वयं के खाते में राहत राशि भेजी गई। इससे यह दिखता है कि केन्द्र सरकार और आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री जी अपने स्वाभाव के अनुसार विपदा की घड़ी में सबके साथ रहते हैं। मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है कि इस बार भी तमिलनाडु और दूसरे क्षेत्रों में जो विपदा आई है, केन्द्र सरकार इसे गंभीरता से ले रही है और आगे भी उनकी पूरी सहायता करेगी। धन्यवाद।

*PROF. RICHARD HAY (NOMINATED): I, as a fellow parliamentarian, express my solidarity with the people of Tamil Nadu who have been afflicted by gruesome and tragic natural calamities caused by heavy rains and floods.

The wrath of nature is too harsh, as felt in my neighboring State, Tamil Nadu.

In these hours of crisis, let us find solution to the problem created by flash floods.

- a) In all such natural calamities which have disastrous aftermath, the disaster, contingency or crisis management mechanism must rise to the occasion and render their service in a professional style.
- b) Such mechanism must take all measures, first to prevent loss of life and destruction of houses and buildings.
- c) The District Administration must put to use all resources and carry out specific and swiftly implemented plans to save the lives of people and provide relief measures on a war footing.
- d) Inundated streets and roads pose severe threats to human life. The National Highway and Railway systems are paralysed, mainly due to faulty planning.
- e) Water logging in drainage systems and faulty gradient of drainage, lack of canal systems, construction of houses in low lying areas, non-closure of dams are some of the problems that aggravate the gravity of the situation. These are the matters to be attended to.

Rehabilitation programmes are to be executed to do justice to the victims.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this very important discussion. This is time for all of us to rise as one nation to assist Tamil Nadu and other flood affected States. It is because though we have all scientific methods, we could not predict this natural calamity in the initial stage.

So, this has become the duty of our nation and also the Central Government to extend all kinds of assistance. I am thankful to the hon. Tamil Nadu Members that they have given a very detailed explanation with regard to the losses and also the other issues that they are experiencing and also the measures taken by the Tamil Nadu Government to deal with the situation. Of course, we can hope that there is a very efficient administrative system in Tamil Nadu. So, they can deal with the situation. But, at the same time, natural calamity has its own after effects. So, we have to take this issue as a national one.

Sir, it is reported that about 200 people have lost their lives. This is really a big one. The loss of material and other properties is also huge. It is reported that the situation in the airport is alarming, the trains are cancelled and the telecommunication system is ineffective. So this narration has become really a major one as far as Tamil Nadu is concerned. This situation should be considered as a big national calamity. All assistance should be given to Tamil Nadu by the Centre. The precautionary measures have to be taken especially to deal with the after effects of the situation. The loss of lives has to be taken with utmost seriousness and assistance should be given to the aggrieved families.

Today itself it is seen that for two more days the rain will continue in Chennai. At the same time, it is reported that for seven days in Tamil Nadu, there may be rain. It has its own effects on some parts of Andhra Pradesh and Kerala also. So the Central Government and the concerned States should take serious steps.

Tamil Nadu needs all kinds of assistance at any cost from all sides. I would request that a Central team, including the Central Minister, should visit Tamil

Nadu to assess the ground reality. Not only video conference but also telephone message, of course, is good. I really congratulate the Government that they have taken initial steps. But, at the same time, a Central team with the Central Minister should visit Tamil Nadu and have a discussion and find out the real situation. This is a big lesson for the country that we have to study. When a natural calamity like flood or drought comes, how can it be tackled with a minimum loss? That still is a shortage as far as this nation is concerned.

On behalf of my Party, I extend whole-hearted support to the aggrieved people and I express my sincerest sorrow to the aggrieved people who have lost their lives. I extend all assistance to Tamil Nadu and other States also the Central Government to take any steps in this regard. Thank you.

*श्री अजय मिश्रा टेनी (खीरी) : चेन्नई में जिस प्रकार की स्थिति बनी है, जन-जीवन अस्त-व्यस्त हो गया है तथा हवाई अड्डों, रेलवे स्टेशन तथा सड़कों पर पानी आ गया है । यह स्थिति बेहद चिन्ताजनक है । ऐसे में हमारी सरकार ने बेहद तत्परता से विपरीत परिस्थितियों से लोगों को निकाल कर, जन जीवन सामान्य हो सके उसके लिये प्रयास प्रारंभ किया है तथा तमिलनाडु की सरकार ने भी बेहद तत्परता से प्रभावी कार्य किया है तथा केन्द्र सरकार ने भी पूरा समर्थन प्रदेश सरकार को दिया है जिससे लोगों का विश्वास व्यवस्था पर कायम है, यह संतोष जनक है ।

परंतु ऐसे प्रदेश जहां पर परंपरागत बाढ़ आती रहती थी जैसे उ०प्र० व बिहार आदि इनके अलावा व देश के अन्य हिस्सों में भी बाढ़ सहित अन्य आपदायें आ रही हैं, जिससे कृषि, व्यवसाय सहित आम जन जीवन भी प्रभावित हुआ है । यह निःसंदेह चिन्ताजनक है व ऐसी परिस्थितियों से निबटने के लिये एक प्रमाणित व्यवस्था करने की आवश्यकता है । आज पूरा देश तमिलनाडु सरकार के साथ खड़ा है।

* Speech was laid on the Table.

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT (MUMBAI SOUTH): Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir. I would like to express a serious concern about the situation that the Tamil Nadu people are facing right now. For the last 20 days, there has been a heavy rainfall and 200 lives have been lost. Likewise, Andhra and Odisha people are also suffering. The most affected State is Tamil Nadu. The measures that have been taken by hon. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma to restore all the services pay accolades to her. But, at the same time, I am really concerned with the loss of lives first. I feel that the Meteorological Department was not able to predict what exactly was going to happen. I would like to ask the Minister, the Meteorological Department should be able to predict it. It was un-seasonal, unpredictable rain. In Andhra, my colleague was saying that it rained in the areas which were known to be drought areas. Never ever rainfall was there and it rained heavily over there.

When I had been to lunch during the afternoon, I received a call from my colleague whose daughter is stranded at Chennai Airport. I was told that she was forced to go out of the Airport. Later on the Airport authorities allowed them to stay in the airport. But, she said that outside it was worse condition. In the afternoon, Hema Malini, the hon. Member said, her house is on the third floor and water is there on the third floor also. I saw the pictorial view of the situation that is there in Tamil Nadu.

I support wholeheartedly what my colleagues are demanding. They are demanding Rs. 8,000 crore. Let the Central Government come forward proactively and give them as much as relief as they can so that the Tamil Nadu people will get relief. Do not wait for the committees to give their reports.

On this situation, I request the Government to form a Committee of scientists now. All over the world we are talking about the climate change. It is an example of this climate change. We have to discuss this issue seriously. Let

the Committee come forward with suggestions and give them to the Government to prevent such situation. Remedial measures can be taken so that the lives of the people can be saved.

I fully express my concerns to the Tamil Nadu people. I also request the Central Government to look into the matter and help the people as much as they can. Thank you.

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA (HISAR): Thank you Deputy-Speaker, Sir for allowing me to speak on the flood situation in Tamil Nadu and Southern Andhra Pradesh.

I would just like to say that it has been over 100 years in Indian history that Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have never faced such a flood situation. Our friends from Andhra Pradesh just told me that it is a drought-hit area where we have seen flood this time. It is only because of climate change.

Recently, our hon. Prime Minister went to Paris to discuss about climate change. He took an initiative that India will look on to renewable energy. I think, more than renewable energy, we have to speak about how and why this climate is changing day-by-day. It has increased over the years. Recently, the World Bank has suggested that if there is a two degree increase in temperature in India, the import of agricultural products will increase by approximately 50 per cent. Our friends in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh know that because of this flood situation, there will be an acute shortage of groundnut, sugarcane, soya , mango, guava, banana, chikoo, sitafal etc. We have to look into it as to how we will come and provide food facilities to the people. They have asked funds from the Central Government. I would request the hon. Minister for State for Home Affairs to provide funds as well as support in terms of NDRF and Army.

Lastly, I would just like to say:

Tamil Nattukku Nangalum adaravu therivikkeren

DR. MAMTAZ SANGHAMITA (BARDHMAN DURGAPUR): Respected Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am very much thankful to you for giving me few minutes to speak on this important issue.

First of all, I, on my behalf and on behalf of my Party, would like to express my deepest sympathy to our *deshbasi* of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry. Members have said about the flood situation and the recurrent flood situation in so many places including my State West Bengal. We suffer from it each year. This year, as everybody knows, the flood had affected 12 districts of West Bengal having much of monetary, crop, human and cattle losses. The same thing is happening in other parts of the country also. Now the time has come, as all of us have said, when we have to do something. We know it very-well that at any time it may come but whenever it comes we should fight against it. Sometimes we succeed fully but sometimes we fail to succeed fully in rescuing everybody. We are still depending on the relief either from the State or from the Centre. But it cannot meet our requirements to the fullest extent possible. We ask for Rs. 6000 crore from the Central Government but we got a meagre amount till date.

Anyway that is not the question. Amma ji is now trying her level best to tackle the situation. I envy our great hon. leader, Kumari Mamata Banerjee who has also tackled the flood situation very tactfully and without much loss of human life, cattle and crops. There was adequate food and clothing supply, medical help and temporary shelter.

It is my request now, as has been mentioned by my other friends, that we should really think seriously as to how we can tackle the natural calamities. We cannot prevent the natural calamities but we can foresee them. We should involve scientists to find out why such calamities are happening and as to how we can forecast the natural calamities. I would also request the Central Government to erect flood shelters and also crop shelters during the flood season which are urgently needed. These can be done through the projects of the Central

Government. That is my request. The Government should also undertake serious research on these natural calamities.

In West Bengal, floods are happening usually due to overflowing of dams and sometimes due to heavy rainfall. So, we should discuss about those things. We should also make a separate Commission or bodies comprising of scientists, engineers, Government officials to tackle the flood situation in the country and find out a permanent solution.

Thank you.

***SHRI P.K. BIJU (ALATHUR):** Natural Disaster are a big threat to our country's socio-economic security and I am thankful for the opportunity to give my reflections on this issue.

In the present time, natural disasters such as flood and drought are frequent in our country. It causes not only vast devastation of agriculture and habitations but also has sustaining impact on the multiple spheres of life of the poor.

We have a National Disaster Management Authority in place, headed by the Prime Minister and State Disaster Management Authorities headed by respective Chief Ministers. But only declarations are being made disaster after disaster. Shri Narendra Modi announced rupees 1000 crores for cyclone hit Andhra Pradesh last year. But nothing has been given yet.

The compensation and rehabilitation of the victims are the worst Managed issues. In the instance of a drought, the compensation would be delivered in the monsoon. In the instance of a flood compensation is delivered in the aftermath of the disaster. Again the compensation is meager and not proportionate to the damage. The present arrangement of compensation from Prime Minister Relief Fund and NCR based on hectares is unscientific and it should be based on per-head damage of the crops. Again the compensation is only given for the damage. No financial assistance is given for re-cultivation. It is the need of the hour that compensation should be given for both damage and re-cultivation of agriculture. In Kerala compensation is not distributed even for the damaged crops.

The issue of rehabilitation of the victims is also another matter of grave concern. There is lack of co-ordination between different Ministries and departments such as disaster management and agencies such as civil supplies for food supply. Eventhough, arrangement is there for Kisan credit and Crop Insurance, there is little accountability. The bureaucratic apathy is a major hurdle in the effective implementation of the programmes to tackle the disasters. Disaster tourism has become fashionable trend for the bureaucrats.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

Despite the occurrence of frequent disasters, Developed countries such as Japan and US are leading economic powers. It indicates that, It is not the disaster but attitude and management are the road blocks. We have to take a cue from these countries to improve our systems.

I urge the Government to look in to these matters with utmost concern. Ensuring accountability, Transparency and on the time delivery of compensation is the only way out. Otherwise the country is going to face a disastrous future.

* **DR. KULMANI SAMAL (JAGATSINGHPUR):** With regard to the discussion, I would like to state that the recent heavy rainfall during the annual north-east monsoon has resulted in severe flood in South Indian states namely, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh and the Union Territory of Puducherry resulting in loss of lives as well as damage to property. During the period of November, Chennai has received the highest ever rainfall recorded in November thereby squeezing the state's economy. Due to this disaster in the above mentioned States and Union Territory, nearly 200 people have died and have affected over 1.8 million people and have also caused damages and losses amounting to over 20000 crore. In this regard, The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has taken the relief measures to address the problems caused by the disaster. However, the amount sanctioned by the State Government may not appropriately deal with the ravaged situation. Hence, I request the Minister of Home Affairs to take a sympathetic step to grant adequate amount of funds by which the problem rising in the mentioned States could be addressed properly.

Thank You.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

*SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY (NAGAUR): I welcome the decision of your honour which allowed the discussion under Rule 193 on a very important issue – “Flood devastation in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry.

At this juncture of time, I would like to request that the natural calamities are the result of imbalances in the nature.

Every year, the Eastern Coast of India gets rainfall in winters through North-Eastern Monsoon. Unfortunately due to weather disturbances in Bay of Bengal North East Monsoon hit the eastern coast with pouring rains. In the last hundred years, Chennai got the highest rainfall in a small span of time. It was a devastating rains and lot of property and lives loss happened because of it in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry.

Timely relief and rescue measures were taken by the State Government of Tamil Nadu and Andhra, our Central Government is much more worried. A Central Inter-Ministerial Teams were sent to see the actual damages in the flood affected areas. I hope the Central Government will immediately grant the sanction from NDRF to help out the people of affected areas.

At this time, I would like to welcome and thank our Government to amend the provisions and rules of NDRF in April, 2015. As per the amended provisions victims of Natural calamities get reasonable financial assistance.

There is a need for updating and placing the latest equipment and data centres to give advance and early information of such natural calamities.

Secondly, the State Government should see that encroachments over the Nallahas, river beds and canals should be removed. They should also ensure that such encroachments should not take place in future.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

In the end, I would like to request the whole human community not to disturb the natural system and nature frequently unless it is required. I will also like to request all the people of the Nation, N.G.Os and Governments to come forward to help out the victims of flood affected areas.

*SHRI R. DHYUVANARAYANA (CHAMARAJANAGAR): Tamil Nadu has witnessed heaviest rains rendering the life of people miserable. Tamil Nadu is repeatedly facing this situation which is causing huge loss to the State. But even now the State is flooded with water.

Hence I urge the Government of India to come to the rescue of Tamil Nadu by providing sufficient financial assistance.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

***श्री रमेश पोखरियाल निशंक (हरिद्वार) :** यह अत्यंत दुःखद है कि देश में भीषण वर्षा व सूखे से तमिलनाडु और दक्षिणी भारत के अन्य भागों में 200 से अधिक नागरिक अपनी जान गंवा बैठे हैं। देश के दक्षिण भाग में आयी इस प्रलयकारी बाढ़ और सूखे की पीड़ा को मैं भली-भांति समझ और महसूस कर सकता हूँ क्योंकि मैं उस प्रदेश से आता हूँ जहाँ नियमित रूप से भीषण प्राकृतिक आपदाएँ आती रहती हैं। अभी दो साल पहले ही केदारनाथ आपदा के रूप में हमने दस हज़ार लोगों की मौत का वीभत्स दृश्य देखा है। मैंने स्वयं इस भयावह त्रासदी को अपनी आंखों से देखा है तथा 22 कि.मी. पैदल चलकर मैंने ही सर्वप्रथम आपदा की गंभीरता के विषय में तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री को फोन पर सूचना दी। इस आपदा से हमारे सामाजिक, आर्थिक जीवन की मानों कमर ही टूट गयी हो। केवल पर्यटन के क्षेत्र में इस छोटे से नवोदित राज्य को 12 हज़ार करोड़ की क्षति झेलनी पड़ी।

जब हम देश में विभिन्न प्राकृतिक कारणों से आपदाओं पर विचार करते हैं तो पाते हैं कि पूरा देश आपदा से जूझता महसूस होता है। आपदाओं की निरंतरता पर दृष्टिपात करने से यह ज्ञात होता है कि समूचा हिमालय क्षेत्र आपदा के प्रति अत्यंत संवेदनशील है। सभी हिमालयीय राज्य नियमित रूप से आपदाएं झेलते हैं।

- विश्व बैंक की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार भारत के 35 राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों में 27 आपदा के खतरों से जूझते हैं।
- देश का 58.6 प्रतिशत हिस्सा भूकंप के खतरों से ग्रस्त है।
- 7516 समुद्रीय तट में से 5700 में समुद्र तूफान और सुनामी का खतरा है।
- 68 प्रतिशत भू-भाग पर सूखे की चपेट का खतरा बना रहता है।
- मेरा मानना है कि उत्तराखण्ड, हिमाचल प्रदेश, पूर्वोत्तर राज्य, जम्मू-कश्मीर तो 100 प्रतिशत ही आपदा के खतरों को झेल रहे हैं।
- जलवायु परिवर्तन इन सबका मुख्य कारण है और हिमालय इससे प्रभावित होने वाला देश का सामरिक रूप से मुख्य भू-भाग है। प्रयत्न किया जाना चाहिए कि हिमालय से जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभाव को कम करने के प्रयासों की शुरुआत की जाये।

आज देश के विभिन्न भागों में आई हुई बाढ़ और सूखे की स्थिति से निपटने हेतु हमें युद्ध स्तर पर कार्य करने की आवश्यकता है। जहां एक ओर प्रभावितों के जान-माल की रक्षा को प्राथमिकता दिए जाने

* Speech was laid on the Table.

की आवश्यकता है वहीं इस प्रकार की घटनाओं से होन वाली व्यापक क्षति को कम करने के लिए अल्पकालिक, दीर्घकालिक कदम उठाए जाने की आवश्यकता है। सर्वप्रथम सभी प्रभावित परिवारों को चिन्हित कर उन्हें सुरक्षित स्थानों पर पहुंचाने की व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए। मौसम विभाग ने तमिलनाडु और समीपवर्ती क्षेत्रों में भीषण वर्षा का पूर्वानुमान लगाया है। ऐसी स्थिति में वहां पर भयंकर बारिश के कारण जलभराव और जर्जर पुराने भवनों के ढहने की प्रबल संभावना है। मेरा आग्रह है कि केंद्र और राज्य सरकार परस्पर समंवय स्थापित करते हुए सेना, अर्द्धसैनिक बल, स्वयंसेवी संगठनों और अन्य सहायता एजेंसियों को तत्काल प्रभाव से अधिक प्रभावित क्षेत्रों में तैनाती सुनिश्चित करे। बाढ़ या सूखा हो, इसका असर व्यापक होता है। जान-माल की हानि के अतिरिक्त आर्थिक क्षति, संसाधनों की हानि तो होती है पर इसके साथ इसका गंभीर सामाजिक और मनोवैज्ञानिक प्रभाव भी पड़ता है।

बाढ़ और सूखे का सामना करने का सरल दर्शन, सुसंगत प्रबंधन तंत्र तभी औचित्यपूर्ण हो सकता है, जब इसमें सरकार एवं जनसमुदाय की सहभागिता सुनिश्चित की जाये।

मेरा मानना है कि क्लाइमेट चेंज अर्थात् मौसम परिवर्तन के कारण हम देश में सूखा, व्यापक वर्षा, बाढ़ और कई प्राकृतिक विपदाओं से जूझ रहे हैं। यह चिंतनीय विषय है कि

- वर्ष 2000 से 2010 के बीच विश्व ग्रीन हाउस गैस के उत्सर्जन में 60 प्रतिशत से अधिक वृद्धि हुई।
- वर्ष 1990-2010 तक भारत का कार्बन उत्सर्जन 0.8 से 1.7 मीट्रिक टन हो गया।
- भारत ने वचनबद्धता की है कि प्रति व्यक्ति उत्सर्जन किसी भी हालत में विकसित देशों से ज्यादा नहीं होगा।
- जलवायु परिवर्तन का खतरा एक गंभीर वैश्विक चिंता है। वैज्ञानिक इस बात पर एकमत है कि जलवायु परिवर्तन असंदिग्ध है।

मैं इस विषय पर सरकार को कुछ प्रभावी अनुकूलन कार्यनीतियों का सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ-

1. आपदा प्रबंधन, कृषकों को बीमा सहायता,
2. कृषि भूमि उपयोग, प्रबंधन में परिवर्तन, संसाधन संरक्षण, प्रौद्योगिकी का विकास,
3. वन संबंधी योजनाओं और कार्यक्रम का विकास,
4. जल उपयोग का मापन, जल उपयोग प्रबंधन में नीतिगत सुधार आदि।

देश के रूप में भारत वर्षा, सूखे, भूकंप, चक्रवात जैसी विभिन्न आपदाओं के प्रति अत्यंत संवेदनशील है। जागरूकता का अभाव इस क्षेत्र में रह रहे लोगों की आपदाओं के प्रति संवेदनशीलता को

बढ़ता है। आपदाओं से लगातार हो रही संसाधनों की क्षति देश की गरीबी का मुख्य कारण है। ऐसे में कुशल प्रबंधन का एक ही उद्देश्य है जिसकी प्राप्ति के लिए विभिन्न विभागों, संस्थाओं, समुदायों को मिलकर काम करना होता है परंतु दुर्भाग्य से हम विभिन्न एजेंसियों के मध्य समन्वय स्थापित करने में सर्वथा असफल रहते हैं।

यह आवश्यक है कि पूर्व चेतावनी तंत्र से संबंधित विभिन्न भागों व पक्षों का आंकलन करते हुए हम निश्चित समय-सीमा पर क्षेत्रीय लोगों का सहयोग लेते हुए पूरी तैयारी करें। दुर्भाग्य से देश में आई आपदाओं के दौरान हमारा पूर्व चेतावनी तंत्र पूरी तरह विफल रहा है। चाहे वह उत्तरकाशी, चमोली का भूकंप रहा हो या केदारनाथ की भयावह त्रासदी हो या कश्मीर में आई बाढ़ या फिर तमिलनाडु में आई हुई प्रलयकारी बाढ़। हमें अपने पूर्व चेतावनी तंत्र को चुस्त-दुरुस्त करने की आवश्यकता है। इसके अतिरिक्त, आपदा से जुड़ी विभिन्न एजेंसियों में व्यापक समन्वय का अभाव देखने को मिलता है।

मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि सरकार पूरे आपदा संभावित विभिन्न भौगोलिक क्षेत्रों में पूर्व चेतावनी नेटवर्क की स्थापना करे जिसके तहत डॉप्लर रडार, लाइटनिंग सेंसर, रेनफॉल मॉनिटरिंग सेंसर, सीस्मो मीटर्स की व्यवस्था सुनिश्चित की जाये। इसके अतिरिक्त केंद्रीय प्रोसेसिंग इकाई में रियल टाइम एनालिसिस (विश्लेषण) कर प्रभावी रणनीति बनाकर निश्चित समय सीमा में क्रियांवित की जाए। आपदा रोकथाम कार्यक्रमों व उपायों के क्रियान्वयन हेतु तकनीकी क्षमता एवं विशेषज्ञता युक्त सरकारी विभाग, गैर-सरकारी संगठन, पुलिस, सेना, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संस्थाओं एवं आपदा प्रबंधन प्राधिकरण में पूरा समन्वय स्थापित करने की आवश्यकता है। भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन एवं प्रदेश अंतरिक्ष उपयोग केंद्रों का समन्वय स्थापित कर आपदा पूर्व चेतावनी तंत्र के विकास के लिए समुचित उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। यह भी आवश्यक है कि चेतावनी की परिशुद्धता (Accuracy of Warning) चेतावनी प्रसारित होने एवं घटना आरंभ होने के संभावित समय के मध्य का अंतराल आपदा घटित होने से पहले तैयारी व नियोजन का पूरा तंत्र मुस्तैदी के साथ आपदा का मुकाबला करे।

बाढ़, वर्षा और अन्य प्रकार की आपदा का सामना करने हेतु मेरे निम्नलिखित सुझाव हैं-

1. संस्थागत व्यवस्था, 2. नियोजन, 3. संसाधनों का समुचित उपयोग- समन्वय का अभाव, 4. प्रशिक्षण/ क्षमता विकास, तथा 5. शोध एवं विकास पर ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता।

मैं सरकार का ध्यान संस्थागत व्यवस्थापन नियोजन की कमियों की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ। केदारनाथ में भी हमने देखा कि सभी नदियों के तटों पर नियमों की धज्जियाँ उड़ाते हुए घर, होटल, लॉज एवं विभिन्न अवस्थापनाओं का विकास किया गया था। हमारे देश में दुर्भाग्य से चेतावनी व्यवस्था एवं

चेतावनी प्रसारण के लिए व्यवस्थित एवं पद्धति बद्ध प्रक्रिया का नितांत अभाव है। केदारनाथ क्षेत्र की आपदा हो या कश्मीर की भीषण बाढ़, हर कहीं हमारी चेतावनी व्यवस्था सर्वथा विफल रही है या तो चेतावनी तंत्र था ही नहीं, यदि था भी तो उसने कारगर काम नहीं किया और यदि किया भी तो हम संबंधित एजेंसियों तक अपना संदेश पहुंचाने में विफल रहे। आज यह सुनिश्चित किए जाने की आवश्यकता है कि हम अपनी चेतावनी व्यवस्था को सुदृढ़, सशक्त, नवीनतम प्रौद्योगिकी से लैसे करें नहीं तो आपदाएं यों ही आएंगी और हज़ारों-लाखों मासूम इन आपदाओं की बलि चढ़ते रहेंगे। यह भी आवश्यक है कि चेतावनी हम सभी तक समयबद्ध तरीके से पहुंचा सके।

पूरे देश में किसी भी निर्माण कार्य हेतु हमें सभी राष्ट्रीय और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मानकों का पूरी निष्ठा से पालन करना चाहिए। कई बार देखने में आया है कि नियम और कानून तो बना दिए जाते हैं परंतु उनका क्रियाव्ययन न होने से हमें आपदा दुर्घटनाओं के रूप में बड़ी कीमत चुकानी पड़ती है। केंद्र व राज्य सरकार, स्थानीय निकाय, निर्माण एजेंसियां, स्वयंसेवी संगठन और हमारे शिक्षा संस्थान इस बात को सुनिश्चित करें कि पूरे देश के लिए समुचित मानकों की व्यवस्था की गयी है।

सरकार की सभी एजेंसियों में सहयोग/समन्वय का अभाव देखने को मिलता है। जहां पुलिस, स्वास्थ्य, आपदा प्रबंधन को एक दूसरे के साथ कंधे से कंधा मिलाकर कार्य करना चाहिए वहीं यह देखने को मिलता है कि इन संस्थाओं के बीच संवाद तक नहीं हो रहा है।

देश में प्रशिक्षित मानव संसाधन क्षमता विकास के मौकों की काफी कमी है। चाहे कश्मीर हो, उत्तराखंड हो या नेपाल भी रहा हो, कुशल आपदा प्रबंधन कर्मियों की अत्यधिक कमी देखनी पड़ती है। आज देश जहां कौशल विकास में, क्षमता विकास में अपनी पूरी शक्ति लगा रहा है वहीं हमें देखना होगा कि आपदा प्रबंधन जैसे महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों की उपेक्षा न हो।

देश की समस्त शोध एजेंसियों एवं विश्वविद्यालयों को आपदा प्रबंधन जैसे महत्वपूर्ण विषयों पर शोध और विकास को बढ़ावा देना चाहिए। आपदा से निपटने हेतु देश की सभी शोध संस्थाओं को प्राथमिकता के आधार पर समुचित संसाधन मुहैया कराये जाने की आवश्यकता है। देश-विदेश के सभी संस्थानों में बेहतर तालमेल स्थापित करते हुए विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी के सफल हस्तांतरण का समुचित प्रबंध किया जाना चाहिए।

*SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR (ARAMBAG): A deep depression of high intensity formed over Bay of Bengal hit Tamil Nadu coast near Marakkanam on 10th November causing heavy rains and losses of life. My prayer and deep concern are with them.

The excessive rain and high tide and water released from Jharkhand and Odisha has rendered the flood situation in West Bengal. Sir, 12 districts in the gangetic plains were affected, more than 1.8 lakh houses were damaged and crops over 2.10 lakh hectares lost due to flood. Our Hon'ble Chief Minister supported the flood affected people with our own resources. Flooding of farmland, towns, villages, roads, bridges were from several districts of South Bengal like Howarah, hooghly, Burdwan, Bankura, South 24 Parganas and East Midnapore were effected with heavy downpour. My own constituency Arambagh in Hooghly was under water. I request the Central Government to see the matter pending of "Ghatal Master Plan" which is a long pending project to overcome flood in my constituency. The Met department recorded 143.2 mm rainfall. The Durgapur barrage in Bengal was scheduled to release about 65,000 cusecs of water. Without authorized warning, they released 90,000 cusecs of water. The rivers and reservoirs like Kangshahati, Damodar are full. Damodar is sorrow of Bengal, Damodar valley Corporation is responsible for releasing excess water which resulted flood in my State. Two years ago, our Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal Ms. Mamta Banerjee had written to Centre for dredging of DVC reservoir so that more than 2 lakh cusecs water can be reserved. The monsoon was active and simultaneously the deep depression caused heavy rainfall in Gangetic West Bengal. Our Government gave all compensation to the farmers, the affected families of the farmers Rs 2,00,000. These are all happening due to climate change. We should all come forward and together to over come from this kind of situation in future.

*SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA (TUMKUR): Tamil Nadu is facing severe flood situation since the last few days rendering the life of people of people of Tamil Nadu and particularly in Chennai and other parts miserable. Tamil Nadu has incurred heavy financial loss. People are facing problems for having lost lives and properties. Though the State Government is doing all necessary steps to protect the interest of the people of the State, the responsibility is also there on the Union Government to come to the rescue of the State.

I therefore urge the Government of India to provide huge financial assistance to State of Tamil Nadu.

* Speech was laid on the Table.

***कुँवर पुष्पेन्द्र सिंह चन्देल (हमीरपुर):** वर्तमान में अतिवृष्टि से चेन्नई (तमिलनाडु) एवं समुद्री सीमा के अन्य नजदीकी क्षेत्र में अतिवृष्टि के कारण से भारी तबाही की स्थिति है, जो बड़ी भयावह है। प्रायः प्रत्येक वर्ष असम आधे से अधिक जलमग्न हो जाता है। रेलमार्ग, सड़क मार्ग एवं कभी कभी वायुमार्ग भी प्रभावित रहते हैं। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय असम की सरकार के अधिकारी काफी संख्या में प्रत्येक वर्ष असम में आने वाली बाढ़ की उत्सव के रूप में प्रतीक्षा करते हैं यह बहुत ही दुःखद बात है। बाढ़ राहत कार्यक्रम में पब्लिक को अस्थाई आवास व्यवस्था के लिए असम सरकार जो सामग्री उपलब्ध करवाती है वह इतनी खराब स्थिति में होती है कि टेन्ट से बारिश का पानी भी अन्दर जाता है। यह बात मैं इसलिए उद्धृत कर रहा हूँ क्योंकि मैंने स्वयं देखा है। एक बार अपने क्षेत्र में निर्धन वर्ग को टेन्ट/तिरपाल बाँटने के लिए मैं कानपुर तिरपाल मार्केट गया। वहाँ पर मुझे थोक विक्रेता ने स्वयं कहा कि मैं व्यापारी हूँ लेकिन असम सरकार गरीबों व बाढ़ पीड़ितों के लिए जो सामग्री मुझसे क्रय करती है उसमें एक दिन बारिश से बचाव करना नामुमकिन है। मुझे देने में शर्म आती है लेकिन भ्रष्टाचार करने वालों को ईश्वर कभी माफ नहीं करेगा। जो बाढ़ पीड़ित के लिए संवेदनहीन है, वह एक दिन निश्चित ही वह भ्रष्टाचारी स्वयं भी दुःख के सागर में तिरोहित होगा।

हमारे बुन्देलखण्ड क्षेत्र में, कई छोटी-छोटी एवं कुछ बड़ी नदियां हैं। पिछले दशक में प्रायः सूखे की मार झेल रहा है। किसान बेहाल हैं, लाचार हैं, लाख प्रयास करने के बाद भारी कीमत चुकाकर फसल पैदा करता है। हमारे क्षेत्र में किसानों को आत्महत्या के नाम से बदनामी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है जो बड़ा दुःखद है। वहीं दूसरी तरफ कभी-कभी कुछ क्षेत्रों में बाढ़ से तबाही होती है। मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन एवं सरकार को अवगत कराना चाहता हूँ कि बुंदेलखण्ड की भौगोलिक स्थिति को समझते हुए बाढ़ एवं सूखे से बचने का सबसे आदर्श कार्य बुंदेलखण्ड की नदियों को आपस में जोड़ने का ही है। कृपया बाढ़ का पानी सूखी नदियों व सूखे बाँधों में डालकर शीघ्रताशीघ्र बुंदेलखण्ड को बाढ़ व सूखे की तबाही से बचाया जाये।

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am standing here for expressing my sincere solidarity with the people who have been severely affected due to floods in the country, and especially, the people of Tamil Nadu are going through a very difficult period now.

Shri Mahtab ji has described the flood situation in the morning. I am also a part of the Railway Convention Committee. I was in Chennai two weeks before. At that time also, Chennai was facing a very bad flood situation.

A lot of water is flowing on the streets now in the city. Nobody is in a position to move out. At this juncture – the hon. Urban Minister is not here – we should rethink about the planning of our cities. Whenever we witness heavy rainfall, the entire city is flooding. Tamil Nadu is witnessing a severe flood situation. Chennai city has received continuous rain for the last four to five days. That is why, the entire city of Chennai is in a very dangerous situation now.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you are aware that a lot of *Malayalis* are living in Chennai. Around seven to eight trains have been cancelled. The Chennai airport has been closed now. A lot of people are stranded there because of the flood situation. I am urging the Government of India to give maximum financial assistance to the Tamil Nadu Government for tackling the severe flood situation. I would also request the Government to send a team of Union Ministers to see as to what proper arrangements are being made there and also provide money which the Tamil Nadu Government has asked for.

I am also congratulating the efforts taken by the Tamil Nadu Government. We, the people of Kerala and also the Congress Party are giving wholehearted support to those who are suffering due to the flood situation in Tamil Nadu.

Thank you.

*श्री संजय धोत्रे (अकोला) : हमारा देश बाढ़ और सूखे के कारण बहुत बड़े संकट का सामना कर रहा है । इस स्थिति के कारण सबसे ज्यादा प्रभावित हमारा किसान है । किसान जिसकी हालत पहले ही बहुत गंभीर है वह इस स्थिति का मुकाबला नहीं कर सकता ।

महाराष्ट्र का 'विदर्भ' और मराठवाड़ा क्षेत्र तो और भी ज्यादा प्रभावित है । पिछले तीन वर्ष से कभी अतिवृष्टि कभी सूखा, कभी असमय बारिश, तथा कभी आंधी तूफान जैसी आपदाओं का सामना करना पड़ रहा है । पिछले 20 सालों में जितने संकट नहीं आये उतने संकट गत 3 वर्षों में आये है । विदर्भ और मराठवाड़े में 10 प्रतिशत सिंचाई की व्यवस्था है । वहां ज्यादातर वर्षा आधारित खेती होती है ।

यहां का किसान पूरी तरह से कर्जे में डूबा हुआ है । सरकार ने गत वर्ष लोन को रेशिड्यूलिंग किया । 2 साल का कर्जा किसान के उपर है । इस वर्ष गुजारे के लिए खेती के लिए उसके पास पैसा नहीं है।

महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने केन्द्र से 4500 करोड़ रुपये मदद मांगी थी। केन्द्र सरकार ने 1500 करोड़ रुपये दिये, उसके लिए धन्यवाद ।

चार महीने पहले जब 4500 करोड़ मदद मांगी उस समय के बाद स्थिति और गंभीर हुई । किसानों की आत्महत्यायें बढ़ गई । रोज विदर्भ में औसतन 4 आत्महत्या हो रही है । पिछले सप्ताह में मेरे अकोला जिले के दधम गांव में 14 साल के बच्चे के पास किताब खरीदने के लिए पैसे नहीं थे इसलिए आत्महत्या की । उसके पिता किसान है ।

विदर्भ में किसानों के लिए आपातकाल जैसी स्थिति है । एक तरफ कुदरत की मार , के कारण उत्पादन 3 साल में 20%-50% ही हो रहा । लागत का पैसा भी नहीं निकलता जो फसल पैदा होती । उसके उचित दाम नहीं मिलते ।

मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूं इस गंभीर भयावह स्थिति से बाहर निकालने के लिए तुरंत कदम उठाये जाएं । किसानों की उचित मदद की जाए । उसके लिए महाराष्ट्र सरकार को 6000 करोड़ रुपये की मदद की जाए ।

केन्द्र सरकार निश्चित रूप से राज्य सरकार को आर्थिक मदद करेगा लेकिन यह एक टेम्पोरेरी सौलूशन है । हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है । 60 प्रतिशत लोग कृषि पर निर्भर हैं। इसलिए हमें इसका स्थायी समाधान खोजना होगा । इसके लिए मैं कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूं ।

1. सरकार द्वारा कृषि के लिए जितनी भी योजनायें हैं उनकी कड़ी समीक्षा की जाए । उन्हें सरल और पारदर्शी बनाया जाए ।
2. फर्टीलाइजर और अन्य सब्सिडी का डाइरेक्ट एकाउंट के ट्रांसफर हो ।
3. क्रॉप इंसुरेंस में सरलता लाई जाए और सभी फसल इसमें शामिल हों
4. जहां भी जंगली जानवर फसलों का नुकसान करते है वैसे क्षेत्र में सरकार द्वारा फेंसिंग की व्यवस्था हो ।
5. सबसे महत्वपूर्ण, लागत मूल्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए कृषि उत्पाद का उचित दाम मिले ।

मुझे पूरा विश्वास है है कि सरकार पूरी गंभीरता से उचित कदम उठायेगी । जिससे हमारे किसान , मजदूर गांव और सारे देश में खुशहाली आयेगी यही हमारी अपेक्षा है ।

SHRI M. CHANDRAKASI (CHIDAMBARAM): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the urgent need for providing adequate amount of Central assistance to Tamil Nadu for undertaking relief and rehabilitation works in the rain and flood-affected areas.

The recent rains and floods in Tamil Nadu have severely affected the State. Most of the coastal areas including a large part of my constituency, Chidambaram and some interior parts of the State of Tamil Nadu incurred huge losses. In my Parliamentary constituency, Parankipettai has received yesterday the highest rainfall of 159 mm.

Till date, there has been a loss of more than 170 human beings and 2000 cattle. More than one lakh houses and 90,000 hectare of crops have also been damaged. There have also been damages to infrastructure like water supply, roads, bridges, power supply etc., and a large scale of other private properties.

Sir, I would also place it on record that under the able guidance of our hon. Chief Minister, Amma, the State of Tamil Nadu is making all out efforts to provide quick relief to the affected people. However the financial means of our State are not much. The State has projected the funds requirement of Rs. 8,481 crore and sought an immediate requirement of Rs. 2,000 crore.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government that the recent rains and floods in Tamil Nadu be declared as a National Disaster, and the concerned Ministries of the Union Government should take urgent steps for timely release of adequate Central assistance to Tamil Nadu to undertake relief and rehabilitation activities fully.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

DR. P. VENUGOPAL (TIRUVALLUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, first of all I would like to convey my sincere thanks to the hon. Madam Speaker and the hon. Union Minister, Shri Venkaiah Naidu for having allowed an immediate and impromptu discussion on the unprecedented flood situation prevailing in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andhra Pradesh, taking into account the seriousness of the grim situation due to very heavy rainfall in Tamil Nadu, especially in Chennai and three other coastal Districts including my Constituency Tiruvallur, by setting aside the other important business of the House.

I would also like to thank all the hon. Members for expressing their solidarity with the people of Chennai and the whole of Tamil Nadu, especially the hon. Member, Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab, who narrated the real situation since he was on the spot during the heavy rains that lashed the city.

Sir, the hon. Members from our party AIADMK, spoke in depth about the huge devastation caused by the heavy rains. They also spoke about the effective measures that our Government headed by the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi amma is taking with regard to rescue, relief and rehabilitation of the affected people of Tamil Nadu.

Going by the sentiments expressed by all sections of the House, I am sure that the entire nation, India, stands with Tamil Nadu in this hour of need; and I thank everyone for this gesture. These rains have lashed the entire Tamil Nadu. The people there have been affected very badly. I would, therefore, request the Government to treat this as a National Calamity or National Disaster and take immediate necessary action in this regard.

Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would further request the Government to announce a Special Financial Package to Tamil Nadu for undertaking rescue, relief and rehabilitation measures in Tamil Nadu, and order the immediate release of sufficient funds to the Tamil Nadu Government. With these words I conclude. Thank you.

*श्री पी.पी. चौधरी (पाली) : भारत देश कृषि प्रधान देश है, हमारे देश में 60 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा खेती मानसून पर निर्भर रहती है। यह सर्वविदित है कि मानसून 5 वर्षों में लगभग 2 बार ही ठीक रहता है, जिसका किसान पूरा-पूरा लाभ ले पाता है। जलवायु परिवर्तन, ग्लोबल वार्मिंग ऐसे महत्वपूर्ण विषय हैं, जिन पर हमारी सरकार अन्य देशों की सरकारों के साथ मिलकर एक अंतर्राष्ट्रीय योजना में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा रही है। हमारे किसान इससे होने वाली परेशानियों से जागरूक नहीं हैं, लेकिन प्रतिवर्ष इससे होने वाले नुकसान को आंकड़ों में देखा जा सकता है।

किसानों को खेतों में अत्यधिक उर्वरक प्रयोग पर रोक लगाना चाहिए एवं जैविक खेती को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किसानों को प्रोत्साहित करके जलवायु में सुधार किया जा सकता है।

वर्षा का जल संचय करने में भी हमारा देश काफी पीछे है, हमारे देश में वर्षा के जल का 6 प्रतिशत हिस्सा ही काम में लिया जाता है बाकी 94 प्रतिशत पानी बहकर समुद्र में मिल जाता है। यदि इस 94 प्रतिशत पानी का बांधों के माध्यम से संचय किया जाए तो इसके माध्यम से 25 मिलियन हैक्टेयर भूमि पर सिंचाई की जा सकेगी, 24,000 मेगावाट विद्युत उत्पादन किया जा सकेगा तथा 10 मि.ली. हैक्टेयर क्षेत्र के ग्राउंड वाटर में बढ़ोत्तरी की जा सकेगी। इसके साथ-साथ देश खाद्यान्न, फल, सब्जी के क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर ही नहीं बल्कि बड़ा निर्यातक देश भी हो सकता है और हम बड़ी मात्रा में विदेशी मुद्रा भी अर्जित कर सकते हैं। देश के किसान को खेती व युवाओं को बेहतर रोजगार के अवसर उपलब्ध होने लगेंगे तो देश को फूड सिक्योरिटी व मनरेगा जैसी योजनाएं चलाने की आवश्यकता नहीं रहेगी, जिसके माध्यम से लाखों-करोड़ों रूपए बचा कर इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर पर खर्च किया जा सकता है, ताकि देश में शिक्षा, चिकित्सा, सड़क, आदि के क्षेत्र में भरपूर विकास किया जा सकेगा।

नदियों को जोड़ना सूखा व बाढ़ की समस्या का ही हल नहीं बल्कि इसके माध्यम से आर्थिक स्थिति में सुधार होने के साथ-साथ ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रोजगार उपलब्ध करवाने के साधन भी उपलब्ध होंगे, कृषि हेतु सिंचाई के लिए भी उपयुक्त मात्रा में जल उपलब्ध करवाकर कृषि क्षेत्र का विकास किया जा सकेगा। कृषि में विकास होने पर जी.डी.पी. में कृषि का योगदान बढ़ेगा और देश तेजी से विकास के मार्ग की ओर बढ़ेगा।

दुग्ध उत्पादक संघ के विशेषज्ञों ने उत्तरी-पश्चिमी राजस्थान का पूरा सर्वेक्षण करके इस नतीजे पर पहुंचे हैं कि प्राकृतिक वनस्पति जिसमें घास एवं पारंपरिक खेती के साथ पशुपालक कृषकों का उत्थान होगा और इससे रोजगार के नये स्रोत खुलेंगे, जिससे आम नागरिक को फायदा होगा। उत्तरी-पश्चिमी

* Speech was laid on the Table.

राजस्थान का जीवन आधार पशुपालन एवं पारंपरिक खेती के साथ घास उत्पादन किया जाना था। स्वतंत्रता के पश्चात् नई तकनीकी अपना कर सेवण घास, भूरट डचाभ गडिया, पाला इत्यादि को पूर्णतया नष्ट कर दिया गया है और पारंपरिक खेती नाम मात्र की रह गयी है, जो बरानी बरसात होने पर की जाती है। इस क्षेत्र के किसानों का पशुओं के लिए उत्तम घास सेवण, भूरट, पाला, डचाभ इत्यादि उगाकर पशुपालन करने से किसान को अधिक लाभ होगा इसके साथ पारंपरिक खेती करने से अच्छी गुणवत्ता वाला अनाज पैदा होगा।

इंदिरा गांधी नहर परियोजना व अन्य नहर परियोजनाओं से राजस्थान के पश्चिमी क्षेत्र में सेवण घास उगाकर पशुपालन किये जाने पर प्रति मुर्बे की आय में 10 गुणा तक बढ़ोत्तरी होना निश्चित है। मूंगफली, गेहूं, नरमा उगाने के अनुपात में सेवण घास उगाने पर खर्च आधे से भी कम होगा एवं पच्चीस बीघे में तीस गाय एवं 100 भेड़ बकरियों का चारा उत्पादित होगा। इसके साथ ही पारंपरिक खेती का लाभ भी वर्तमान खेती से कम नहीं होगा और तीस गायों का दुग्ध रोज 300 ली. उत्पादित होगा जिसका मूल्य 4500 रूपए प्रतिदिन होगा साथ ही 450 किलों गोबर प्रतिदिन प्राप्त होगा, जिसकी 2250 रूपए प्रतिदिन आय है। इसके अतिरिक्त भेड़-बकरियों की आय 100 रूपए प्रतिदिन होगी। इन पशुओं के लिए चारा खेत से ही उगाकर दिया जाएगा एवं पानी की व्यवस्था सिंचित क्षेत्र में उपलब्ध है। मात्र चारा एवं रख-रखाव का पैसा ही व्यय होगा। पारंपरिक खेती की आय खरीफ व रबी दोनों फसलों को मिलाकर 10,000 रूपए प्रति बीघा निश्चित है। सेवण घास एवं पारंपरिक खेती के लिए सिंचाई का पानी मात्र 2 क्यूसिक प्रति हैक्टेयर लगाकर उत्तम खेती प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

सेवण घास के लिए सिंचित एवं असिंचित कोई प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता है, क्योंकि सेवण, भूरट डचाभा, फोग, पाला, इत्यादि टिब्बों का श्रृंगार है और फव्वारा सिंचाई से केवल सिलन मात्र से ही उत्तम उत्पादन लिया जा सकता है।

उत्तरी-पश्चिमी राजस्थान में लाखों हैक्टेयर भूमि को नकारा समझकर छोड़ रखा है, जो थोड़े से ही सोना उगलेगी और लगभग 2 करोड़ गायें एवं 20 करोड़ भेड़-बकरियों को आसानी से चारा उपलब्ध करवाया जा सकता है। 2 करोड़ गायों का दुग्ध 20 करोड़ लीटर प्रतिदिन होना निश्चित है, जिसकी आय 300 करोड़ रूपए प्रतिदिन होगी। साथ ही 3 लाख टन गोबर प्रतिदिन मिलेगी, जिसकी आय 150 करोड़ रूपए प्रतिदिन होगी। जिसमें बकरियों का दुग्ध, भेड़ों की ऊन व खाद के रूप में मिगणयों को मिलाकर अनुपात निकाला गया है। इसके अतिरिक्त, इनकी बढ़ोत्तरी भी प्रतिवर्ष तीन गुणा होती है क्योंकि भेड़ बकरी साल में दो बार ब्याहती है और इन पर खर्चा मात्र देख-रेख व रख-रखाव का ही होता है।

इस क्षेत्र में बरसाती पानी को एकत्रित करने का पिछले साठ वर्षों से कोई प्रयास नहीं किया गया है, जिसके फलस्वरूप इंदिरा गांधी नहर एवं कुओं के पानी पर निर्भर रहना महंगा साबित हो रहा है। मेरा इस संबंध में सुझाव है कि राजस्थान राज्य की विशेष परिस्थितियों को ध्यान में रखते हुए प्रत्येक किसान के लिए एक लाख लीटर क्षमता वाला वाटर टैंक बनाने की अनुमति किसान के स्वयं के खेत में दी जाये, जिससे ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में पानी की उपलब्धता के लिए बेहतर आधारभूत ढांचा विकसित हो सके एवं किसान अपने स्वयं के खेत में पानी के साथ-साथ बागवानी के लिए भी अग्रसर हो सके एवं आय के अतिरिक्त स्रोत भी विकसित हो सके। प्रथमतः राजस्थान के सभी 11 मरूस्थली जिलों में सभी 5 लाख लघु एवं सीमांत कृषकों को इस कार्यक्रम में सम्मिलित किया जाये। इसके लिए तकनीकी दृष्टि से 15 फुट व्यास एवं 20 फुट गहरा टैंक बनाना आवश्यक है, जिसके चारों ओर प्रत्येक जिले की औसत वर्षा के आधार पर कम से कम 60 से 80 फुट व्यास का जल ग्रहण क्षेत्र (आगौर) बनाया जाए। इस योजना के क्रियाव्ययन में हमारा यह भी सुझाव है कि जल ग्रहण क्षेत्र स्थानीय मुरड़ या अन्य सामग्री से कुटाई कर पक्का बनाया जाए, जिससे एक ही अच्छा वर्षा से टैंक पूरा भर जाए। इस माप के टैंक एवं आगौर के निर्माण पर तकनीकी आंकलन के आधार पर लगभग 80,000/- का खर्चा आएगा। जिसमें लगभग 50 प्रतिशत श्रम पेटे एवं 50 प्रतिशत राशि सामग्री पेटे आवश्यक होगी। टैंक का निर्माण सभी की सहभागिता से कृषकों द्वारा स्वयं ही अपने-अपने खेत में किया जाएगा। जिसमें उसके परिवार के सदस्य एवं गांव में उपलब्ध भूमिहीन श्रमिक एवं अन्य बेरोज़गार श्रमिकों को भारी संख्या में श्रम रोज़गार भी उपलब्ध हो सकेगा।

पूरे पश्चिमी राजस्थान के क्षेत्र में पशुपालन को बढ़ावा देकर प्रत्येक किसान को उसकी रूचि के अनुसार कम से कम पाँच पशु उपलब्ध करवाकर किसानों के बीच ए.पी.एल./बी.पी.एल. का भेद मिटाकर प्रत्येक किसान के खेत में 1 लाख लीटर क्षमता का कुण्ड बनवाकर खेती के साथ-साथ पशुपालन, दुग्ध व्यवसाय, मेडिसिनल प्लांट, हॉर्टीकल्चर आदि को बढ़ावा देकर कृषि का समग्र विकास किया जा सकता है एवं किसानों की माली हालत को सुधारा जा सकता है।

मैं सरकार का ध्यान किसानों को दिये जानेवाले केमिकल फर्टीलाइजर अर्थात् यूरिया और पेस्टीसाईड्स एण्ड कैमिकल्स पर सब्सिडी हेतु पिछले 3 वर्षों में कुल यूरिया पर 168788.04 करोड़ रूपए की सब्सिडी उर्वरक कंपनियों को जारी की गई है, जिसमें 66270.27 आयातित कंपनी तथा 102517.77 करोड़ रूपए स्वदेशी यूरिया कंपनियों को दिए गए हैं। इसी प्रकार आयातित पेस्टीसाईड्स एण्ड कैमिकल्स पर 52780.87 विदेशी तथा 63355.65 करोड़ रूपए स्वदेशी पेस्टीसाईड्स एण्ड कैमिकल्स कंपनियों को सब्सिडी के रूप में जारी किये गये हैं।

मैं सरकार को यह भी बताना चाहूंगा कि कैमिकल फर्टीलाइजर के रूप में तो सब्सिडी जारी की जाती है, लेकिन प्राकृतिक उर्वरकों तथा फर्टीलाइजर पर किसी प्रकार की कोई सब्सिडी जारी नहीं की जाती है, जिसके चलते किसान जैविक खेती की ओर आकर्षित नहीं होते।

रासायनिक खाद का प्रयोग पारंपरिक प्राकृतिक खाद के तरीकों को जड़ से खत्म करता जा रहा है। रसायनों के प्रभाव से जमीन भी धीरे-धीरे बंजर होने लगती है और कीड़ों के अधिक पनपने की संभावना बनी रहती है, जिससे बचने के लिए किसान अत्याधिक मात्रा में कीटनाशकों का प्रयोग करने लगते हैं। कुछ कीटनाशक तो सिस्टेमेटिक होते हैं जो पानी या खाद के साथ घोलकर प्रयोग में लिये जाते हैं, जिसका असर प्लांट के अंतर और उपज के अंदर तक हो जाता है, ये कीटनाशक ऊपर से स्प्रे किये जाने वाले कीटनाशकों से कहीं अधिक हानिकारक होते हैं। ऐसे कीटनाशक मानव शरीर के लिए अत्यंत हानिकारक होते हैं। हमारे माननीय प्रधानमंत्री जी ने इस समस्या से किसान को निजात दिलाने के लिए हाल ही में राजस्थान में भूमि स्वास्थ्य कार्ड स्कीम जारी की है, जो कि अपने आप में पहला निर्णय है, जिससे किसानों को अपनी जमीन में रासायनिक खाद के प्रयोग की जानकारी मिल सकेगी और किसान कम लागत में अधिक उत्पादन कर सकेगा। इसके साथ-साथ आमजन को सुरक्षित खाद्य सामग्री उपलब्ध करवाई जा सकेगी। किसान चाहते हुए भी जैविक खाद और स्प्रे का प्रयोग नहीं कर पा रहा है क्योंकि ये कैमिकल खाद व स्प्रे से अधिक महंगे हैं। जैविक खाद पर सब्सिडी नहीं दी गई तो हम चाहते हुए भी जैविक खेती को प्रोत्साहन नहीं दे पाएंगे।

मानसून की अनिश्चितता एवं सूखे के कारण महंगाई और बढ़ने की संभावना है। भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद के वैज्ञानिकों को निर्देशित करें कि सूखे एवं मानसून की अनिश्चितता से बचने के लिए वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था के बारे में सुझाव दें। इनमें ऐसे कुछ सुझाव हो सकते हैं, जैसे जैविक खाद का ज्यादा प्रयोग, ड्रिप एवं माइक्रो ईरिगेशन का ज्यादा प्रयोग, ऑर्गेनिक फार्मिंग को बढ़ावा, चारा उत्पादन के क्षेत्र में नवीन तकनीक का प्रयोग करके हरा चारा अधिक से अधिक उगाने का प्रयास किया जाना चाहिए, जिससे पशुधन को भी बचाया जा सके एवं वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था के जरिए अनाज का भी उत्पादन संभव हो सके।

कृषि क्षेत्र को सिंचाई हेतु जल उपलब्धता के अलावा कृषि को संरक्षण भी आवश्यकता है। सरकार द्वारा औद्योगिक घरानों को पिछले तीन सालों में 2.5 लाख करोड़ की प्रोत्साहन राशि तथा 2.5 लाख करोड़ की विभिन्न छूटें प्रदान की गई हैं। कृषि क्षेत्र को भी इसी तर्ज पर प्रोत्साहन राशि व छूट देने की भी आवश्यकता है।

जिस देश की 70 प्रतिशत जनसंख्या कृषि और उसके संलग्न कार्यों में लगी हो और देश की जी.डी.पी. का केवल 20 प्रतिशत हिस्सा देते हो तो इसी आंकड़े से कृषि की माली हालत को समझा जा

सकता है। कृषि क्षेत्र का विकास पिछली कई पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में लगातार गिरता जा रहा है, जहाँ 8वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में कृषि विकास दर 4.8 थी, वहीं 12वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में 3.5 ही रह गई। जहाँ एक ओर किसान खेती छोड़ शहरों की ओर पलायन कर रहे हैं और दूसरी ओर किसान खेती में लगे हुए भी हैं, उनकी आत्महत्याओं की खबरे समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित हो रही हैं।

इस स्थिति के कारणों पर गंभीरता से विचार किया जाना चाहिए। अधिकतर किसानों को कृषि संबंधी सूचनाओं, लाभदायक फसलों, वैज्ञानिक तरीके से कृषि और अपनी जमीन का उपजाऊपन के बारे में जानकारी नहीं होती, जिसकी वजह से वह पुरानी तकनीक के आधार पर कृषि करते रहते हैं, जिससे उन्हें हानि ही होती है। विकसित देशों में खेती में, जिन अत्याधुनिक तकनीकों का प्रयोग किया जाता है, वे अभी भारतीय किसानों की पहुंच से मीलों दूर हैं। देश के किसान अभी भी उच्च उत्पादक बीजों विशेष प्रकार के उर्वरकों के बारे में अनभिज्ञ हैं। प्रतिवर्ष बारिश की कमी, सूखा और बाढ़ से हमारे राजस्थान का अधिकांश भाग प्रभावित होता रहा है, जिससे प्रभावित किसानों की कमर ही टूट जाती है।

किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड बनाने के नाम पर किसानों का शोषण हो रहा है, एक तो किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड पर किसान को 4 प्रतिशत की दर से ब्याज बताया जाता है जबकि वास्तविक ब्याज की दर जो वसूली जा रही है वह लगभग 10-12 प्रतिशत बढ़ रही है, क्योंकि बैंक के अन्य खर्च भी किसान से ही वसूले जा रहे हैं। वहीं दूसरी ओर किसान से धोखाधड़ी करके उसे बिना बताए लाइफ इंश्योरेंस (जीवन बीमा) भी कर दिया जाता है। ऐसी कई घटनाएं मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र के साथ-साथ सभी जगह से सामने आ रही हैं।

जब भी किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड बैंक द्वारा बनाया जाता है, तब किसान को क्रेडिट कार्ड एवं खाते से संबंधित समस्त कागजात नहीं बताए जाते हैं। कोई किसान कागजात देखना चाहे भी तो अंग्रेजी में लिखे कागजात किसानों को समझने में मुश्किल आती है। ऐसे कई कागजात किसान से एक साथ फटाफट हस्ताक्षर करवा लिए जाते हैं, जिसमें जीवन बीमा के भी कागजात शामिल होते हैं। किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड बनाने के पश्चात् प्रतिवर्ष बीमे की भी किश्त भरनी पड़ती है जो हर साल 10,000 से लेकर 50,000 रूपए तक पड़ती है। प्रीमियम राशि पर भारी भरकम कमीशन मिलने के लालच में बैंक अधिकारी किसान से धोखाधड़ी करने से नहीं चूकते हैं। भविष्य में किसान द्वारा किसी प्रकार का एतराज किए जाने या जांच होने की स्थिति में किसान के दस्तखत शुदा कागजात बता दिए जाते हैं। बेचारा किसान कम शिक्षित, सीधा-साधा व विश्वास करने वाला होने से धोखाधड़ी का शिकार हो जाता है।

वित्त मंत्री जी से निवेदन है कि ऐसी धोखाधड़ी की शिकायतों को गंभीरता से ले और तुरंत ऐसे बैंक अधिकारियों पर सख्त से सख्त कार्यवाही करते हुए ऐसी धोखाधड़ी को बंद करायें ताकि अन्नदाता किसान का वास्तव में भला हो सके।

भारत सरकार द्वारा कृषि संबंधी योजनाओं में समय-समय पर काफी सुधार किया गया है पर फिर भी बैंक से लोन हो या वैज्ञानिक तरीके से कृषि करना हो अभी भी इनसे संबंधित योजनाओं में काफी कुछ किया जाना बाकी है। किसान और सरकार के बीच में बैठे बिचौलिए किसान का शोषण करते आए हैं और आज भी कर रहे हैं। किसान को मिलने वाला सारा लाभ लूट रहे हैं।

भारतीय खाद्य निगम में भंडारण क्षमता के साथ-साथ उचित भंडारण सिस्टम की भी कमी है, जिससे या तो किसान की उपज वहां पहुंच नहीं पाती और यदि पहुंच भी गई तो सड़ जाती है।

इन सभी समस्याओं के साथ-साथ फसलों की काला बाजारी भी एक बड़ा मुद्दा है, क्योंकि जब किसान के पास फसल होती है, तो उसका दाम एक दम नीचे होता है, वहीं बिचौलिये या आढ़ती के पास आने पर दाम आसमान छूने लगता है। सरकार को कालाबाजारी समाप्त करने के लिए उचित कदम उठाने की आवश्यकता है।

गुजरात, हिमाचल प्रदेश, मध्यप्रदेश जैसे कई राज्यों में ए.पी.एम.सी. एक्ट में कई बदलाव किए गए हैं। भूमि अधिग्रहण कानून भी उसी कड़ी में किसानों के डिस्पेसमेंट रोकने के लिए एक बड़ा कदम साबित होगा। आंध्र प्रदेश, तमिलनाडु, केरल, वेस्ट बंगाल जैसे कई राज्यों ने पी.पी.पी. मॉडल पर कोल्ड स्टोरेज और भंडारण की सुविधा अपने राज्यों में काफी हद तक बढ़ा दी है, ऐसे सभी उपाय सभी राज्य सरकारों के स्तर पर किये जाने चाहिए।

किसान चौपाल हो या इंटरनेट क्योस्क द्वारा किसान को बीज, उर्वरक, मौसम, भूमि की क्षमता आदि के बारे में जानकारी दी जाती है, इन सुविधाओं का विस्तार देश के हर गांवों में किया जाना चाहिए।

भूमि सुधार और सिंचाई सुविधाओं का विस्तार, कृषि हेतु बाजार संबंधी अवस्थानाओं का विकास, तकनीकी विकास आदि क्षेत्रों में काफी काम किये जाने की संभावनाएं हैं। जैसे हमारे पड़ोसी देश म्यांमार ने इन सभी क्षेत्रों में काफी काम कर स्वयं को संसार का सबसे बड़ा दालों का निर्यातक बना लिया है।

पंचवर्षीय योजनाएं हो या राज्य स्तर पर वार्षिक योजनाएं, कृषि संबंधी योजनाओं को अत्यधिक बजट देने की आवश्यकता है।

महाराष्ट्र सरकार द्वारा इस वर्ष के बजट में किसानों के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण योजना मोती राम जी लाहाने कृषि समृद्धि योजना की शुरुआत की है, जिससे किसानों द्वारा की जा रही आत्महत्याओं को रोकने में मदद मिलेगी।

गंभीर सूखे की स्थिति में सहायता कार्यक्रमों को 90 दिन से अधिक तक जारी रखने के लिए एस.डी.आर.एफ. के वार्षिक आवंटन की 25 प्रतिशत व्यय की सीमा को समाप्त करने पर भी केंद्र सरकार को विचार करना चाहिए। इस संबंध में राजस्थान सरकार द्वारा प्रस्ताव केंद्र सरकार को भेजा जा चुका है।

पहले 90 दिन से अधिक सूखे की स्थिति रहने पर एक कार्यकारी समिति इस संबंध में निर्णय ले सकती थी।

तेरहवें वित्त आयोग के निर्देशानुसार राजस्थान सरकार ने केंद्र सरकार को राज्य आपदा शमन निधि एवं जिला आपदा शमन निधि का गठन कर 75 प्रतिशत राशि अंशदान के रूप में केंद्र सरकार से देने का अनुरोध किया जा चुका है। इस पर मेरा केंद्र सरकार से जल्द कार्यवाही करने का अनुरोध है।

इसके साथ मेरा सुझाव है कि किसानों को छोटी और महत्वपूर्ण राहत देने के लिए देश के प्रत्येक किसान को सोलर कृषि पम्प दिए जाए ताकि वह आसानी से कृषि की लागत कम करते हुए खेती कर सके। मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि देश के छोटे किसानों के बच्चों को उच्च माध्यमिक स्तर तक की शिक्षा निःशुल्क दी जाए, ताकि किसान को बेटा-बेटी आत्मनिर्भर बन सके।

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, The hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): Sir, as you are aware, the situation in Chennai itself is deteriorating, and more and more reports are coming up. More so, the weather conditions are not still improving and the situation is going from bad to worse. The metrological predictions are there that there could be another spell this evening and within next 24 hours.

So, through you, we would like to make a request to the House -- the hon. Home Minister is taking the reports, updating himself -- if the House agrees, we can ask the hon. Home Minister to reply tomorrow at 12 noon or sometime after 12 noon because the situation is not as it is evident. The Members have spoken. He has taken note of it. The hon. Minister is here. But he would like to respond in detail with all the issues raised especially in the backdrop of the deteriorating situation.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): My request is that when the situation is so grievous and serious, the Home Minister should have taken at least

one trip. It is not far off. For Jammu and Kashmir, they used helicopters. Like that, the Prime Minister and Home Minister could have gone for two or three hours and come back. We are not alleging. This can be done and you can do it. You are not going to spend much time. This is a very serious situation.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Absolutely, his point is well taken. We have heard him. Even the Prime Minister did go to the Kashmir valley when the floods were there. Absolutely, no problem, I agree with the sentiment of yours and the sentiment of the House. ... (*Interruptions*) What you have said, we will communicate to the Government. We have taken note of it.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Somebody should go.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: My only submission is that it does not go well when the situation is so critical. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: You can go and come back. How others are going?

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: It is not just a matter of display. We are very deeply concerned with whatever is happening in Chennai and certainly, everyone is aware that Prime Minister is keeping a tab on what is happening in Chennai. The Home Minister is keeping a tab and the whole Government is aware and they are in constant touch with the State Chief Minister and with the administration. Your suggestion that they should go in a helicopter and have a aerial view is something which you have suggested but beyond that the Government is keenly observing and keenly connecting to whatever is happening in Chennai. The weather conditions are deteriorating right now. Whatever you are saying, we are completely in agreement and the Government is fully aware. So, we will request you that let the Home Minister come back to you with the full details tomorrow.

Sir, we would like to take up the Bill. The hon. Minister has made a request to the Chair that the Carriage Amendment Bill should be taken up and if it is okay with the Chair of the House, we can take up the Carriage Amendment Bill.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister reply is going to be given tomorrow. I think the House will agree for that.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes Sir, we agree with you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Therefore, now, we are taking item No. 9. As requested by hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, you all agree that hon. Home Minister's reply will be given tomorrow.

16.33 hours**CARRIAGE BY AIR (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015**

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we may now take the Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2015.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU): I beg to move:

“That the Bill further to amend the Carriage by Air Act, 1972, be taken into consideration.”

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That the Bill further to amend the Carriage by Air Act, 1972, be taken into consideration.”

16.34 hours

(Shri K.H. Muniyappa *in the Chair*)

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: This is a small amendment regarding compensation on international flights. So, from time to time, these things do get revised and we have to take an amendment of Parliament. Since it has to be amended from time to time, in future as and when the thing is revised internationally, these things the Government may notify and bring to the information of this House. This is the small amendment in this Act. That is what it is.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMTHITTA): Thank you very much for allowing me to participate in this important discussion.

The Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2015 has been introduced to upgrade the standard of domestic services of airlines into international benchmark.

As we know, there are important international conventions, commencing from Warsaw Convention of 1929, for compensating the victims of air crash and damages to their baggage. Montreal Convention, in which India is a signatory, held in 1991 set unified rules for compensation. Therefore, it is our utmost duty to extend the coverage of the provisions of these international conventions to the air travelers.

In accordance with the spirit of the Convention the amendment seeks to enhance the limits of Special Drawing Rights for damage sustained in each case of death or bodily injury for each person from SDRs 100000 to SDRs 113100. Enhanced rate in Indian rupee will be 1,03,27,161. Damage caused by delay in carriage for each person has increased from SDRs 4150 to SDRs 4694. Enhanced rate is equal to Rs.4,28,609. Destruction, loss, damage or delay with respect to baggage for each person has been increased from SDRs 1000 to SDRs 1131. It will be equal to Rs.1,03,271 as on date. Destruction, loss, damage or delay in relation to the carriage of cargo has increased from SDRs 17 to SDRs 19. The increased rate will be Rs.1,738.

As we know, the number of flyers in the country has been steadily increasing for the last several years. Therefore, it is very important to augment the safety and convenience of the air travelers as well as to provide them better service. At this juncture, I may submit a few requests to the Government for favourable action.

Safety should be the first priority of the Government. This Bill is to enhance the amount of compensation to the victims. Almost all the developed countries use an aircraft for 8-10 years. The maximum life span of an aircraft to be used safely is estimated to be 20 years. Thereafter, the wear and tear of the aircraft

is unsafe. It is learnt that several of the aircrafts in service in our country have been in service for more than 25 years and in some cases they are even 35 years. It is risky and never out of danger to use these aircrafts. Not only Air India, other private airline companies in India also lease old aircrafts from other countries for service here to load passengers. Therefore, I request the Government to remove such age-old aircrafts from service.

The insurance coverage of the passengers, who travel in age-old aircrafts, should be enhanced ten times. Who can rate a human life? Being a people's representative, I encounter deaths in several families because of different kinds of accidents. Each and every accident death destroys their family. I request the Government not to hesitate to increase the insurance coverage of the passengers who travel by air in the age-old aircrafts.

The next issue that I would like to point out is about the User Development Fee charged in airports across the country. Today, the airports are the most successful marketplace as good as any hyper-malls. Delhi airport itself has showrooms of more than 500 branded international as well as Indian companies in the domestic and international terminals. All airports in our country are functioning profitably. Then, why should airports collect User Development Fee from the passengers? At present, Delhi airport charges Rs.311 from each passenger as User Development Fee. It is estimated that nearly 6.5 crore passengers travelled through the Delhi airport last year and it is estimated that this year itself around 8 crore passengers have travelled through it. Last year the Delhi airport collected Rs.221 crore as User Development Fee. The construction cost of airport was nearly Rs.1290 crore only. So, the Government should take stringent action to stop this looting.

It would be a great injustice to the passengers of the Gulf-Sector if I do not mention their plight at this instance. The hours of travel from my State, Kerala to Gulf is the same as it takes to travel to Delhi. Air India's most profit making route is Gulf-Sector compared to the Europe, America or any other sectors. Two times

traffic fare is collected from Gulf passengers. So, in spite of double charges collected from this sector, the services provided are very horrible.

It is calculated that at least 70 lakh Indians work in Gulf countries and majority of them are from Kerala, of which 90 per cent are ordinary manual labourers who stay in labour camps and travel to their homeland only once in three or four years. Our Prime Minister during his visit to the Gulf had visited these labour camps and understood the difficulties of these fellow citizens. I request the Government to kindly introduce a fair airfare for NRIs who belong to low-income group. If services of the jumbo aeroplanes are ensured in Gulf-Sector, the airfare will be slashed to a great extent. I also request to ease duty-free baggage allowance rules for NRIs who visit the country once in two-three years.

It is learnt that services and quality of food served in the Gulf-bound flights are not satisfactory. Therefore, I request the Government to do the needful in ensuring safe and convenient journey to the air travellers in the country.

The vacation season, especially the school closing and festival seasons, when the middle class families travel, is the time when the airline companies impose their exorbitant charges by increasing the fare to three-fold. As a result half of the savings of these people are spent in air tickets. Hence, I request the Government to issue a comprehensive guideline to ensure reasonable pricing of air tickets during vacations.

Sir, the NRI passengers coming from Singapore and Australia go to Europe and USA via Delhi-Kochi-Gulf Sector route. This sector will be more benefited if a Dreamliner is allotted in this sector.

The most profitable route for Air India for domestic flights in the country is the Delhi-Kochi route. But the Air India did not provide any good aircraft on this route. In all other sectors the Dreamliners have been provided. But Air India purposefully avoids this route. I conclude my speech with a request to the hon. Minister to consider this issue positively.

SHRI G. HARI (ARAKKONAM): I thank my beloved leader Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, *Puratchithalaivi* Amma for this opportunity.

I am glad that the Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2015 introduced by hon. Civil Aviation Minister will enable the Government to revise the liability limits of air carriers in line with the Montreal Convention, which was acceded to by India in May 2009. I hope that this legislation will facilitate higher compensation and prevent Indian passengers from discrimination.

There is an international legal regime governing the liability of air carriers for injury or death of passengers, destruction or loss or damage to baggage and cargo and losses caused by delay in international carriage of passengers, baggage and cargo.

India had so far ratified the Warsaw Convention, 1929 and the Warsaw Convention as amended by The Hague Protocol, 1955 and effected by the Carriage by Air Act, 1972 and the Montreal Convention.

India adopted the Montreal Convention in order to make the passengers originating and terminating their journey in India, who are mostly Indian nationals, to get benefits of enhanced liability. It ensures an Indian to be able to file a claim in India even if the journey was undertaken outside India.

As per the revised compensation package, the bill intends to review the liability limit for damage in case of death or bodily injury for each person from 1,00,000 SDR (Special Drawing Rights) to 1,13,100 SDR. As per the latest exchange rate, the compensation limit rises to over rupees one crore from almost Rs. 88.71 lakh at present. Sir, the SDR, established by the International Monetary Fund, is based on market exchange rates of a basket of major currencies - US Dollar, Euro, Japanese Yen and Pound Sterling.

Where damages of more than 1,13,100 SDR are sought, the airline may avoid liability by proving that the accident which caused

the injury or death was not due to their negligence or was attributable to the negligence of a third party. This defence is not available where damages of less than 1,13,100 SDR are sought.

The Convention also amended the jurisdictional provisions of Warsaw Convention and now allows the victim or their families to sue foreign carriers where they maintain their principal residence, and requires all air carriers to carry liability insurance.

As per the Bill, the liability for delay in carriage for each person is proposed to be raised from 4,150 SDR to 4,694 SDR while the liability in case of destruction, loss, damage or delay of baggage is proposed to be raised from 1,000 SDR to 1,131 SDR. Montreal Convention also requires airlines to fully compensate travellers the cost of replacement items purchased until the baggage is delivered, to a maximum of 1,131 SDR. After 21 days, any delayed baggage is considered lost, even if the airline delivers it after that period.

The limitation of compensation for damage to baggage to 1,131 SDRs means that the value of damaged mobility equipment may often significantly exceed available compensation under the Montreal Convention.

While the effect of the loss, even temporarily, of mobility equipment places disabled passengers at a substantially increased disadvantage in comparison to other passengers suffering damaged baggage. Moreover the Bill proposes to enhance the liability in case of destruction, loss or delay in relation to the carriage of cargo from 17 SDR to 19 SDR.

It is a fact that the liability limits are revised once in every five years by the UN body called International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) on the basis of a determined inflation factor of 13.1 per cent, triggering an adjustment in the limits. The amendment would also

enable the Government to revise the limits of liability as and when the revised limits are notified by the ICAO.

A passenger can benefit from a higher liability limit by making a special declaration at the time of check-in at the latest and paying a supplementary fee. Any action in court to claim damages must be brought within two years from the date of arrival of the aircraft or from the date on which the aircraft ought to have arrived.

The Montreal Convention was brought about mainly to amend liabilities to be paid to families for death or injury whilst on board an aircraft. As of July 2015, there are 113 parties to the Convention. India has also ratified the Convention.

It is to be noted that the Convention refuses to pay any compensation for psychiatric injury or damage unless inextricably linked to the physical injury. Purely psychiatric injury is not eligible for compensation which has been criticized by people injured in plane accidents, legal experts and their families.

Australia changed its law so as to fit with the Montreal Convention. It removed references to 'personal injury' and replaced it with 'bodily injury' under the CACL Act. It is learnt that a Private Member's Bill was also introduced in the Australian Parliament in May, 2015 to seek to protect the rights of plane crash survivors to be compensated for psychological trauma. What about India? Are we thinking of including psychiatric injury in the list of liabilities by the carrier? I request the hon. Minister to explain the stand of the Government on this issue.

It is a news item of recent past. While traveling to Australia to attend a meeting of G-20 nations, a Minister at the Union could not trace her checked-in luggage. I quote the tweet uploaded by that Minister, which came in newspapers. It said : "On board my connecting flight to Cairns. All my formal wear in the lost suitcase! Not sure I can buy Saris in Cairns! Situation precarious!". Later, the lost baggage was found by Air India saving the Minister from an

emergency shopping trip. This incident exposes the claim that nobody can escape the fear of loss of baggage while on air travel. Another Air India passenger disappointed by his harrowing experience about lost baggage had even set up a website, with a view to coordinate passengers who suffered a similar fate and to file a joint action against Air India for their negligence in non-deliverance of baggage on time.

Safety of passengers at the airports should also be given utmost importance. There have been umpteen number of incidents of falling glass panels at Chennai Airport causing injury to several air passengers. Even, VIPs have had a narrow escape from accidental falling of glass panels at the Chennai Airport. It is learnt that the Airports Authority of India do not have quality equipment that can detect stress in glass panels. Poor air-conditioning inside the building and poor quality metal fixtures used on the glass doors cause the damage. As this relates to the safety concern of air passengers, I request the hon. Union Minister for Civil Aviation to look into this issue and order for prompt action. I also want to know about the outcome of any enquiry ordered by the Ministry in the past into such incidents of grave nature.

In Kolkata airport, a CISF Constable died after he stepped into a sheet that tried to cover a hole, created by a broken glass tile, on a glass-floored bridge. I earnestly appeal through the hon. Minister for urgent action so that such incidents do not recur.

I also want to bring to your kind notice the recent directive issued by the National Green Tribunal to the Union Government to ensure that no disinfectant fumigation is carried out in aircraft while passengers are on board. It was on a plea filed by a US-based Neurologist who contended that spraying such pesticides could have an adverse impact on health. Although, airlines of other countries have stopped spraying pesticides, the practice is still prevalent in all Indian airlines

operating internationally. NGT's observation came down heavily on Indian airlines, which said and I quote : "You are supposed to kill mosquitoes and not human beings. You cannot take a risk with the health of the people".

While facilitating higher compensation to Indian air passengers, it is the duty of the Government to ensure their safety as well. The Vision 2023 document released by our hon. Chief Minister, *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma*, calls for improving the standards and facilities at the airports in Tamil Nadu with a total capacity of handling eight crore passengers per annum with Chennai alone accounting world-class infrastructure for half the capacity.

It is claimed that the new terminals at the Chennai Airport will soon reach saturation point and cannot take the passenger load beyond 2021. As the project report on the viability has already been submitted, a Greenfield Airport in Sriperumbudur near Chennai with an annual capacity of handling at least five crore passengers is the need of the hour. I request the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation to allocate adequate funds for implementation of airport-related projects, especially, the proposed Greenfield Airport in Tamil Nadu.

With this, I conclude. Thank you, Sir. Once again, I thank our hon. Leader, *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma*.

कौशल विकास और उद्यमिता मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी): सर, कैरेज अमेंडमेंट बिल पर यह मेरा थोड़ा सा इंटरवेंशन है। मूल रूप से यह विषय हम सबके जीवन में है, हवाई यात्रा सबके जीवन को छूती है और सामान्य रूप से हम देश के भीतर भी यात्रा करते हैं तथा अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर भी यात्रा करते हैं। लेकिन दुनिया में जब से हवाई यात्रा प्रारंभ हुई है, दुनिया को अनुमान नहीं था कि आखिर किस प्रकार के समझौते किए जाएंगे, जिससे हम देश के बाहर भी सुरक्षित हों और यह कौन सा कानून होगा, कौन सा समझौता होगा। इसकी शुरुआत वारसो पैक्ट से हुई, उसके बाद हेग कंवेशन हुआ, फिर मांट्रियल हुआ। ताकि जो अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय समझौते हैं, जिन पर हम हस्ताक्षर करते हैं, पूरी दुनिया, जो ICAO के सदस्य हैं, यह वह संस्था है, जो पूरी दुनिया के हवाई संस्थाओं को संचालित करती है, उसके साथ हम जोड़कर चलते हैं। उसी क्रम में यह समझौता हुआ, लेकिन यह समझौता उन लोगों के लिए हुआ, जो दुनिया भर में यात्रा करते हैं और यात्रा के दौरान यदि उनका सामान चोरी हुआ, यात्रा के दौरान उनको चोट लगी या यात्रा के दौरान दुर्भाग्य से यदि कोई दुर्घटना हो गई तो उसमें जो नुकसान हो गया, यह उसके लिए है। उसको एसडीआर राइट्स कहते हैं। एसडीआर ड्राइंग राइट्स के तहत, जिसमें दुनिया भर की करेंसीज को, आखिर हमें कैसे पता चलेगा कि हमें जो मुआवजा मिलना है, वह मुआवजा अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर क्या होना चाहिए? दुनिया भर की जो करेंसीज होती हैं, उसका बास्केट बनाकर, डॉलर्स में तय किया जाता है कि यह हमारा मुआवजा है और उसी मुआवजे के बारे में इसमें चर्चा की गई है। जैसे माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह बिल्कुल सही कहा कि यह अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय समझौता है और किसी भी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय समझौते को देश में लागू करने के लिए अपने सदन के भीतर लाकर के, उस समझौते को अपने सदन में, अपने सांसदों के सामने रखना पड़ता है ताकि उसकी रेक्टिफिकेशन हो जाए। अगर हमारी असहमति हो कि जो मुआवजा देने की बात की जा रही है अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय दुर्घटना में मृत्यु पर, अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय दुर्घटना में चोट पर या अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय दुर्घटना में सामान चोरी हो जाने पर तो तीन महीने के भीतर अपने सदन से इस बात का हमें कि यह हमें स्वीकृत नहीं है, हम इसे स्वीकार नहीं करते हैं और बहुमत के साथ देशों को यह प्रस्ताव ICAO के पास भेजना पड़ेगा, उस कन्वेंशन के लिए भेजना पड़ेगा। हमने ऐसा नहीं किया, क्योंकि हमारी मान्यता है कि जो इसमें सुधार किया गया है, जो वृद्धि की गई है, वह हमारे लिए स्वीकार्य है।

महोदय, यह अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय समझौता है और कोई भी सावरेन स्टेट इस समझौते को रेक्टिफाई करता है। यह छोटा सा संशोधन है, लेकिन सबसे बड़ी बात यह है कि आगे यह तय हुआ है कि इस प्रकार का जो अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय संशोधन होगा, उसको पार्लियामेंट में लेकर नहीं आया जाए। अब मुझे तो लगता है कि ऐसे

प्रस्ताव जब पार्लियामेंट के सामने आते हैं तो इस विषय पर और एवीएशन पर चर्चा करने का एक आधार बनता है, क्योंकि हमारे माननीय संसद सदस्य एन्टोनी साहब और सब लोगों ने कहा है। But then if we have taken a call that in future all such ratifications need not be brought to Parliament and they can be done by an Executive Order, I think it is the wisdom of the Government to decide on that. But this whole provision of revising it and subscribing to the international protocol for Carriage Amendment is a big issue, which possibly brings advantage to the international travellers who are travelling, and this is a very small amendment which has to be ratified by the House.

महोदय, सिविल एवीएशन क्षेत्र एक ऐसा क्षेत्र है, जिस पर माननीय मंत्री जी और सरकार की सहमति हम लोगों की तरफ से हो जाए तो एक विस्तार से चर्चा करें ताकि सभी सदस्य इस पर चर्चा कर सकें। प्रतिपक्ष के माननीय नेता खड़गे साहब बैठे हैं, इस विषय पर भी अगर कभी आपकी सहमति बने तो पूरे विस्तार से हम लोग सिविल एवीएशन सेक्टर पर माननीय मंत्री जी की उपस्थिति में चर्चा कराना चाहेंगे। मैं इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे (गुलबर्गा) : आप अच्छे पायलट हैं, चेन्नई में जो हो रहा है, प्राइम मिनिस्टर और होम मिनिस्टर को आप लेकर जा सकते हैं और सेफली लाकर छोड़ सकते हैं। एरीअल सर्वे के लिए आप जा सकते हैं।

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): He can just fly over the City and come back.

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : हमारे नेताओं का मानना है कि हम हवाई नेतागिरी नहीं करते हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में हवा में जाकर के चेन्नई का दर्शन करके आएँ।

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खड़गे: सिर्फ कश्मीर का करते हैं।

श्री राजीव प्रताप रूडी : कश्मीर में तो प्रधानमंत्री जी जाकर उतरे, उनसे बात करके आए। हवाई राजनीति पर हमारा भरोसा नहीं है। हम तो धरती पर उतरकर राजनीति करना चाहते हैं।

DR. TAPAS MANDAL (RANAGHAT): Sir, I am thankful to you for allowing me to speak on the Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2015. The amendment of the Bill is a reflection of the demands of the day. The Bill would enable the Government to revise the liability limits of air carriers in line with the Montreal Convention, which was acceded by India in 2009.

The amendment also enables the Government to revise the liability limits as per notification of the International Civil Aviation Organization. The International Civil Aviation Organization determined an inflation factor of 13.1 per cent which exceeded 10 per cent, the threshold stipulated for triggering an adjustment in the limit of liability.

Article 24 of the Montreal Convention provides for revision of liability limits of air carriers for damages in relation to carriage of passengers, baggage and cargo at a five year interval.

17.00 hours

As per revised compensation package, the Bill intends to review the liability limit for damage in course of death or body injury for individual from 1,00,000 SDRs to 1.131 SDRs that is, more or less equivalent to 1.00 crore in Indian currency. The liability in case of destruction, loss or delay of baggage of individuals has been raised from 1000 SDRs to 1131 SDRs. The liability in case of destruction, loss or delay of carriage of cargo has been raised to 17 SDRs to 19 SDRs. Presently, one SDR is equivalent to around Rs.88 or Rs.89 of Indian currency. The currency value of SDR varies, as Shri Rudy pointed out, with the market rates of major currency like US dollar, Pound Sterling, Japanese Yen and Euro.

I support the Amendment which facilitates fair compensation and prevents Indian passengers from discrimination. I want to highlight some important issues for the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

The most important aspect of consideration for air travellers is safety, security and comfort. Is it addressed at all by the Ministry? The Government is often saying that India is a global player, a powerful tiger. Yes, India is a tiger. But

if we see our safety and comfort in airports, India seems to be a sleeping tiger. Is there any unlawful nexus to promote private airlines by allotting the best departure time from different airports of this country? Why is the Air India not allocated prime times for its own flights? Why is the Air India only bridge to the North-Eastern States and why not the private airlines? Why is the Government not giving its look towards the common passengers of this country? What about the service aspect of the pilots of Air India? Why are the most efficient and best performing pilots leaving Air India? Are they joining private airlines and foreign airlines for better salary, for tax free income? If a pilot making expenditure from the Government's end is about Rs.30 lakh, what is the amount of the service bond? What is the Government status to increase the amount of the service bond? I would urge upon the Minister to please look into the matter very seriously.

The Bill is dealing with liability. But what is the duty of the Government to intervene? We know that prevention is always better than cure. Try to improve security, safety and comfort level for the common passengers. Try to ensure and maintain schedule time of departure and arrival, apologise timely, if not, let the passengers know the up-dates, serve better foods, issue boarding pass carefully, then you may not be worried about the amount of liability increase. The Government may not spend much amount of money for liability because the money ultimately comes from the pocket of the common people.

With these few words, I conclude my speech.

DR. KULMANI SAMAL (JAGATSINGHPUR): Hon. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2015.

The Carriage by Air Act is a special statute which deals with many provisions relating to airlines and passengers on the platform of various international conventions such as Warsaw, The Hague and Montreal. These conventions are intended to maintain uniformity in processing of flights operated by various airlines across different countries in the world thereby dealing uniformly with the passengers from all the corners of the world. When the airlines carry passengers between different countries, in the event of casualties the victims have to be treated equally as regards compensation both in the case of death, injury to persons, and damage to property.

As per the prevailing situation, the provisions in the conventions are revised time to time. Hence, the Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2015 has been proposed to amend the Carriage by Air Act, 1972. The Bill under consideration, if passed, would enable the Government to revise the liability limits of air carriers in line with the Montreal Convention which was acceded to by India in May 2009. As per this convention, under Rule 24, Chapter 3 of the Third Schedule to the Carriage by Air Act, 1972, the liability of the airline carrier in case of destruction, loss, damage or delay has been proposed to be increased.

There are four tiers of compensation proposed in this Bill. As per Article 21 of the Act, the proposal in view of the first tier, compensation pertaining to damage sustained in case of death or bodily injury for each passenger would go up from one lakh Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) to 1,13,100 SDRs, which is around Rs.1 crore in Indian currency since the currency value of SDRs is based on inclusive market exchange rates of a number of a major currencies namely US dollar, Euro, Japanese Yen and Pound Sterling.

As per the Bill, the liability for delay in carriage for each person is proposed to be raised from 4,150 SDRs to 4,694 SDRs. Here I would like to

mention that by amending the Act of 1972, the compensation provided as per the Montreal Convention could be increased in the interest of the passengers.

In this regard I would like to say that the Bill, if passed, would empower the Central Government to revise the limits of liability in respect of airlines to provide compensation as per the Montreal Convention and also to make rules to carry out the provisions of the Act. This is a welcome step. I, on behalf of my party Biju Janata Dal, wholeheartedly support the Bill.

Sir, I would like to make another point related to air travel in the country. When I was travelling from Delhi to Bhubaneswar sometime ago, I witnessed an emergency situation wherein a passenger on board suffered chest pain. I am a doctor by profession. When it was announced if there was any doctor travelling in the flight, I stood up and checked the patient up and stayed with him. The patient was hospitalised upon reaching Bhubaneswar. The air travel time between Delhi and Bhubaneswar is about two hours. I would suggest that it would be good if a doctor is posted on the flight from the Government's side.

Thank you, Sir.

SHRI THOTA NARASIMHAM (KAKINADA): First of all, I congratulate the Minister of Civil Aviation Shri Ashok Gajapathi Raju for introducing this Bill which was neglected by the previous Government. I feel that it is because of the initiative of the hon. Minister that this Bill came here. I appreciate his initiative which benefits the victims of the air travel.

There are specific limits prescribed by international conventions for damages in international air carriages. The Carriage by Air Act, 1972 acceded to the Montreal Convention, 1999. The rules governing the liability of air carriers and the extent of compensation for damages in international carriage were prescribed in the Act. The Carriage by Air Act was amended in 2009 to incorporate the provisions of Montreal Convention under the third Schedule to the Act.

Article 24 of the Montreal Convention which corresponds to Rule 24 of the third Schedule of the Carriage Act provides for a review of the limits of liability of their carriers for damages in relation to the passengers, baggage and cargo at five years interval. The International Civil Aviation Organization depository conducted first such review of the limits of liability and issued a notification on 30th June, 2009.

As the five years period is already elapsed, our Minister for Civil Aviation brought this Amendment Bill for approval of the Parliament. I wholeheartedly welcome this Bill and extend our Telugu Desam Party's support to this Bill. After bifurcation, on behalf of the people of Andhra Pradesh, I request all the Union Ministers, especially the Minister for Civil Aviation to give special emphasis on the State of Andhra Pradesh. Our airports at Vijayawada, Tirupati, Vizag, Rajahmundry, and Shirdi have to be developed to the level of facilitating international passengers to arrive and depart from these airports. I also request him to provide flight service from Vizag to Tirupati and from Rajahmundry to

Delhi. Thousands of people travel every day from these places. Nowadays, air fare has become cheaper. Most of the people prefer air travel to save their time. I request the Minister for Civil Aviation to develop airports in every district headquarters in Andhra Pradesh.

With these words, I sincerely thank the hon. Speaker for giving me the opportunity. Thank you.

SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN (MURSHIDABAD): Hon.Chairman Sir, with your kind permission, I rise to speak on the Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2015 which was introduced in Lok Sabha on 7th August 2015 by the Minister of Civil Aviation.

Actually this Bill is placed in this House to amend the carriage by Air Act 1972. This Act regulates carriage by air and gives effect to the Warsaw Convention as amended by the Hague Protocol 1955 and the Montreal Convention 1999. The Act also provides for application of the international rules to domestic travel, subject to exception and adaptations.

Sir, so far as I know, the Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2008 was passed by Lok Sabha in the year 2008. After considering some observations made by the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture, the Bill was passed by Rajya Sabha also. At that time, the main objective of the proposed amendment in the parent Act was to accede to the Montreal Convention for the International Carriage by Air. Now the Montreal Convention has already been ratified by 86 countries out of which 25 have direct air link with India. India also acceded to Montreal Convention in May 2009.

In Article 24 of the Montreal convention, there is a provision of revision of liability limits for air carriers for damages in relation to passengers' baggage and cargo at five years interval.

There is also a provision in article 24, para 2 that the state parties may register their disapproval with the International Civil Aviation Organization within a fixed time limit. The current Amendment Bill seeks to empower the Central Government to revise the limits of liability of airlines and compensation as per Montreal Convention. My question is, where there is a provision of revision of liability limits for air carriers in Montreal Convention at a five-year interval and also a provision for registering disapproval by the majority state parties, why is an amendment necessary to empower the Central Government?

Apart from the Montreal Convention, is there any space to revise the limits of liabilities in the case of international air carriers? After the passage of the Air Carriage (Amendment) Bill, 2008, India acceded to the Montreal Convention in May, 2009. As per article 24 of this Convention, our Central Government has every right to intervene in this question.

I have no objection against this Amendment Bill but I would like to request the Government through you to clarify these points and then proceed.

Apart from this Bill, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister concerned that some Air India flights get delayed – particularly AI-020 gets delayed every time – very much without any serious reason. It is due to shortage of crew, pilots, due to late clearance of customs, etc. I want to know why such delays should not be compensated. This should also be taken under the purview of this Amendment Bill so that some Air India passengers could be benefited.

Thank you.

DR. BOORA NARSAIAH GOUD (BHONGIR): Thank you for giving me the opportunity.

At the outset, I congratulate the Minister Shri Ashok Gajapathi Raju for bringing the Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2015. My party fully supports it. I feel it is better late than never though it should have been introduced a long time ago. Maybe at least now our Minister has taken the initiative to give adequate relief to the people who have suffered by death or damage or loss of baggage by delay during international travel. It may not compensate at the time of death or disability but at least it will give some relief matching international standards to our international air carrier passengers.

17.18 hours

(Hon. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

Though we cannot compensate life, life is same whether it is international or national carrier. I take this opportunity to request the Minister to introduce the same kind of relief to the national carrier passengers also in the case of same kind of damage, death, delay of the baggage.

At the same time, I wish to say something. Now, there are more number of passengers travelling by air. There are a lot of grievances of the people who travel by air whether it is delay, over-booking, improper maintenance or improper service. So, I request the Minister to introduce an early grievance redressal system which shall have more teeth than the present system.

We are only talking about physical discomfort, damage and death. Many times, passengers are subjected to mental agony also due to acts of omissions and commissions of airlines staff or due to delay, damage or poor service. I request him to bring a further amendment or introduce some sections to compensate in the case of improper service also.

I wish to quote a specific instance. Recently a Seven-member Parliamentary Group has traveled from Delhi to air. In the entire stretch of eight hours, the air-conditioner was not working. The funny part was that the staff on the Air India

aircraft were not even able to say whether it would be repaired or not. They were also not coming forward to shift the passengers where air-conditioner was working in spite of the fact that seven hon. Members of Parliament were there. The funniest part was when one of the Members of Parliament requested the service personnel for food because she was feeling hungry.

The reply of the cabin crew was that they will not serve the food till the wine serving section is over. That means to say that a passenger, whether it is an MP or other ordinary person, has to wait till the crew serves alcohol or wine. Such improper service in Air India also needs to be immediately addressed.

I may also tell another instance. On one occasion I had to change my seat thrice because one seat did not have belt the other did not stretch and the third one did not move. When I requested the cabin crew humbly, nowadays we are very much afraid of the TV and we are more courteous, the reply was that this would be like that only.

Before I conclude I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister, that Telangana State has got only one airport, Begumpet Airport, which was there even before Independence. Unfortunately, there was a move to hand over that airport to the Defence. I would request the hon. Minister not to take such a measure.

Secondly, my brother State like Andhra Pradesh has got four airports whereas we have got only one airport. Just like one child policy of China, we have adopted one-airport policy for Telangana. Warrangal city is the heritage city which has a lot of potential in terms of international tourism. There was an airport earlier but because of some MoU with the existing airport the Government is not extending approval to an airport at Warrangal city which is almost 150 kms. from Hyderabad. I take this opportunity to humbly urge him not to follow one-airport policy only for Telangana State. It is not China. Kindly have more airports there as this is the need of the hour. I take this opportunity to support the Bill on behalf of TRS Party. Thank you.

श्री कौशलेन्द्र कुमार (नालंदा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मुझे विमान वहन (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2015 पर बोलने का मौका दिया है, उसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। सरकार ने अपने अध्यादेश को कानून का रूप देने के लिए यह विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया है। यह अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कानून एवं प्रोटोकॉल को ध्यान में रख कर बनाया गया है। यह अच्छी बात है। बदलते समय के अनुसार ही हमारी कानून और व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। विमान वहन विधेयक के द्वारा खासकर किसी भी प्रकार की क्षति में मुआवजा को सिर्फ बढ़ाया जा रहा है, लेकिन मेरा मानना है कि देश में प्राइवेट एयरलाइंस की सेवायें बढ़ी हैं, तो उनकी मनमानी पर भी अंकुश लगाना चाहिए। उन्हें मनमाने ढंग से किराया बढ़ाने का अवसर नहीं मिलना चाहिए। उनकी इस मनमानी पर अंकुश लगे और यह सुनिश्चित होना चाहिए कि चाहे सामान का भाड़ा, किराये में अनाप-शनाप बढ़ोतरी, समय पर पैसेंजर्स के सामानों का न मिलना, आदि को भी ध्यान में रखा जाये। यात्रियों के साथ दुर्व्यवहार की भी घटनायें सामने आती हैं। समय पर फ्लाइट नहीं मिलने पर यात्रियों को काफी परेशानी होती है। इस एवज में भी क्षतिपूर्ति की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए।

श्री शरद त्रिपाठी (संत कबीर नगर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने हमें विमान वहन (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2015 पर चर्चा में बोलने का अवसर प्रदान किया है। हमारी वर्तमान सरकार विशेषकर हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी अशोक गजपति राजू जी यह संशोधन इसलिए लाये हैं कि प्रायः अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उड़ानों के दौरान जो सामानों की क्षतिपूर्ति होती थी, उसमें अपने यहां तो हम बहुत त्वरित गति से निर्णय कर लेते थे लेकिन अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उड़ानों में उनके देश की मुद्रा के हिसाब से व्यावहारिक कठिनाइयां आ रही थीं।

माननीय मंत्री जी इस पर विशेष ध्यान देकर संशोधन लाए हैं। मैं इसके समर्थन में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। साथ ही मैं मंत्री जी से एक और अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि निश्चित ही वर्तमान सरकार के मुखिया श्रद्धेय नरेन्द्र भाई मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में माननीय मंत्री अशोक गजपति राजू जी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उड़ानों में यात्रियों के सामान की क्षतिपूर्ति के लिए संवेदनशील निर्णय लेते हुए उसे कानून देने का विधेयक सदन में लाए हैं। हमारे यहां से एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल माननीय लोक सभा अध्यक्ष के नेतृत्व में बेल्जियम गया हुआ था। यह संयोग की बात थी कि भारतीय जनता पार्टी के चीफ व्हिप आदरणीय मेघवाल जी यहां बैठे हुए हैं, वे भी उसमें थे। विभिन्न पार्टियों के नौ सदस्य थे। हमें जानकर आश्चर्य हुआ कि जब भी कोई विदेशी प्रतिनिधिमंडल हमारे देश में आते हैं तो हम भारतीय मान्यताओं, परम्पराओं के अनुसार उन्हें एयरपोर्ट पर अपने लाउंज का उपयोग करने का पूरा अधिकार देते हैं। सामान्य शिष्टाचार का भी पालन करते हैं और उन्हें सम्मान सहित वह लाउंज निशुल्क उपलब्ध भी करवाते हैं। लेकिन ब्रिटेन में जिस अति विशिष्ट लाउंज में हमारी माननीय अध्यक्ष जी रुकी थीं, हमारे देश के समस्त पार्टियों के माननीय सांसदगण भी रुके थे, यह बताया गया कि हम अति विशिष्ट लाउंज का पर आवर के हिसाब से आपकी सरकार से चार्ज लेते हैं। मैं इस विधेयक में यह संशोधन करने का आग्रह मंत्री जी से करूंगा कि जब हम विदेशी प्रतिनिधिमंडलों को अपने देश के अति विशिष्ट लाउंज में पूरी सुविधा शिष्टाचार के अनुसार दे रहे हैं, अतिथि देवो भवः की परिकल्पना को साकार करते हुए दे रहे हैं, तो उन्हें भी कम से कम इतनी मर्यादा जरूर निभानी चाहिए कि जब हमारे देश में उन्हें वह सम्मान मिल रहा है तो उसके आधार पर वे अपने वीवीआईपी लाउंज में हमारे देश के प्रतिनिधियों को भी निशुल्क रुकने का अधिकार प्रदान करें।

मैं उत्तर प्रदेश के संत कबीर नगर जनपद से आता हूँ। वहीं से सटा हुआ गोरखपुर है जो गोरखनाथ, संत कबीर और बुद्ध की धरती को जोड़ने का एकमात्र एयर स्टेशन है। वहां वर्तमान समय में जैट का सिर्फ एक ही हवाई जहाज चल रहा है। वह मनमाने तरीके से किराया ले रहे हैं। जब यात्री फुल हो जाते हैं तो किराया दो हजार रुपये से सीधे तेरह हजार रुपये और तेरह हजार रुपये से सीधे पच्चीस हजार

रुपये पहुंच जाता है जबकि बुद्ध परिपथ जो पूरे विश्व में जाना जाता है, वहां जापान, कोलंबिया, चीन और श्रीलंका के पर्यटक कुशी नगर जाने के लिए आते हैं। मैं मंत्री जी से यह भी अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि एयर इंडिया की नियमित उड़ान गोरखपुर में चलाने का कष्ट करें और किराए पर विशेष प्रकार से लगाम लगाने का भी काम करें। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, first of all, I would like to support the intervention made by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that an in depth discussion in respect of civil aviation sector is required. That is very essential and we fully support it. I hope that the Government will take the initiative in having a discussion on the civil aviation sector – the present scenario in our country.

I fully support the Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2015. This Bill, as most of our learned friends have already elaborated in their intervention, is in order to fulfil the commitment made in the Montreal Convention of 1999. But the very interesting fact to be noted is that in 1999 itself the Act was amended. The Carriage Act of 1972 was amended in 1999 so as to fulfil commitment made in the Montreal Convention. But unfortunately, at that time, we were not able to foresee the consequences. It is because at the Montreal Convention itself, there was a provision in the Convention Document that during the course of five years the liability will be revised by the International Civil Aviation Organisation or the Depository. So the Depository is having the right to revise the rate of liability or the limits of liability during the course of five years. But that was not kept in the amendment which we had made in the year 1999 which is why this House is compelled to make the revision.

Anyway, now I fully support the two amendments which are being proposed by the hon. Minister. The first amendment is regarding limit of liability has to be revised in accordance with the revision made by the International Civil Aviation Organisation. In that case, I have only one suggestion to make to the hon. Minister and to the Government for consideration. This is for revision of the rates and revision of the liability. That shall never be decreasing the liability because in future course also if the liability instead of it being enhanced if it is being reduced, it would definitely be adversely affecting the international air passengers. Therefore, I have moved an amendment and I can speak on this at that time. In

order to give effect to all these commitments and conventions, special rules have to be formulated by means of the second amendment. I fully support that but still I have some reservations in that also.

The second point is about the damages. It is because we know the safety of the passengers is the main issue, or the main concern as far as we are concerned. In case of damage sustained in case of death or bodily injury and also baggage which is being stated is revised. I fully support that. At the same time I would like to say that the Government has to be more cautious in respect of the safety of the passengers.

Sir, I know that Air India is the national carrier of our country. It is a prestigious organisation of our country. But unfortunately now Air India is deliberately being destroyed so as to protect the interest of the private carriers. That is happening in our country. I can cite a very typical example. In Thiruvananthapuram Airport I know that there is a financial restructuring plan of Air India and a turn around plan by Air India. That was accepted in the year 2010. As per the turn around plan and the financial restructuring plan this Air India ground handling service was to be devolved or transferred to Air India Air Transport Service Limited which is a subsidiary of Air India Limited. That is the commitment in the turn around plan. But unfortunately the Air India officials have allotted it to a joint partnership. The ground handling service has been given to a joint partnership violating the commitments made, violating the provisions of the turn around plan and the financial restructuring plan. Further, this has been done without signing any agreement, without signing any Memorandum of Understanding.

Sir, I would like to highlight one point here. This matter was challenged by a Trade Union leader. He approached the High Court and he has submitted the petition. Crores and Crores of rupees are being looted. It was to be given to Air India. It is to be availed by Air India but it is being looted by this private partnership. What has happened is that the Trade Union leader has been

transferred on a false case of sex assault to Hyderabad. He is a protected worker. He is the State Secretary of a recognised and registered Trade Union. I would like to approach the hon. Minister in this matter. I have submitted three letters to him. Unfortunately he has not cared to hear me and unfortunately the response was very poor saying that it was on the grounds of sex assault case this man has been transferred. The CBI has conducted an enquiry and it has come to light that the petition was frivolous, false and fabricated and that the signature of the Air hostess was fabricated and was submitted. A very interesting fact that I would like to bring before the House is that three days back the CBI has conducted a raid in Thiruvananthapuram Airport and the Indian Express wrote, 'CBI finds misappropriation of Rs. 14 crore in Airport raid on the basis of the petition'. Unfortunately the person has been transferred. This is the way the matters are being handled. So, I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to kindly look into the matter. We the Members of Parliament are submitting petitions not for any personal reason. We fully support the cause of the Public Sector Undertakings. We want to protect them. It is our duty and responsibility to protect Air India, the national carrier. I would like to request the hon. Minister that when we submit petitions, go through them in depth and see if there is merit in the petition or not. I would like to record my grievance as an Member of Parliament.

Sir, I fully support the two amendments and I hope the hon. Minister will have a personal look into the matter I mentioned and redress his grievance. A person who has stood for Air India has been victimised without any reason on false grounds.

Sir, with these words, I fully support the Bill.

SHRI MEKAPATI RAJA MOHAN REDDY (NELLORE): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Carriage by Air (Amendment) Bill, 2015 moved by Shri Ashok Gajapathi Raju, hon. Minister for Civil Aviation.

I fully support this Bill on behalf of the YSR Congress Party.

I almost endorse and concur with the views expressed by the hon. Members who spoke till now. I think it is not out of place if I mention regarding the new airports in residuary Andhra Pradesh. There is a proposal to have airports at Nellore, Kurnool, Nagarjunasagar and Donakonda, particularly at Nellore which is my parliamentary constituency. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has already acquired 1500 acres of land and it is ready for further action. This proposal is pending since a long time and it is a long pending desire of the people of Nellore.

Nellore is a very potential coastal area where many thermal plants have come up. It is not only that. There are many other industrial units situated there. In that way, it is a very potential area. Krishnapatnam Port is also there. It is likely to be a Smart City also. Definitely, there is a potentiality for a new airport there.

I request the hon. Minister to look into this proposal. On the part of Central Government, the hon. Minister was also time and again saying that it is going to be materialized. I request the hon. Minister to look into these proposals and develop Nellore, Kurnool, Nagarjunasagar and Donakonda airports.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU):
Hon. Deputy-Speaker, I am grateful to all the hon. Members for supporting this Bill.

As understood and expressed by everyone, it is for basically enhancing the rates which are done internationally. For every five years, they meet and enhance it. On 30th December, 2009 was the Montreal Convention when this was revised and we are on 2nd December, 2015. There is a time lag. Of course, India is a signatory and if anything happens, the commitment goes through but when it has the sanction of this House, it has a particular value. Unfortunately, as mentioned earlier, in 2009, when that Act was amended, this was somehow overlooked. There is no need for blame and there is no need for any such thing. But when things do come to notice, they ought to be corrected.

Hon. Member, Shri Premachandran has given a notice for amendment. He says that the amount should not be reduced. He has mentioned it in his speech also. Generally, trendwise, inflation is everywhere and even the basket of currency has never shown a downward reduction but again, when we go with an international organization, it is probably necessary not to have any conditions. It is because if there is a conflict, there will be a problem. I think, things do not reduce that way.

The other thing is taking the power within the Government so that we do not have to come every fifth year to the House with an amendment to the Bill. This is simple as far as the Bill is concerned and I am grateful to all the hon. Members who have supported the Bill.

I request the hon. Member to withdraw his amendment because that will allow it to go smoothly. Of course, there are a lot of aberrations everywhere. Civil aviation requires more discussion and attention, and there are problems. It is not free of problems. A lot of Members have talked about airlines service quality. Of course, safety and security are two things on which our Government is never

going to compromise. One hon. Member talked of comfort also. I feel that is also an important aspect. So, the scope for improvement is tremendous. I would take all these things as suggestions to work on. The Government has recently released the draft Aviation Policy. It has gone into the public domain. 30th November was the last day for public suggestions. We were fortunate to have the advice of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee on Civil Aviation. Most of these suggestions and those suggestions are more or less similar. We will have to look at it and work at it. The ultimate aim is to improve this service sector. It has to improve, has to serve the people and serve them better.

Hon. Members have talked about international pay lounges vis-à-vis India not having pay lounges. Every country develops according to its culture. We have nothing to say there. We are Indians and we have our own way of going about things. Every country has its own way of going about things. We cannot compel other countries to behave like us.

I take all these suggestions. Our idea is to improve on a consistent basis and go ahead. I do not think I will be able to answer everything because they deal with wide range of issues, from airports to airlines to grievances to public sector to private sector. So, all types of things are there. But all these suggestions are well taken and we will work on them. We will work on them for the betterment of our country. This is what I want to submit.

I would request all of you to pass this Bill without amendments. This is my request.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

“That the Bill further to amend the Carriage by Air Act, 1972, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 Amendment of Section 4A

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Shri N.K. Premachandran, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Yes.

I beg to move:

Page 1, line 9,--

after “damages”

insert”, not less than the existing rate of compensation,”. (1)

The amendment is a harmless one. It says, “not less than the existing rate of compensation”. It is a harmless amendment. It shall never be in contradiction to the Montreal Convention provisions of article 24. It is not against article 24 of the Montreal Convention. It is totally in consonance with article 24 of the Montreal Convention. So, it is better to have this. It is a safety measure. I am moving the amendment.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 1 to Clause 2 moved by Shri N.K. Premachandran to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

“That clause 2 stand part of the Bill”.

*The motion was adopted.
Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

Clause 3 Insertion of new Section 8A

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri N.K. Premachandran, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Yes.

I beg to move:

Page 2, line 3,--

after “this Act”

insert “for implementation the terms and conditions as per the international conventions”. (2)

The next amendment is, that is 8A, the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the provisions of this Act. Any legislation, whatever it may be, this particular provision will be there. How is it being omitted in the original Act? There is no clarification and nothing is being mentioned in the Statement of Reasons and Objects also. Whatever be the Act, in order to make the provisions of the Act operative, this provision is there. I am sorry.

The proposal of amendment is for implementing the terms and conditions as per the international conventions if it is squarely applicable for this alone. Otherwise, it will be applicable for the entire Act, for the Carriage Act of 1972 in total. I am only seeking the clarification from the hon. Minister regarding the rule making provision.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 2 to Clause 3 moved by Shri N.K. Premachandran to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

“That clause 3 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: I beg to move:

“That the Bill be passed.”

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That the Bill be passed.”

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): Sir, I have given notice to speak now.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes.

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY : Sir, I would thank you very much for affording me an opportunity to speak at this stage.

I would like to know whether air carriers are providing only minimal amounts of compensation to the passengers and are short-charging them for their losses and not providing compensatory amounts of requisite amounts and up to the maximum permissible levels as defined by the Act and the Government. I would also like to know about the measures to be taken or rules and regulations made and their enforcement for the protection of consumer rights and provision of adequate and /or proportional compensation for their loss. My request to the hon. Minister is to clarify this issue.

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: Basically, this amendment is on international travel. Regarding international travel, we all go according to the International Civil Aviation Organization’s guidelines. A lot of countries are signatories to that. We go according to that. Within our country, the things are different. The scales are different; everything else is different. There is a difference between international travel and a domestic travel.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

“That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The motion is adopted and the Bill is passed.

17.48 hours**BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS BILL, 2015**

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We are now taking up Item No.8 – The Bureau of Indian Standards Bill, 2015.

Hon. Minister.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Sir, it can be taken up tomorrow.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will discuss it up to Six of the Clock now. Let him say whatever he wants to.

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपकी अनुमति से भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो विधेयक, 2015 पर विचार करने का प्रस्ताव करता हूँ। वर्ष 1986 का बीआईएस एक्ट पास किया गया था, उसे निरस्त करके नया बिल लाया जा रहा है। आप जानते हैं कि भारत विकास की गति में तेज गति से आगे बढ़ रहा है और हमारे यहां इंटरनेशनल स्टैंडर्ड्स जरूरी हो गए हैं। वर्ष 1947 में इंडियन स्टैंडर्ड इंस्टीट्यूट बनाया गया था, जो इंडस्ट्रीयल प्रोडक्ट्स के लिए मानक तय करता था। यह एक रजिस्टर्ड सोसायटी थी। इसके बाद वर्ष 1952 में आईएसआई एक्ट बना और जब पंचवर्षीय योजना बनाई गई, उसके बाद इंडस्ट्रीयल ग्रोथ को क्वालिटी के लिए या गुणवत्तापूर्ण उत्पाद बनाने के लिए स्टैंडर्ड बनाने की आवश्यकता पड़ी। उसके बाद वर्ष 1986 में बीआईएस एक्ट पास किया गया। जो एक्ट वर्ष 1987 में लागू हुआ, उसका मुख्य काम स्टैंडर्ड बनाना था, मार्किंग करना और सर्टीफिकेशन था। वर्ष 1986 के बाद से देखेंगे तो तीस साल का समय बीत चुका है। यह एक्ट बहुत पुराना हो गया और इकोनोमी का सिनेरियो बदल गया। बीआईएस को कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। नए-नए प्रोडक्ट्स आ गए हैं। मार्केट में नई किस्म की सर्विसिज की आवश्यकता पड़ रही है और इसके कारण यह महसूस किया गया कि इसमें संशोधन किया जाए। यूपीए-II की सरकार ने 3/12 को बीआईएस संशोधन विधेयक लोकसभा में पेश किया और बाद में उसे स्टैंडिंग कमेटी में भेजा गया और समिति की रिपोर्ट भी आ गई लेकिन पन्द्रहवीं लोकसभा भंग हो गई और उसके बाद हम लोगों ने बहुत कंसल्टेशन किया और यह महसूस किया कि अगर इतने संशोधन हो जाएंगे तो यह एक्ट किसी काम का नहीं रहेगा इसीलिए यह निर्णय लिया कि पुराने बिल की जगह नया बिल लाया जाए और यह बीआईएस बिल, 2015 लाया गया।

इस बिल को लाने से पहले हम लोगों ने एक दर्जन बार अलग-अलग तरीके से इस बारे में सोचा। इस बिल को वेवसाइट पर रखा, स्टैक होल्डर्स के साथ विचार-विमर्श किया, पीएमओ के साथ बात की और लीगल विभाग से भी बात की। इन सभी से बात करके अंत में यह बिल लाया गया है। इसमें पहली बात यह है कि बीआईएस को राष्ट्रीय मानक निकाय घोषित किया जाए। दूसरी बात यह है कि जो अन्य सैक्टर्स हैं, जो अलग-अलग सैक्टर्स में अपने मानक बनाते हैं, स्टैंडर्ड्स बनाते हैं, उन्हें बायपास न किया जाए, बल्कि उन मानकों को भी बनाने का उन्हें अधिकार रहे और हम उसे राष्ट्रीय मानक का दर्जा दें। अभी हम मान लें कि अगर हम विदेश में जाते हैं, वहां " बाटा " की दुकान है। जूता सभी जगह बनता है लेकिन जब " बाटा " का मार्क पड़ जाता है तो लोग सोचते हैं कि स्टैंडर्ड है। उसी तरह से हम मानते हैं कि बाहर एफएसएसआई है, हर तरह के आथोरिटीज हैं लेकिन बाहर जो प्रतिनिधित्व करता है वह आईएसआई करता है। इसी कारण यह सोचा गया कि अलग-अलग वह अपना संगठन बना दें लेकिन उन्हें राष्ट्रीय मानक देने का काम बीआईएस करेगा और इससे अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार में सहायता मिलेगी।

यदि राष्ट्रीय मानक अनिवार्य किया जाता है तो उससे यह होगा कि बाहर से जो घटिया सामान आता है, उस पर रोक लगाने में सहायता मिलेगी। पहले जो बीआईएस एक्ट था, उसका काम केवल सामान और प्रोसेस की गुणवत्ता के लिए मानक तय करना था। फिर उसके अनुसार मार्किंग करता था तथा टेस्ट भी करता था कि यह गुणवत्ता के अनुसार है या नहीं है। अब जो पद्धति है, उसमें सिस्टम और सर्विसेज को भी जोड़ा गया है। जैसे मान लेते हैं कि ऑफिस का मैनेजमेंट सिस्टम है कि ऑफिस कैसे चलेगा, हम कितने दिनों में जवाब देंगे, जिस तरह से सिस्टम बना हुआ है। उसी तरीके से जो एजुकेशनस हैं या हॉस्पिटल्स हैं। इन सारी चीजों को जोड़ा गया है। अब आर्टिकल्स के साथ-साथ गुड्स, प्रोसेस, सिस्टम्स, सर्विसेज सभी बीआईएस में आ गये हैं। केन्द्र सरकार को अधिकार होगा कि बीआईएस के अलावा भी दूसरे टेस्टिंग और लाइसेंस का काम सौंप सकती है। मतलब बीआईएस के पास इतना काम बढ़ गया है और बढ़ जाएगा कि स्वाभाविक है कि यदि उस स्टैंडर्ड का दूसरा भी कोई करता है, तो हम उस प्रक्रिया को सरल कर रहे हैं। यदि उसमें दूसरा भी है, तो उसे भी टेस्टिंग और लाइसेंस का काम बीआईएस सौंप सकती है। उसके बाद शिड्यूल इंडस्ट्री के द्वारा बनाया गया जो सामान था, वही अनिवार्य मार्किंग में आता था। अब केन्द्र सरकार को यह शक्ति दी गयी है कि वह नेशनल इंस्ट्रुमेंट में, नेशनल सिक्युरिटी के दृष्टिकोण से, जन-सुरक्षा के दृष्टिकोण से, स्वास्थ्य के दृष्टिकोण से, पर्यावरण के दृष्टिकोण से और अनुचित व्यापार को अनिवार्य कर सकता है। इन सब के कारण बीआईएस पर काम का बोझ पड़ेगा और हम इतने वैज्ञानिक नहीं ला सकते हैं, हम चाहते भी नहीं हैं कि कोई इंस्पेक्टर राज फिर से कायम हो। इसलिए सर्टिफिकेशन के लिए सेल्फ-डिक्लेरेशन कर सकेंगे, मतलब जो प्राइवेट प्रोड्यूसर्स हैं, वे चाहें तो कह दें कि हमारा सामान

बीआईएस के स्टैंडर्ड्स के अनुरूप है और हम इसको डिक्लेयर करते हैं। उसको भी हम मान्यता देंगे, लेकिन जब शिकायत आएगी तो हम उस शिकायत की जांच करेंगे। यह नहीं है कि हमारा इंस्पेक्टर...(व्यवधान) आप जब बोलेंगे, तब सजेशन दीजिएगा। हमारा सिर्फ यही कहना है कि अभी जो सर्टिफिकेट बीआईएस देता है, उसके पास इतना मैनपावर नहीं है। आप जाकर देखेंगे कि सर्विसेज के स्टैंडर्ड की संख्या चाइना में पांच हजार है, हमारे यहां केवल 87 है, जबकि डब्ल्यूटीओ में 800 के करीब सर्विसेज के स्टैंडर्ड बना लिए हैं।

हमारा मेन मकसद है कि प्रक्रिया को सरल करें। प्राइवेट सेक्टर के जो लोग हैं...(व्यवधान) जो अलग-अलग संस्थाएं एवं अलग-अलग विभाग हैं, वहां उन्होंने अपने जो स्टैंडर्ड्स तय किए हैं, हम उनको एडॉप्ट करते हैं। दूसरे, अगर प्राइवेट कंपनी वाला भी कहता है कि हमने आपके स्टैंडर्ड्स के मुताबिक सामान बनाया है, तो हम उनको भी एडॉप्ट करेंगे क्योंकि यदि हम यह कह देंगे कि हम इसे जांच करके एडॉप्ट करेंगे, तो हमें फिर डर है कि जो इंस्पेक्टर हैं, जो जांच करने वाले लोग हैं, वे उसमें इतनी दखलंदाजी करना शुरू कर देंगे कि वह काम आगे बढ़ना मुश्किल हो जाएगा। इसलिए जब ओपन मार्केट है, हम मार्केट पर छोड़ देते हैं, जब वह मामला मार्केट में आएगा और हमें कोई शिकायत करेगा, तब उस परिस्थिति में हम जांच करने का काम करेंगे। इसी तरीके से, हमने प्रक्रिया को सरल किया है, लेकिन दण्ड को कठोर किया है। इसमें हमने कहा है कि यह पहले संज्ञेय अपराध नहीं था, काग्नीजेबल ऑफेंस नहीं था, लेकिन अब अनिवार्य प्रोडक्ट्स को संज्ञेय अपराध अर्थात काग्नीजेबल ऑफेंस के अंदर आएंगे। दूसरे, पहले 50,000 रुपये जुर्माना था, अब इसे बढ़ाकर कम से कम एक लाख रुपये जुर्माना किया गया है और अनिवार्य प्रोडक्ट्स के मामले में दो लाख रुपये और एक साल भर की बिक्री के दस गुना तक जुर्माना होगा। पहले एक साल की जेल का प्रावधान था, अब इसे बढ़ाकर हमने दो साल कर दिया है। यह भी कहा गया है कि यदि सामान पर चिन्ह लगा हो, किन्तु उसकी क्वालिटी घटिया हो, वैसे सामान को वापस किया जा सकता है। यदि उपभोक्ता को नुकसान पहुंचा हो तो नुकसान की क्षतिपूर्ति का अधिकार भी होगा। इसके साथ ही हमने यह भी कहा है कि छोटी-मोटी चीजों, मुकदमेबाजी आदि को लिंगर करने के बजाय यदि आपस में फाइन वगैरह करके मामले का निपटारा कर दिया जाए तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा।...(व्यवधान) हॉलमार्किंग के संबंध में हमने कहा है कि केन्द्र सरकार को शक्ति दी गयी है कि वह सोना, चांदी आदि के लिए हॉलमार्किंग को अनिवार्य कर सकती है। अभी हमने कीमती धातुओं के लिए प्रावधान किया है कि हॉलमार्किंग होनी चाहिए। आप जानते हैं कि सोना, चांदी वगैरह नौ कैरेट से लेकर 22 कैरेट तक होती हैं, गरीब जब खरीदने के लिए जाता है तो उसे पता ही नहीं चलता है कि नौ कैरेट का सामान खरीद रहे हैं या

22 कैरेट वाला सामान खरीद रहे हैं। उससे पैसा 22 कैरेट वाला लिया जाता है और सामान उसे नौ कैरेट का दिया जाता है। हमने कहा है कि प्रत्येक ज्वेलरी की दुकान में ये सारी चीजें रहनी चाहिए।

18.00 hours

लेकिन हॉलमार्किंग को अभी तक ज्वेलर्स के लिए कम्पलसरी नहीं किया गया है। हमने कहा है कि सरकार चाहे तो उसकी मेंडेटरी कर सकता है। इससे सर्विसिज का सेक्टर छोटा था, इसमें शामिल होगा। यह मोटा-मोटी बातें हैं। हमारे पास और भी आंकड़े हैं, लेकिन मैं उनमें नहीं जाऊंगा, जब सब लोगों के सजेशनस और अमेंडमेंट्स आएंगे, तब उन पर हम बोलेंगे। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं आग्रह करता हूँ कि इस बिल पर विचार किया जाए।

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That the Bill to provide for the establishment of a national standards body for the harmonious development of the activities of standardisation, conformity assessment and quality assurance of goods, articles, processes, systems and services, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it is six o'clock now. If the House agrees, we can extend the time by one hour for 'Zero Hour'. I think the House will agree.

Now, we are taking up 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): Nobody said 'Yes'.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That means, it is accepted. That means, silence is all approval.

श्री केशव प्रसाद मौर्य (फूलपुर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश में बेरोजगारी की गम्भीर समस्या है और जो लोग इस समस्या को झेल रहे हैं, उसकी ओर सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करवाना चाहता हूँ।

महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने पिछले दिनों मनमाने निर्णय लिए हैं। पहला मनमाना निर्णय लोकसेवा आयोग का अध्यक्ष ऐसे व्यक्ति को बनाया गया है जिस पर भ्रष्टचार और आपराधिक मुकद्दमे थे। मैंने पहले भी इस मामले को सदन में उठाया था, लेकिन हमारी बात को नहीं माना गया। हाई कोर्ट ने भी उस अध्यक्ष को बर्खास्त कर दिया। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने भी उसको नकार दिया। उस व्यक्ति ने 40 हजार भर्तियां की थीं। जिस व्यक्ति को नकार दिया गया था, उसके द्वारा की गयी भर्तियां कैसे सही हो सकती हैं?

महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने 1 लाख 75 हजार शिक्षा मित्रों को भर्ती करके शिक्षक बना दिया और जिन्होंने शिक्षक पात्रता परीक्षा पास की थी...(व्यवधान)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is a State subject; it cannot be raised here.

... (Interruptions)

श्री केशव प्रसाद मौर्य: महोदय, मैं इस सदन में शून्य काल में अपने क्षेत्र का मामला उठा सकता हूँ...(व्यवधान)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is a State subject. Let your members raise it in the Assembly there.

... (Interruptions)

श्री केशव प्रसाद मौर्य: उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश आधा देश है...(व्यवधान)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot allow it.

... (Interruptions)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shrimati Ranjeet Ranjan.

... (Interruptions)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: A State subject cannot be raised here.

... (Interruptions)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is a State subject. Do not raise it here. It cannot be taken up here. If you raise this subject here, it will create a bad precedent.

... (Interruptions)

श्रीमती रंजीत रंजन (सुपौल) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, धान की विलम्बता के बारे में सदन में कहना चाहती हूँ...(व्यवधान) अभी तक धान की खरीदारी बिहार में नहीं हुई है। पिछले कई सालों से जब भी धान की खरीदारी का वक्त आता है...(व्यवधान)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Some other matter you can raise.

... (Interruptions)

श्रीमती रंजीत रंजन: हर बार किसानों का धान पड़ा रह जाता है और वक्त पर खरीदारी न होने के कारण किसानों की हालत दिनों-दिन दयनीय होती चली जा रही है...(व्यवधान) इस बार जो सरकार पक्स के माध्यम से धान को खरीदती है...(व्यवधान) लेकिन अभी तक बिहार में किसानों का धान नहीं खरीदा गया है। एमएसपी 1410 रुपये तय की गयी है। पिछली बार यह 1360 रुपये थी, उस पर 300 रुपये का बोनस बिहार सरकार ने दिया था...(व्यवधान) इस बार 1410 रुपये एमएसपी तय हुआ है और उस पर 300 रुपये बोनस प्रदेश सरकार ने अभी ओरली बोला है...(व्यवधान) लेकिन सबसे बड़ी बात है कि हमेशा बिचोलियों और दलाल के कारण वक्त पर किसानों का धान नहीं खरीदा जाता है। इस बार मौसम की मार के कारण वहां सुखाड़ है। तकरीबन सभी बिहार के डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में सुखाड़ है। धान न के बराबर हुआ है। उसके बावजूद अभी तक धान का उठाव नहीं हुआ है। एक तो सुखाड़ के कारण वहां किसानों की दयनीय स्थिति है और दूसरा कुल 1410 रुपये मात्र मूल्य निर्धारित किया गया है, कहा गया है कि 'ए' ग्रेड को हम 1450 रुपये देंगे। 'ए' ग्रेड का कभी भी किसान का दाम गवर्नमेंट नहीं लेती है, क्योंकि बिचौलिये और दलाल उसे 'ए' ग्रेड का बनने ही नहीं देते हैं। 80 प्रतिशत किसान 600, 800 और 900 रुपये में बिचौलियों द्वारा मार्केट में जाकर अपना धान बेचते हैं और वही जो दस परसेंट व्यवसायी वर्ग है, उन्हीं से गवर्नमेंट उनका धान लेती है, फिर किसानों को किस तरह से फायदा होगा।

मैं सरकार से कहना चाहूंगी कि बिचौलियों को किसी तरह से कम करके दलाली को खत्म करके सही वक्त पर सरकार किसानों का धान उठा सके और 1410 रुपये नहीं, बल्कि सरकार को इस बार सुखाड़ के कारण किसानों की जो दयनीय हालत हुई है, उनका एमएसपी कम से कम 1800 रुपये होना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि इस बार बिहार में जो सुखाड़ है, एक विशेष पैकेज किसानों के लिए बिहार को भारत सरकार की तरफ से देना चाहिए। धन्यवाद।

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Member, you can raise any other matter but not the State matters.

... (Interruptions)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do not raise any State matters. You can raise any other matter. You will be allowed.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It cannot be taken up in this House. You can raise any matter related to your constituency. I am permitting it.

... (*Interruptions*)

श्री केशव प्रसाद मौर्य: माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, 1 लाख 75 हजार शिक्षामित्र, दो लाख शिक्षक पात्रता पास किये हुए बेरोजगार नौजवान और एक लाख से अधिक शारीरिक शिक्षा के लिए जो नौजवान डिग्रियां लेकर घूम रहे हैं, आज वास्तव में वे सड़क पर हैं। मैं भारत सरकार से निवेदन करता हूँ कि जो 1 लाख 75 हजार शिक्षकों को उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार जिसके लिए 'सैयां भये कोतवाल तो डर काहे का' मनमानी करके जो शिक्षामित्र थे,...(व्यवधान) महोदय, मैं कंकलूड कर रहा हूँ, मुझे डिस्टर्ब न करें, यह बहुत बड़ा विषय है, मैं केन्द्र सरकार के पास ही इसे लेकर आ रहा हूँ, आप मुझे कम्पलीट करने दीजिए। 1 लाख 75 जो हमारे शिक्षामित्र थे, उन्हें शिक्षक बनाने का अधिकार नहीं था, ...* दो लाख की संख्या में शिक्षक पात्रता परीक्षा पास किये हुए नौजवान, जिन्हें शिक्षक बनाना चाहिए था ... *

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is all right. Leave the matter now. That is all.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. Virendra Kumar – not present.

... (*Interruptions*)

श्री केशव प्रसाद मौर्य: 46 हजार की संख्या में लोक सेवा आयोग में भर्ती किया गया। मैं केन्द्र सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि इसकी सीबीआई से जांच कराई जाए।...(व्यवधान)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

... (*Interruptions*)... **

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The allegations would not go on record.

Shri Satish Chandra Dubey.

... (*Interruptions*)

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

** Not recorded.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Ram Charitra Nishad, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Sharad Tripathi, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Shri Vinod Kumar Sonkar are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya.

श्री सतीश चंद्र दुबे (वाल्मीकि नगर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज बिहार की जो स्थिति है, वहां का किसान एक तरफ सुखाड़ की मार झेल रहा है और दूसरा जिस किसान के पास थोड़ा बहुत धान भी हुआ है, उसके उचित दाम देकर खरीददारी भी नहीं की जा रही है। किसान बिचौलियों के माध्यम से धान बेचने के लिए मजबूर हैं।

दूसरी बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि गन्ना हमारे यहां की मुख्य फसल है। गेहूं बोना है, किसान पटवन करके पम्पिंग सैट के माध्यम से आज गेहूं बो रहा है, गन्ने की बुआई कर रहा है और एक फसल काटने के लिए तीन-तीन बार पटवन करना पड़ता है, लेकिन उसे उसका उचित मूल्य नहीं मिलता है। चाहे वह गन्ना हो, चाहे वह गेहूं हो या धान हो।

मैं आपसे आग्रह करता हूँ कि बिहार में सुखाड़ घोषित किया जाए और किसान के गन्ने का दाम बढ़ाया जाए और उन्हें उचित मूल्य देकर किसानों को मजबूत किया जाए। आज किसान दिन-प्रतिदिन मजबूर और लाचार होता जा रहा है। मैं इस पर आपका संरक्षण चाहता हूँ, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज किसान मजबूरी और लाचारी की स्थिति में बेकरार पड़ा हुआ है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि केन्द्र सरकार मेरी मांगों पर ध्यान दे। धन्यवाद।

SHRI A. ANWHAR RAAJHAA (RAMANATHAPURAM): Thank you, hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. The whole of our country is patient and tolerant in waiting to watch, how this Union Government would like to remember Dr. Kalam. A great inspiration to most of our Indian youth today is Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam. As people's President, he was loved by masses especially students and children. He made youth to believe in themselves. He gave them great hope that we all together can make India a super power. The entire nation was in grief at his sudden demise that was mourned all over the country. Many people desire a befitting memorial Museum in the national capital for Dr. Kalam. With that, our great culture of respecting noble national souls would have been demonstrated. But in an uncultured manner, all of Dr. Kalam's humble belongings were bundled

out from Delhi. The whole country is ashamed of these uncivilised activities. So, I raise this issue now.

At this juncture, I would like to point out that our respected leader, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu was the first one to institute prestigious awards, prizes and schemes in honour of Dr. Kalam.

The Government of Tamil Nadu gave away one and a half acres of land for Dr. Kalam Memorial to be raised in Peikarumbu in Rameswaram Taluk.

Rs. 5 lakh Annual Award and eight gram Gold Medal to meritorious Defence scientists with citation are being given.

Every year, Dr. Kalam's birthday will be observed as 'Youth Awakening Day'.

We, the people of India, need to perpetuate the memory of that great visionary, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. He dedicated his entire life in the service of the nation. So, the place where he resided till his last, No. 10 Rajaji Marg, New Delhi must be made a National Memorial Museum. Even the meek but smart Delhi Government is about to set up a National Knowledge Centre for Dr. Kalam. Whereas the mighty BJP Government is not making any praiseworthy effort in the National Capital for Dr. Abdul Kalam.

I would urge upon the Union Government to take immediate and urgent steps to fulfil the wishes of crores of youths of the country.

Thank you.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Sir, I would like to associate with the matter raised by the hon. Member. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Sir, it is an important matter. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Whoever wants to associate with Shri Anwar Raajhaa can send slips to the Table.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu, Shri Dushyant Chautala, Shri P.K. Biju, Shri Ajay Misra Teni, Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan and Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri A. Anwhar Raajhaa.

Shri P. Srinivasa Reddy – not present.

Now, Shri Nishikant Dubey.

श्री निशिकान्त दुबे (गोड्डा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जिस लड़ाई को एआईडीएमके और भारतीय जनता पार्टी ने मिल कर लड़ा और जिसके कारण मुझे लगता है कि एनडीए का रूल आने में एक बड़ा रोल था, वह टू-जी था। आज सारे अखबारों में पूर्व वित्त मंत्री का बयान छपा है। बयान यह है कि विंडिक्टिव हो कर सरकार उनको तंग करने का प्रयास कर रही है। उसी सरकार के एक मंत्री, जो पूर्व टेलिकॉम मंत्री थे, उनको सीबीआई सुप्रीम कोर्ट के आदेश पर लगातार जांच कर रही है। उन्होंने आरोप लगाया है कि ई.डी. का एक अफसर उनके पीछे पड़ा हुआ है और जिसके पीछे पूरी सरकार चल रही है। लेकिन जब अरुण शौरी साहब को, जसवंत सिंह साहब को, सी.पी. ठाकुर साहब को यही यूपीए सरकार लगातार बुला रही थी, किसी न किसी कारण से तो कभी एनडीए ने यह नहीं कहा कि हम विंडिक्टिव हैं। मैं कुछ तथ्य आपके सामने लाना चाहता हूँ। जो रेड हुई है कि 23.03.2006 को एफआईपीबी का क्लियरेंस हुआ वह 2-जी में एयरसेल मैक्सिस के लिए हुआ। एयरसेल मैक्सिस का जो क्लियरेंस हुआ, वह यह हुआ कि उस वक्त यह था कि 74% ही एफआईपीबी में क्लियरेंस आ सकता है। 26% आपको हिंदुस्तान की किसी कंपनी को देना पड़ेगा। सिंधिया सिक्युरिटीज़, जिसको कि 26% यह इक्विटी दी गई, सिंधिया सिक्युरिटीज़ ने लिख कर एफआईपीबी में दिया कि हमारे पास पैसा नहीं है और वह सॉवरन गारंटी के तौर पर उसी एयरसेल-मैक्सिस ने, क्योंकि मैक्सिस ने कहा कि यदि पूरा एयरसेल हम खरीदेंगे तो हम पूरा का पूरा सौ पर्सेंट खरीदेंगे, न कि 74% खरीदेंगे। उसको सॉवरन गारंटी दिया। 23.03.2006 को एफआईपीबी यह क्लियरेंस देती है और 29.03.2006 को 26 लाख रूपया एटवांटेज स्ट्रेटिजिक में दिया जाता है। एडवान्टेज स्ट्रेटिजिक वह है, जिसके ऊपर कल रेड पड़ा है। एडवान्टेज स्ट्रेटिजिक एक ऐसा है, जो तीन कम्पनियाँ, जो पूर्व वित्त मंत्री के पुत्र की थीं, हेलिडेन मार्केटिंग, चेस हेल्थ केयर और चेस मैनेजमेंट, ये तीन कम्पनियाँ ऐसी थीं, जिनसे वर्ष 2006 से लेकर वर्ष 2011 तक लगातार उस कम्पनी में कभी 50 हजार, कभी एक लाख, कभी दो लाख आता रहा और जाता रहा। इतना ही नहीं हुआ वर्ष 2011 में वह कम्पनी अचानक पूर्व... * मंत्री के सुपुत्र के

* Not recorded.

हाथों चली जाती है, पूरा मालिकाना हक उनके हाथ में चला जाता है।... (व्यवधान) पूर्व... *मंत्री के बेटे के हाथ में चला जाता है। उस कम्पनी पर आई.टी. ने कहा है, यह सबसे महत्वपूर्ण है, आई.टी. ने कहा है कि 74 करोड़ रुपया इवैल्यूएशन था।

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Sir, this is not fair... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Venugopal, I will call you.

... (*Interruptions*)

श्री निशिकान्त दुबे: ई.डी. कह रहा है कि 25 करोड़ रुपया इवैल्यूएशन है और 15 लाख रुपए में यह कम्पनी खरीद ली जाती है।... (व्यवधान) ये के.सी.वेणुगोपाल साहब इसीलिए बोल रहे हैं कि आज इन्हीं के ऊपर आरोप है 35 लाख रुपया लेने का।... (व्यवधान) सोलर में ... (व्यवधान) क्योंकि घूस देना और घूस लेना दोनो अपराध हैं।... (व्यवधान) एक उन्हीं के ऊपर आया है।... (व्यवधान) मेरा आपसे आग्रह है कि जिस तरह की सिचुएशन आई है, क्योंकि एफआईपीबी बोर्ड को उस वक्त 600 करोड़ रुपया से ज्यादा क्लियर करने का अधिकार नहीं था।... (व्यवधान) सीबीआई ने 29-08-2014 को जो एफआईआर, चार्जशीट फाइल की है, उसमें कहा है कि एफआईपीबी का क्लियरेंस गलत है।... (व्यवधान) मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से आग्रह है कि इम्मिडिएट सीबीआई को इंस्ट्रक्शन देकर दूध का दूध और पानी का पानी करें और पूर्व वित्त मंत्री को इम्मिडिएट जेल भेजें। जय हिन्द, जय भारत।... (व्यवधान)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Shri Bhairon Prasad Misra, Shri Vinod Kumar Sonkar, Shri Ram Charitra Nishad, Shri Shivkumar Udasi, Shri Sunil Kumar Singh, Kumari Shobha Karandlaje, Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Nishikant Dubey

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. K.C. Venugopal.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL : Sir, while using an opportunity in the 'Zero Hour', the hon. Member has made serious allegations. He can make an allegation by giving it in writing. Hon. Chidambaramji and his son are not in this House. Those who are not in the House are not in a position to reply or defend themselves on

allegations made against them... (*Interruptions*) Even though any allegation he can make but it should be made as per the rules. But here he has made the allegation during 'Zero Hour' without any prior notice. Is it allowable, Sir? So, those allegations should be expunged... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, you have already ruled it in case of a Member from UP, while he was making some allegations... (*Interruptions*) You have already given a ruling in the earlier case... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, please take your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am also endorsing him... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (HAMIRPUR): We are not making any allegation, but we are demanding a CBI inquiry... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If at all, he has used any name, that name cannot be there. But merely saying 'a former Minister', means anybody may be a former Minister. That cannot be taken up for removal. If at all, he has mentioned any particular name, that name can be removed. But if he has not mentioned a name, how can that be removed?

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: He has made allegations... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena to speak.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, you have already ruled it in the previous case when a Member from UP was speaking.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will go through that. If at all there is any ruling, that can be seen.

SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA (BALASORE): Thank you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir... (*Interruptions*) Can I request to bring the House in order, Sir?... (*Interruptions*) I need to be audible... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Venugopal, I will go through that ruling. If at all that kind of a ruling has been given, I would go through that and do it accordingly.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: How can there be two types of rulings on a similar thing?... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not so.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If at all I have given any ruling, as you are saying, I will go through that.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Sir, while narrating about the raid that happened yesterday or a day before, it came out from my friend, Nishikantji's mouth about Venugopal ji, about an allegation, which has been published. He should be allowed to explain that. Otherwise, that may be deleted. This is my request. You can consider it.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY :Yes, Sir. He mentioned one report from *The Indian Express*... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has not mentioned any report.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: He has mentioned a report... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will go through the records... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Shall we take any allegation?... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not an allegation.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : He has mentioned about Chidambaram's son.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, he has not mentioned about Chidambaram's son. If at all if he has mentioned that name, that name will be removed. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: This is very painful in my life actually to explain my stand on such an allegation made by hon. Member. He is quoting a criminal who is sentenced to life term imprisonment for murdering his wife - life term imprisonment for murdering his own wife. He quoted the word of that prisoner.

First of all, I wish to tell you that I have never seen. I am telling this thing to this august House. You believe or not, I have never seen this person in my life till today who has raised this allegation against me. During the Parliament elections or so, opposition parties made CBI allegations against me. But people elected me and because of the majority, I am here.

Sir, please note that he has made similar allegations against so many persons. All those allegations are totally baseless and illogical. There is no logic in his deposition that I got any kind of favour. What he alleged is that I gave some renewable energy concession and I promised him to give some renewable energy concession. I had never held the portfolio of Renewable Energy. Renewable Energy portfolio was with Farooq Abdullah Ji. I was only with Power Ministry. Anyway, he has submitted his deposition to the Judicial Inquiry Commission. I want all politicians to be beyond suspicion. I started my public career from 13 years onward as a student leader. I was the President of Kerala Students' Union. I was the President of Kerala Youth Congress. I was three time MLA and one time Kerala Minister. Now, I am here. Therefore, every politician and the people's representative should be beyond suspicion. Therefore, Judicial Commission is there. Judicial Commission can inquire.

Finally, I swear that if he can timely establish any single bit of truth about any of these allegations through a proper inquiry, I will not hold this position of a public servant and firmly I wish to inform that I will not continue this career also Mr. Nishikant.

SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA : Thank you so much Sir for giving me an opportunity to bring forward a very important issue before this august House. ...
(Interruptions) Sir, I come from Balasore district in the coastal belt of Odisha

which is one of the most literate districts in the Eastern India. But the unfortunate part is that our economic conditions are not good at all. Our per capita income is just Rs. 19,000 whereas our State average is Rs. 28,000.

Sir, in 2006, nine years back, the Government of Odisha signed an MOU to set up all-weather port in Baliapal in my district. After that, several milestones have been achieved including rail-road clearance, the environmental clearance, NOC from DRDO but the pity is that till today, not a single inch of physical work has started. Now, the Government of India has started the Sagarmala project with 70,000 crore of rupees investment. My submission to the Government of India through you is that kindly do include the Baliapal port in Balasore district of Odisha and declare it as a Coastal Economic Zone and make our district and my constituency prosper. Thank you so much.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Thank you Sir. Firstly, I must thank you for allowing Mr. Venugopal to make his reply. If we make this habit of shouting allegations against other Members in the House without notice, you should not allow. ...
(Interruptions)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You tell your thing.

... (Interruptions)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: It is a good thing that you gave him a chance to reply. Otherwise, so many allegations can be made against so many people which I do not want to do.

Sir, there has been a tremendous rise in the price of pulses over the last one year affecting millions of common people for whom pulses are the major source of vegetable protein. Price of *arhar dal* has crossed Rs.200 per kilogram and is clearly beyond the capacity of the common people to buy pulses at this price. Compared to one year ago, prices of groundnut, *toor dal*, *urad dal*, *moong dal*, and *masoor dal* have risen by 53 per cent, 99 per cent, 86 per cent, 14.45 per cent and 26.77 per cent recently. So you can see that the highest rise is in the price of *toor*

dal. Now again compared to six months ago, they have risen by 21.16 per cent, 61.87 per cent, 51.16 per cent, 6.16 per cent and 15.38 per cent respectively.

Sir, the targeted production for pulses this year was 20.05 million tonnes. The actual production in 2014-15 was 17.2 million tonnes. But there is a huge shortfall as demand has risen from 22.68 million metric tonnes to 23.62 million metric tonnes. So, there is a shortage of about 5-6 million metric tonnes of pulses.

Imports this year have not happened. It was only 1.9 million metric tonnes up to August. Now even after that, it is obvious that some businessmen have hoarded pulses in a big way. There have been some raids throughout the country. As compared to a demand of 22 million metric tonnes, the total quantity seized in raids throughout the country was only 1,33,000 metric tonnes. The Government needs to immediately step up raids and de-hoarding of hidden stocks of pulses to save the common man. They must take steps to import pulses to alleviate the sufferings of the common man who is not able to consume *dal*. There are allegations that some of these traders are getting protection from the ruling party.

I urge an immediate action in this matter and inquiry into why prices of pulses have risen to such skyrocketing levels. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri P.K. Biju and Dr. A. Sampath are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Prof. Saugata Roy.

श्री लल्लू सिंह (फ़ैज़ाबाद) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार के संज्ञान में लाना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश में लगातार कानून-व्यवस्था बिगड़ रही है और गुण्डागर्दी, लूटपाट, कर्तव्यनिष्ठ अधिकारियों की हत्याएं हो रही हैं। लगातार हमारे क्षेत्र में भी अभी 20-25 दिन के अन्दर 5-7 घटनाएं ऐसी हुई हैं कि उन्हें हम आपके माध्यम से सरकार के संज्ञान में लाना चाहते हैं।

11 नवम्बर की रात अयोध्या कोतवाली में आशापुर मजरे में बेलदारकेपुरवे में होमगार्ड के एक जवान को, उसके पूरे परिवार को कुछ लोगों ने बांधकर के मारा। उसी के बगल में शहनवा एक गांव है, दीनानाथ सिंह, जो ईट भट्टे के कर्मचारी थे, उनके परिवार को भी मारा, महिलाओं को मारा, पूरे परिवार को मारा। उसमें 11 लोग जख्मी हुए हैं। उसी प्रकार से 16 तारीख पटरंगा थाना क्षेत्र में पटरंगा मंडी में

सर्पाफा के एक प्रतिष्ठित व्यापारी, जिनके यहां सुरक्षा व्यवस्था भी थी, उनके यहां उन सुरक्षा कर्मियों को बांध करके उस दुकान के सोने-चाँदी को लूटने का काम हुआ। वहां लगभग दस लाख रुपए की लूट हुई।

17 तारीख को पटरंगा थाना क्षेत्र में ही बारह बजे दिन में बाइक सेल्समैन अनूप कुमार जायसवाल से दो लाख से ज्यादा रुपए लूट लिए गए। 17 तारीख को ही कैलाश कौशल, जो मवई में सर्पाफा के दुकानदार थे।

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is this? Do not raise State subjects. State subjects cannot be taken up during 'Zero Hour'.

... (Interruptions)

श्री लल्लू सिंह: महोदय, हम इस संबंध में केन्द्र सरकार से मांग कर रहे हैं।

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, you cannot raise these issues.

... (Interruptions)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya, Shri Sharad Tripathi, Shri Ram Charitra Nishad, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Lallu Singh.

श्री दुष्यंत चौटाला (हिसार) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हरियाणा प्रदेश में धान की जो खरीद हुई है, उसके मामले को उठाने में आज आपके बीच आया हूं।... (व्यवधान) इस वर्ष हरियाणा प्रदेश में 42 लाख मीट्रिक टन की खरीद हुई। केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा 1400-1450 रुपए धान का एम.एस.पी. सेट किया गया।... (व्यवधान) हरियाणा प्रदेश के अंदर धान के अंदर नमी दिखाते हुए किसानों से 100-200 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल कम के भाव में धान उठाए गए।... (व्यवधान) प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा धान खरीदी तो गयी, लेकिन अगर किसानों से 100 रुपए कम दाम में यह धान खरीदी गयी, तो इसके अंदर लगभग 10,000 करोड़ रुपए का घोटाला हुआ है, जिसके अंदर कई अधिकारी, कर्मचारी व राजनेता मिले हुए हैं।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से केन्द्र की सरकार से यह मांग करता हूं कि जहां धान की खरीद में इतनी बड़ी धांधली हुई है, वहां उस पर एक एस.आई.टी. बनाकर इस पूरे मामले की जांच करे, क्योंकि 1450 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल के धान को 1250 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल के भाव से खरीदा गया। आज वही धान 3100-3200 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल के हिसाब से एक्सपोर्ट किया जा रहा है। इस तरह व्यापारियों द्वारा किसानों की जेब से करोड़ों रुपए छीने गए हैं।

मेरी यह मांग है कि किसान को वह पैसा किसी न किसी तरह लौटाया जाए और जो दोषी हैं, उन्हें कड़ी से कड़ी सजा देने का काम सरकार करे।

श्रीमती रमा देवी (शिवहर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र अंतर्गत शिवहर जिला के अदौरी एवं पूर्वी चम्पारण जिला के खोड़ी पाकड़ के बीच बागमती नदी एवं लालबकेया नदी को जोड़ने वाला आर.सी.सी. पुल का निर्माण जनहित और किसानों के हित में अति आवश्यक है। इस पुल के निर्माण से मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र के तीनों जिले - शिवहर, सीतामढ़ी एवं पूर्वी चम्पारण - को जोड़ने के साथ-साथ बेतिया-रक्सौल एवं जनकपुर, जो नेपाल के बॉर्डर पर है, तक की दूरी काफी कम हो जाएगी तथा वहां के लोगों का आज़ादी के बाद का सपना पूरा हो सकेगा। इससे बड़ी आबादी को लाभ मिलेगा। साथ ही, पूर्वी चम्पारण एवं शिवहर जिला के किसानों का गन्ना, सड़क मार्ग द्वारा सीधा सम्पर्क होने से आसानी से सीतामढ़ी जिले के रीगा चीनी मिल आ सकेगा। इससे लगभग 30 किलो मीटर की दूरी कम हो जाएगी तथा लगभग 25,000 काश्तकार सीधे तौर पर अपना गन्ना चीनी मिल को देने लगेंगे। इससे पूर्वी चम्पारण व शिवहर जिले के निकटवर्ती गांवों का आर्थिक विकास संभव हो सकेगा तथा सरकार के राजस्व में भी वृद्धि होगी।

अतः सदन के माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध है कि जनता के व्यापक हित में अदौरी एवं खोड़ी पाकड़ के बीच आर.सी.सी. पुल निर्माण कराने हेतु समुचित कार्रवाई करने की कृपा की जाए, जिससे कि पिछड़ा हुआ यह इलाका विकास के मामले में खुशहाल हो जाए।

श्रीमती जयश्रीबेन पटेल (मेहसाणा) : आदरणीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से गुजरात के औद्योगिक क्षेत्र बटवा, वापी, एवं अंकलेश्वर में प्रदूषण के संदर्भ में नए औद्योगिक वित्त निवेश पर केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा लगाया गया जो प्रतिबंध है, उसकी तरफ सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहती हूं। वर्ष 2009 में औद्योगिक प्रदूषण के बदले हुए नए मापदंडों को रद्द करके पुराने मापदंडों को यथावत रखने की गुजरात सरकार द्वारा मांग की गयी है। हाल ही में हमारी प्रथम महिला मुख्यमंत्री श्रीमती आनंदी बेन पटेल ने भी इस मांग को दुहराया है। इसके कारण तीनों औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों को प्रतिबंध से बाहर आने की सहूलियत मिलेगी। केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड ने 2009 में देश भर में औद्योगिक प्रदूषण पर नकेल कसने के लिए सख्ती बरतते हुए प्रवाही औद्योगिक प्रदूषण में केमिकल आक्सीजन डिमांड यानी सी.ओ.डी. का पुराना मापदंड जो प्रति 500 मिलीलीटर का था, उसे 205 मिलीलीटर कर दिया था। बायोकेमिकल आक्सीजन डिमांड बी.ओ.डी. का पुराना मापदंड प्रति लीटर 100 मिलीलीटर था, उसे 50 मिलीलीटर में बदल दिया गया है तथा ऐमोनिकल नाइट्रोजन का नया मापदंड प्रति 100 मिलीलीटर का कर दिया गया है।

गुजरात सरकार की ओर से अद्यतन आंकड़ों के मुताबिक निवेदन किया गया था कि अंकलेश्वर में वर्ष 2007 से तथा वापी, वटवा में वर्ष 2010 से नए औद्योगिक ईकाई का निर्माण करने तथा वर्तमान औद्योगिक एकमों के विस्तृतीकरण पर प्रतिबंध लगाया जाए। लेकिन इसके बाद अंतिम 5 वर्षों के दरम्यान इन तीनों क्षेत्रों में कॉमन एक्युलेंट ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट के निर्माण में उसके अपग्रेडेशन में उद्योगकारों द्वारा स्वयं कदम उठाए गए थे।

जीआईडीसी गुजरात सरकार द्वारा कुल मिलाकर 8,500 करोड़ रूपए प्रदूषण को घटाने में खर्च किए गए हैं। जिसके कारण वापी में 70, अंकलेश्वर में 75 और वटवा में 50 प्रतिशत प्रदूषण घट गया है।

प्रतिबंध के कारण तीनों क्षेत्रों में 8,500 करोड़ के नए वित्त निवेश का एमओयू नहीं हो पा रहा है, जो गुजरात और देश के लिए नुकसानदायक है।

अतः मेरी सरकार से मांग है कि वर्ष 2009 के औद्योगिक प्रदूषण मापदंड को रद्द किया जाए।

डॉ. किरिट सोमैया (मुम्बई उत्तर पूर्व) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुंबई में कुर्ला पीवीआर सिनेमा में राष्ट्रगान के अवमान की जो घटना घटी है, उसके प्रति आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा। हमारे यहां जो कानून है, The Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971, it categorically states that whenever the National Anthem is sung or played, the audience shall stand in attention. दो दिन पहले उस सिनेमाघर में कुछ लोगों ने राष्ट्रगान का अवमान किया, खड़े नहीं हुए। मैं विशेष रूप से उल्लेख करना चाहूंगा कि उस समय पर जो थियेटर में बाकी दर्शक थे, उन्होंने उस परिवार के प्रति एक चिंता व्यक्त की। मैं इसके द्वारा संसद और गृह मंत्रालय से प्रार्थना करना चाहूंगा कि पूरे देश में नागरिकों में राष्ट्रगान के प्रति प्रत्येक नागरिक का जो कर्तव्य और जिम्मेदारी है, उसके प्रति जनजागृति लानी चाहिए और राष्ट्रगान के समय खड़े होकर सम्मान करना चाहिए, यह भाव पैदा करना चाहिए।
...(व्यवधान)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. Kirit Somaiya.

श्री ओम बिरला (कोटा) : महोदय, राजस्थान के कोटा शहर में वर्ष 2008 में घरेलू गैस लाइन बिछाने का निर्णय तत्कालीन सरकार ने किया था। वर्ष 2009 में पूरे पांच वर्ष में एक लाख घरों को कनेक्शन देने का लक्ष्य रखा गया था। वर्ष 2015 तक गेल इंडिया कंपनी के द्वारा केवल 190 लोगों को कनेक्शन दिए गए हैं। 75 हजार लोगों के घरेलू गैस कनेक्शन के लिए पैसा जमा करने के बाद भी सात साल तक उनके घरेलू गैस पाइप लाइन के कनेक्शन नहीं हुए।

मेरा केंद्र सरकार से निवेदन है कि मंत्रालय तुरन्त हस्तक्षेप करके गेल इंडिया कंपनी के द्वारा जो उपभोक्ताओं को ठगा गया है और जिस घरेलू गैस पाइप लाइन के लिए वे इंतजार कर रहे हैं, उसकी कार्रवाई तुरन्त करनी चाहिए। पाइप लाइन बिछाने के काम में जो मानक हैं, गेल इंडिया कंपनी ने उन मानकों को पूरा नहीं किया। इसके कारण वह पाइप लाइन बेकार चली गई। 22 करोड़ रूपए तक का नुकसान हो चुका है। मेरा निवेदन है कि 75 हजार लोग जो प्रतीक्षारत हैं, सरकार तुरन्त कार्रवाई करके एक निश्चित समयवधि के अंदर उनको गैस कनेक्शन की सुविधा उपलब्ध कराने की कार्रवाई करे।

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Om Birla.

श्रीमती संतोष अहलावत (झुंझुनु): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आजादी के 67 वर्षों के बाद भी किसी जिले में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग का न होना, वहां के लोगों के लिए कोई सुखद स्थिति नहीं होती है। हमारी सरकार ने वर्ष 2014 में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग संख्या-11 की उद्घोषणा की थी, जो फतेहपुर, मंडावा, झुंझुनु, चिड़ावा, सिंघाना, हरियाणा सीमा तक मंजूर हुआ था।

मैं आपके माध्यम से सड़क परिवहन मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूं कि वर्तमान स्थिति में कार्य प्रगति के संपादन में कहां क्या चीज है, अभी तक हमें पता नहीं है। डीपीआर भी बनी है या डीपीआर नहीं बनी है, कार्य शुरू नहीं हुआ है, दो वर्षों के बाद भी वह प्रगति कहां तक पहुंची है? धन्यवाद।

SHRI E.T. MOHAMMAD BASHEER (PONNANI): Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I am raising a very important issue that is pertaining to the NRI voting right.

It is quite unfortunate that this House agreed to it; the Government of India agreed to it; the Election Commission agreed to it; and the Supreme Court Okayed it. In spite of all these things, it is not taking place. It is a very deplorable thing. NRI voting right decision was taken by this august House, which was a revolutionary step that we had taken. But, unfortunately, that decision has not been implemented.

We know that there are 10 million Indian citizens working abroad. An average of 18,000 voters is there in 543 Parliamentary Constituencies of India. It is the Government of India's stand and I feel that it is negative thing as they should have taken some more interest in it. India being the biggest democracy in

the world, we should show a model to the entire world in this. It is quite unfortunate that the Government is not taking any interest in this issue.

Coming to the Kerala situation, Kerala is going to polls in the first half of 2016. The Kerala Government has requested the Government of India and the Election Commission to expedite action on this issue. As far as Kerala is concerned, we all know that there is high influence of NRI remittance in Kerala's very economy. We are having a special interest in it. As far as Kerala is concerned, its NRI remittance crossed Rs. One lakh crore in March 2015, which is 17 per cent hike than last year. The deposit in the public sector banks by the NRIs in Kerala is Rs. 64,700 crore and in private banks it is Rs. 14,900 crore, which may even go up to Rs. 2 Lakh crore.

As regards the NRI voting rights, even though, we have all agreed to it and this House was proud enough in giving consent to it. Why the Government of India is taking such a reluctant stand? I would appeal to the Government of India to implement this and show honesty in it. The Government of India should take immediate action on getting this thing implemented in our country, and the entire country will be proud enough to get this idea into action. Thank you, Sir.

SHRIMATI R. VANAROJA (TIRUVANNAMALAI): Thank you, Deputy-Speaker, Sir. The North East Monsoon has witnessed extremely heavy rainfall and subsequent floods resulted in heavy damages and extensive disturbance to life and properties in the entire Tamil Nadu.

The Government of Tamil Nadu under the dynamic and efficient leadership of our hon. Chief Minister, *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma*, has sought support from the National Disaster Response Fund for flood damages. The Inter-Ministerial Central team deputed by the Union Government has visited different places affected by floods in the State.

Hon. Prime Minister expressed his deep anguish and grief about the loss of lives in Tamil Nadu due to continuous rain and floods,

and was saddened to witness devastation and deaths in Tamil Nadu and expressed faith in the strength of Tamil Nadu. He had spoken to our hon. Chief Minister Amma and assured full support and cooperation from the Centre.

I urge upon the Union Government to consider this calamity as a natural calamity and release the amount of Rs. 8,480.93 crore from the National Disaster Response Fund immediately. Thank you.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN (VADAKARA): I thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise a matter of urgent public importance.

I wish to draw the attention of this House to a very important issue of 'One Rank, One Pension' relating to the Defence personnel. This issue has been hanging fire for a long time. A disquieting situation has arisen following the non-implementation of the decision taken by the previous Government. Shri A.K. Antony was the Defence Minister then, and budgetary allocation was also made in the last Budget presented by the UPA Government. The present dispensation also reiterated that the proposal has been accepted by the Government in letter and spirit.

I have a reply from the present Defence Minister to my submission in this august House, "that modalities are being finalized by taking all stakeholders on board." So much water has flown under the bridge. The retired Defence personnel are on a warpath, and the apathy and the negligence of the Government forced them to move the issue before the Supreme Court. The Government is dilly-dallying on the issue. The attitude of the Government will have a reflection on the morale and discipline of the serving personnel of the Army in a bigger way.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to implement 'One Rank, One Pension' for the Defence/Army personnel. Thank you.

श्री अनुराग सिंह ठाकुर (हमीरपुर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार के समक्ष मेरे लोक सभा क्षेत्र की सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी का मुद्दा रखना चाहूंगा। शिक्षा किसी भी समाज और सरकार के लिए बहुत महत्वपूर्ण होती है। सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी पूर्व की यूपीए सरकार के समय मेरे लोक सभा क्षेत्र हमीरपुर के देहरा स्थान के लिए मंजूर हुई और साथ में उसका कुछ हिस्सा धर्मशाला में बनना था। देहरा में बड़ी जगह उपलब्ध करवाई गई। उसकी इनवायरमेंट क्लियरेंस ले ली गई। अब मजबूरी यह बन गई है कि केन्द्र सरकार चाहते हुए भी वहां काम नहीं कर पा रही है क्योंकि प्रदेश सरकार एक जिले को दो हिस्सों में बांट रही है। उनका ध्यान केवल धर्मशाला तक सीमित है। नई भूमि दिखाने के चक्कर में पहले जहां स्वीकृति मिली है वहां उसका काम शुरू नहीं हो पा रहा है। मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से केवल इतना निवेदन है कि धर्मशाला में जो जमीन देखनी है, वह देखें, जो जमीन पसंद करनी है, करें, लेकिन देहरा में जहां सैंकड़ों

एकड़ जमीन प्रदेश सरकार के माध्यम से केन्द्र को प्रस्तावित की गई है, इनवायरमेंट क्लीयरेंस मिल चुकी है, वहां केन्द्र सरकार की ओर से नींव पत्थर क्यों नहीं रखा जा रहा है और प्रदेश सरकार उस काम को आगे क्यों नहीं बढ़ने दे रही है। अगर सही मायने में भारत को नॉलेज हब बनाना है तो उसके लिए इस तरह के एजुकेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट्स का बनना बहुत आवश्यक है। केवल राजनीति का शिकार उसे न किया जाए, उसे जल्द से जल्द बनाया जाए और वहां के बच्चों को पढ़ने का अवसर दिया जाए। धन्यवाद।

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Anurag Singh Thakur.

SHRI R.K. BHARATHI MOHAN (MAYILADUTHURAI): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Our Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has urged the Centre to expedite interlinking of rivers through necessary legislation in order to facilitate implementation of the Peninsular Grid, involving linking of Mahanadhi – Godavari – Krishna – Pennar – Palar – Cauvery – Vaigai - Gundar. Further, the Tamil Nadu Government has programmed to implement the linking of Pennaiyar (Sathanur Dam) – Palar link, Pennaiyar (Nedungal Anicut) – Palar link, Cuavery (Mettur Dam) – Sarabanga link, Athikadavu – Avinashi Flood Canal Scheme and Tamirabarani – Karumeniyar – Nambiyar link. I, therefore, request the Centre to extend financial assistance to Tamil Nadu for the projects including land acquisition. Thank you.

श्री अजय मिश्रा टेनी (खीरी) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा लोक सभा क्षेत्र प्राकृतिक रूप से नदियों और जंगलों से घिरा होने के कारण एक बेहद खूबसूर क्षेत्र है, जहां उत्तर प्रदेश का एकमात्र रिजर्व फॉरेस्ट दुधवा नेशनल पार्क स्थित है, जहां शेर, चीता, तेंदुआ, गैंडा, हाथी व हिरण आदि की कई जातियां मिलती हैं। इसके साथ लखीमपुर जिला ऐतिहासिक, पौराणिक, धार्मिक और वैज्ञानिक महत्व भी रखता है। गोस्वामी तुलसीदास जी ने यहां पर रुक कर रामचरितमानस की रचना की थी, जिसकी हस्तलिखित पांडुलिपी भी यहां पर उपलब्ध है। इसके साथ-साथ ज्योमेट्रिकल मैथ पर एक मंडक मंदिर भी है। महाभारत के समय में ऐसे प्रमाण मिलते हैं कि पांडव यहां पर अपने अज्ञातवास में रुके थे। राजा परिक्षित ने एक नाग यज्ञ किया था वह भी लखीमपुर में हुआ था। गोला में एक भगवान शिव का मंदिर है, जिसे छोटी काशी के नाम से जाना जाता है।

वहां एक काली मंदिर ,अंतर्वेद आश्रम, संकटा देवी मंदिर और मिलौटी नाथ की पौराणिक महत्व के मंदिर हैं। मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध है कि पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए जो रामायण सर्किट बनाया जा रहा है उसमें लखीमपुर को भी शामिल करके पर्यटन के क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण स्थान दिया जाए।

SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU (SRIKAKULAM): I thank you, hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to speak in Zero Hour. I would like to raise an issue which I had already raised in the previous Session and I am compelled to do it because it is a very serious and sensitive issue. It has been unresolved till now.

The issue that I want to raise is about the four persons who were kidnapped in the country of Libya on the 29th of July of this year. Out of the four Indians, two of them are from Karnataka and two of them are from Andhra Pradesh. Within two weeks' of time, two of them from Karnataka were released as they were identified to be in the teaching profession. Though the people from Andhra Pradesh were also in the teaching profession, yet they are not released till now. One of them is from my constituency. His name is Shri Gopalakrishnan and the other one is from Shri Malla Reddy's constituency. Those two are still kept captive with the ISIS. We have got the family members and we have met the Prime Minister, the Home Minister and the External Affairs Minister. They have all assured complete assistance from the Central Government. But it has been five months and there has been no communication from their side. We have been talking to the parents of those families. It is very hard to express the pain and sorrow that they are going through. Our only request to the External Affairs Ministry and the Central Government is to let us know whether they are alive or not so that we can give the news. Otherwise, it is very difficult for these families. I would request the Central Government to take this at utmost priority.

DR.K. KAMARAJ (KALLAKURICHI): Sir, in Manivizhunthan village of Salem District, Sarvoy Railway Station was built by the Britishers in the early 20th century. The Railway Station was functional and operational for more than 70 years till 2007. In 2007 when the Railways converted the Salem to Cuddalre

meter-gauge to broad-gauge, the Railway Station was not re-established and the Station became defunct.

The general public and the President of the Village have written to the Railways for the reconstruction of the Railway Station. The Railways have demanded about Rs.40 lakh as the contribution from the village and want the amount to be deposited with the Railways. When the Panchayat itself is finding it very difficult to meet the basic needs like providing drinking water, providing drainage facilities and providing road facilities, how can the Railways demand Rs.40 lakh from the general public? Hence, I would request the hon. Railway Minister to instruct the Southern Railway authorities to re-establish the Railway Station without insisting for the money under the Sharmadham Scheme.

SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN (MURSHIDABAD): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with due respect I would like to draw the attention of hon. Human Resource Development Minister through you to a serious problem that has arisen due to fund crisis at the Murshidabad Centre of Aligarh Muslim University.

The Centre established in the year 2010 and spread over 288 acres of land, is aimed at providing quality education in Murshidabad District at affordable fees. The Centre is committed to secular ideas and is providing education to all sections of the society. Currently the Centre is running three courses only due to lack of infrastructure.

It is learnt from the institution that an amount of Rs.107.8 crore have been sanctioned by Government of India, Ministry of Finance vide their letter No.MHRD3-9/2008 desk(u) dated 3rd June, 2013, out of which Rs.40 crore have been released. The amount released has almost been completely utilized and now the Education Centre is facing a financial crunch.

I would like to request the Hon. Minister through you, Sir, to have the remaining grant released at the earliest. Thank you.

श्री गजेन्द्र सिंह शेखावत (जोधपुर) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, वर्ष 1985 में भारत सरकार ने अन्य देशों के साथ एक अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संधि की थी, जिसके अनुसार उसे अपने यहां अफीम के पौधों का उत्पादन और अफीम की खेती बंद करनी थी। साथ ही साथ उस संधि के अनुसार अफीम की जो नीति बनायी गयी, उसके अनुरूप तीन साल के अंदर जितने भी लोग डोडा पोस्त नशे के आदी हैं, उन सबको नशा मुक्त कराना था। वर्ष 1985 में भारत की अफीम नीति बनी, उसके बाद तीस साल तक उस दिशा में कोई भी ठोस काम नहीं हुआ। पश्चिमी राजस्थान में जोधपुर से लेकर बीकानेर, इन दोनों डिवीजन्स के लगभग सारे जिलों में, थार रेगिस्तान में परम्परागत रूप से लोग अफीम और डोडा पोस्त का सेवन करते हैं। अब इस संधि के कारण एकदम अफीम का उत्पादन बंद करने और डोडा पोस्त के उत्पादन और सर्कुलेशन का दबाव बढ़ा है। जबकि पिछले तीस साल से संधि करने के बावजूद सरकार के ठेकों के माध्यम से गांव-गांव तक डोडा पोस्त का नशा उपलब्ध कराया जा रहा है। ऐसे में स्थिति यह बन गयी है कि जब एकदम प्रोडक्शन कम किया गया, तो उसके कारण लाखों-हजारों लोग जो नशे के आदी हैं, वे पंक्तियों में तीन-चार और पांच घंटे तक खड़े रहते हैं। इस कारण डोडा पोस्त की कालाबाजारी होने लगी है। अब सरकार इसे बंद करने जा रही है। लेकिन डी-एडिक्शन और रिहैबिलिटेशन की दिशा में कोई भी काम नहीं हुआ है, इसलिए हजारों लोगों का जीवन खतरे में आ गया है। हमारी राज्य सरकार ने जोधपुर में डी-एडिक्शन और रिहैबिलिटेशन सेंटर बनाने के लिए एक प्रोजेक्ट भेजा है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से भारत सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि उस रिहैबिलिटेशन एंड रिसर्च सेंटर के लिए जो 175 करोड़ रुपये की मांग की गयी है, वह तुरंत घोषित करें, ताकि लोगों को डी-एडिक्शन करके राहत प्रदान की जा सके।

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat.

श्री प्रेम सिंह चन्दूमाजरा (आनंदपुर साहिब) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष जी, भारत सरकार की ओर से देश भर में डायवर्सिफिकेशन ऑफ एग्रीकल्चर का प्रचार किया गया। देश भर के किसानों को कहा गया कि ऐसी फसलों की बुआई हो, जो कम से कम पानी ले और जिनका ड्यूरेशन ऑफ मेच्युरिटी कम से कम हो। पंजाब जो पानी की धरती माना जाता है, वहां पानी का संकट सामने आ रहा है। पंजाब के किसान ने इसे एडॉप्ट किया। धान की एक फसल है, जिसे बासमती कहा जाता है। उन्होंने बासमती की फसल लगायी और पंजाब सरकार की ओर से उन्हें लगातार बिजली मिली, जिसके कारण फसल भरपूर हुई। पिछले वर्षों में उस फसल का मूल्य तीन हजार से लेकर पांच हजार रुपये पर क्विंटल तक मिलता रहा। दुर्भाग्य से इस वर्ष चौदह-पन्द्रह सौ रुपये पर क्विंटल ही किसान को मिला। एक्सपोर्ट पालिसी डिले हुई, क्योंकि बाहर के

देशों से समझौते नहीं हो पाये। इस कारण किसान लूटा गया। आज देश में एक्सपोर्ट पालिसी नयी बनी, जिसे अभी मोदी सरकार लेकर आयी है। आज उस फसल का मूल्य तीन हजार रुपये से लेकर पैंतीस सौ रुपये पर क्विंटल मिल रहा है। जो बिचौलिये थे, जो व्यापारी थे, वे करोड़ों रुपये कमा गये, लेकिन किसान लूटा गया। मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से निवेदन है कि किसान को कहीं न कहीं कम्पेनसेट किया जाये। इस संबंध में हमारे माननीय मुख्य मंत्री जी ने भारत सरकार को एक लैटर भी लिखा है।

दूसरा, मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि बासमती खरीदने के लिए बासमती कारपोरेशन होनी चाहिए। जैसे सीसीआई, ट्रेड कारपोरेशन है, वैसे ही बासमती की कारपोरेशन होनी चाहिए। एमएसपी की 22 फसलें हैं। इन 22 फसलों में से 23वीं फसल इस बासमती को दी जाये तथा किसान को कम कास्ट में खरीदी गयी बासमती के बदले कम्पेनसेशन दिया जाये।

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Prem Singh Chandumajra.

19.00 hours

SHRI P.R. SENTHILNATHAN (SIVAGANGA): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, with a lot of thanks to our visionary leader Amma, I would like to draw the attention of Minister of Railways through this august House. Some trains go through my constituency once or twice a week. They may be operated as daily trains.

Silambu Express from Chennai to Manamadurai may be operated as a daily train instead of being operated as a bi-weekly train. Rameswaram-Coimbatore Express may be operated daily instead of weekly. Puducherry-Kanyakumari Express, which is a weekly train, may be operated as a daily train. Rameswaram-Bhubaneswar Express and Rameswaram-Varanasi Express must have stoppages in Sivagangai, Devakottai and Pudukottai stations. It would be of great help if Pallavan Express terminating at Karaikudi is extended upto Manamadurai.

I would like to request you to provide stoppage for all trains at Thirumayam in Pudukottai district and Muthanenthal in Sivagangai district.

A road over-bridge or a subway must be constructed at Pudhuvayal junction in Karaikudi-Puthuvayal road in my constituency.

श्रीमती अंजू बाला (मिश्रिख) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष जी, आपने मुझे शून्य काल में बोलने का अवसर दिया, मैं इसके लिए आपकी आभारी हूं। मेरा लोकसभा क्षेत्र मिश्रिख है। मैंने विधान सभा क्षेत्र बालामऊ में ओवर ब्रिज बनाने के लिए माननीय मंत्री जी को पत्र भी लिखा था और मैं यह मुद्दा सदन में भी उठा चुकी हूं। आज मैं फिर से इस मुद्दे को सदन में उठाना चाहती हूं क्योंकि यह मुद्दा बहुत संवेदनशील है। बालामऊ विधान सभा क्षेत्र में ओवर ब्रिज की डिमांड बहुत पहले से है लेकिन आज तक यह पूरी नहीं हुई है। अगर यहां कोई बीमार होता है तो वह वहीं दम तोड़ देता है क्योंकि पांच-पांच गाड़ियां एक साथ गुजरती हैं इसलिए यहां ओवर ब्रिज बनाने की बहुत आवश्यकता है।

मैं माननीय रेल मंत्री जी से आपके माध्यम से निवेदन करना चाहती हूं कि जल्दी से जल्दी यहां ओवर ब्रिज का काम शुरू कराया जाए।

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is seven o' clock now. There are some more Members to speak. If the Members agree, I can allow each Member one minute to speak.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: We agree, Sir.

SHRI PRAKASH B. HUKKERI (CHIKKODI): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Railways towards the urgency of construction of a railway over bridge at Level Crossing Gate No. 438.

Level Crossing Gate No. 438 falls between Raibagh town and Chinchili village in Belagavi district in Karnataka State. Every day, thousands of people from the surrounding areas such as Harugeri, Mugalkhod, Morab, Alagawadi, Bekkeri and several other villages are using the railway crossing. Since there is no ROB at the railway gate, people are facing great inconvenience.

As Raibagh town is a commercial hub and Miraj town is located on the Karnataka-Maharashtra border and also famous for specialized hospital, every day traders, students, office-goers and particularly patients are suffering a lot in the absence of an ROB at the Level Crossing Gate No. 438. About 30 trains move on the said railway section every day.

People including representatives of Gram Panchayat and Taluka Panchayats of the surrounding areas are demanding for an ROB at Level Crossing Gate No. 438.

I also wrote a letter in this regard and I am very much disappointed to know that the Manager, Divisional Office, SWR, Hubli has responded in a very casual manner to this important issue in a communication sent by him.

Hence, I would like to request that keeping in view the growing traffic and road accidents, the Ministry of Railways should take immediate effective steps to construct an ROB at Level Crossing Gate no. 438.

श्री सुभाष चन्द्र बहेड़िया (भीलवाड़ा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे लोक सभा क्षेत्र में वर्ष 2014-2015 में अफीम नीति के तहत 600 किसानों को अफीम उगाने के लाइसेंस दिए गए थे। मार्च, 2015 में वहां जबरदस्त ओलावृष्टि हुई और इस कारण अफीम की फसल काफी मात्रा में नष्ट हो गई। अफीम नीति के तहत ऐसा होता है कि जितनी भी फसल उगाई जाएगी, वह सरकार की संस्था को पूरी ही दी जाएगी। जब वहां अफीम की पूरी फसल नष्ट हो गई है तो वह सरकार को कहां से बेचेंगे। इस कारण उनके लाइसेंस रिन्यू नहीं हो रहे हैं। केंद्र सरकार उनके लाइसेंस को रोक रही है।

मेरा आपके माध्यम से वित्त मंत्रालय से आग्रह है कि जिन किसानों की फसल ओलावृष्टि की वजह से नष्ट हुई है, उन्हें अफीम की फसल के पट्टे वापिस दिए जाएं।

SHRI M. UDHAYAKUMAR (DINDIGUL): Thank you, Deputy Speaker, Sir.

India is a veritable emporium of medicinal and aromatic plants. It has been estimated that out of 15,000 higher plants occurring in India, 9,000 are commonly useful, of which 7,500 are medicinal, 3,900 are edible, 700 are culturally important, 525 are used for fibre, 400 are fodder, 300 for pesticide and insecticide, 300 for gum, resin, and dye, and 100 for incense and perfume.

In Tamil Nadu, the Forest Department of the Government of hon. Chief Minister Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has established a Medicinal Plants Conseration Area in Alagarmalai Reserve Forest of Alagarkovil Range in Dindigul district.

I urge the Central Government to extend financial assistance to create village clusters to produce medicinal plants in large scale in certain pockets of the

district this year. This will help to produce the cash crop *superbily*, whose botanical name is *gloriosa superba* and is popularly known as *kanvali kizhangu* in 65 hectares in Oddanchatram taluk and Pottikampatti, Kallimandhayam, Chikkamanaickenpatti and sixteen other villages in Oddanchatram taluk of my Dindigul constituency. This would bring all these areas under one village cluster to produce this crop.

I urge the Central Government to further develop horticulture farms under the National Horticulture Mission at Ambilikkai near Oddanchatram. I also request that more clusters be formed for mass production of medicinal plants in one area as such efforts would help buyers purchase large quantities from a single place.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Kirit Solanki is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri M. Udhayakumar.

श्री भगवंत मान (संगरूर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, देश में प्रजातांत्रिक तरीके से प्रदर्शनकारियों पर पुलिस के अत्याचारों की घटनाएं दिन-प्रतिदिन बढ़ती जा रही हैं। पिछले 14 अक्टूबर को पंजाब के फरीदकोट डिस्ट्रिक्ट के कोटकपूरा के पास बहबलकलां गांव में श्री गुरु ग्रंथ साहिब जी की बेअदबी के विरुद्ध शांति से रोष व्यक्त कर रही संगत पर पुलिस ने अंधाधुंध गोलियां चलाईं। इस घटना में दो लोगों की जान चली गई। जनता के प्रैशर के बाद एफआईआर करने में आनाकानी कर रही सरकार ने एफआईआर दर्ज की, लेकिन अन-आईडेंटीफाई पुलिस मैन के खिलाफ एफआईआर दर्ज की गई।

उपाध्यक्ष जी, यह सुनकर आपको भी हैरानी होगी कि क्या पुलिस भी कभी अज्ञात होती है। अज्ञात भीड़ के बारे में तो सुना था लेकिन क्या पुलिस भी कभी अज्ञात हो सकती है? वहां संगत अपना रोष व्यक्त कर रही थी और लंगर खा रही थी। पुलिस वाले भी वहां लंगर खा रहे थे। पुलिस को चलाई गई हर गोली का हिसाब देना पड़ता है और वहां साढ़े तीन सौ से अधिक गोलियां चलाई गईं। अगर पुलिस वाले अज्ञात हैं तो वे गोलियां किसने चलाई हैं? पुलिस वालों को गोली चलाने का आर्डर किसने दिया, क्या वह भी कोई अज्ञात अधिकारी था? यह हैरानी की बात है और सरकार दोषियों को बचाना चाहती है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से गृह मंत्रालय से मांग करता हूं कि पंजाब सरकार को आदेश दें कि जिन पुलिस वालों ने गोलियां चलाई हैं और जिन्होंने गोली चलाने का आदेश दिया है, उनके नाम पर एफआईआर दर्ज होनी चाहिए ताकि दोषियों को सजा मिले और पीड़ितों को इंसाफ मिले।

श्री भोला सिंह (बुलंदशहर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से उत्तर प्रदेश के संबंध में एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय रखना चाहता हूँ। भारत सरकार द्वारा इंदिरा आवास योजना चलायी जा रही है और केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा प्रदेश को धन आवंटित कर दिया जाता है। अभी कुछ ही समय पहले मुझे उत्तर प्रदेश प्रशासन का एक पत्र कहीं से प्राप्त हुआ और पत्र के माध्यम से मुझे जानकारी मिली। मैं अपने जिले की बात करता हूँ। मेरे जिले में 23 प्रतिशत आबादी मायनॉरिटी की है। बाकी में अन्य लोग- दलित, पिछड़े तथा गरीब लोग रहते हैं। लेकिन जो मकानों का आवंटन किया गया है, यदि उसमें पर्सेंटेज निकालें तो टोटल का 77 प्रतिशत मायनॉरिटीज के लिए किया गया है। इसके साथ-साथ प्रदेश के कई जगहों पर, जैसे मुजफ्फरनगर में देखें तो मकानों का आवंटन मायनॉरिटीज के लिए दिया गया है। बाकी जो अन्य लोग- दलित, पिछड़े तथा गरीब लोग हैं, उन सबके साथ अन्याय किया जा रहा है। मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन से आग्रह करता हूँ कि केन्द्र सरकार की जो योजनाएँ प्रदेश सरकार को जाती हैं, उन योजनाओं में केन्द्र सरकार हस्तक्षेप करके जो गरीबों-पिछड़ों-दलितों का हक है, उनको पूरा अधिकार मिलना चाहिए। उनके साथ भेदभाव प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा नहीं किया जाना चाहिए।

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Bholu Singh.

*SHRI G. HARI (ARAKKONAM). Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, Vanakkam. I express my regards and sincere thanks to our beloved leader and Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Dr.Puratchithalavi Amma for allowing me to raise an important issue in this august House. Never in the history of Tamil Nadu there were rains and floods of such a high magnitude due to North East Monsoon which have affected several lakhs of people and throwing their lives out of gear. There was loss of lives and property. Normal life is very much affected. Arakkonam Parliamentary constituency is also affected. Overflow of water in the Ammapalli Dam in Nagari of Andhra Pradesh has affected areas like Tiruttani, Pallippattu, Pothattoorpet and R.K. Pet which were marooned due to flooding waters. Breaches of flooding water in Nandi river has inundated several villages around Tiruttani. Due to heavy floods in Kosasthalai river, many villages were inundated. A river bridge near Kuppam-Kandigai, Madathukkuppam and Muthukondapuram

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

villages of Tiruvaalanganadu Union in Tiruvallur district has been completely damaged and as a result so many villages have lost road connectivity. At a place called NM Kandigai in Tiruttani, a bridge has collapsed making the people living in surrounding areas cut off from other places. Road and rail connectivity was cut off and several thousands of people are affected. In my Arakkonam Parliamentary constituency, Arakkonam, Sholingur, Ranipet, Arcot, Katpadi and other places are very much affected. Many overflowing ponds and breaches in lakes in the district have inundated many villages. Due to which the normal life is so much affected. Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has taken several measures for relief and rescue operations on war-footing basis. Relief funds are being provided to all the affected people of Tamil Nadu. Never in the history of Tamil Nadu, there was 1139 mm of rain in Chennai alone in a month. Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Puratchithalaivi Amma has granted an amount of Rs. 500 Crore immediately for relief and rescue operations. Hon. Amma has demanded from the Union government for immediate release of Rs.8481 Crore to the State from the National Disaster Response Fund. A Central team visited several flood affected places in Tamil Nadu and their assessment report is yet to be submitted to the Union Government. Even after their visit, there has been continuous rain and the damages due to floods are on the rise. Our beloved leader Hon. Puratchithalaivi Amma has been relentlessly working for the welfare of the people of Tamil Nadu. I therefore urge upon the Union Government to release funds from the National Disaster Response Fund as demanded by Hon. Puratchithalaivi Amma for the welfare of the people of Tamil Nadu. Thank you.

श्री शरद त्रिपाठी (संत कबीर नगर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहूंगा कि देश के ढाई सौ जनपदों में जो सबसे पिछड़े जनपद कहे जाते हैं, उनमें संतकबीरनगर जनपद भी है, जो हमारे संसदीय क्षेत्र का मुख्यालय है।

किसानों की नगदी फसल का एक मात्र आधार वहाँ पर केवल गन्ना ही था। लेकिन वहाँ की एक मात्र गन्ना मिल खलीलाबाद सुगर मिल के बंद हो जाने के कारण वहाँ के किसानों में घोर निराशा व्याप्त है और उनके साथ एक प्रकार से यह क्रूर मजाक किया गया है। मैं आपके माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार से सिफारिश करना चाहूंगा कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को निर्देशित करने का कष्ट करें और खलीलाबाद सुगर मिल को येन-केन-प्रकारेण किसानों के हित में किसी भी प्रकार से चलवाने का कष्ट करें।

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Sharad Tripathi.

SHRI THOTA NARASIMHAM (KAKINADA): Thank you Deputy-Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to speak.

Sir, cow is an auspicious and living Goddess, interlinked with the lives of every Hindu. We consider cow as the mother and treat it as a family member, not as an animal. We believe that mother cow is the abode of 33 crore Gods.

Nowadays, in the name of *Godanam* some people are leaving the cows on the streets, which are starving for food mostly in towns and cities. Unfortunately these cows are roaming on streets and eating trash in garbage. If cows eat plastic bags, then digestive system suffers and gradually these bags get collected in their stomach causing the cows die of severe pain mostly due to cancer.

Government should aim to care for stray, abandoned cows, bulls, retired oxen and orphaned calves and provide them with food, flour, fresh grass, clean water, medical attention and a place where they can recover from injuries and stay peacefully.

Now, it is time to encourage Cow Shelter Houses. If the Government is not in a position to run them, it should offer best possible concessions and encourage the voluntary organisations which can run Cow Shelter Houses. There are a few such organisations in the country. So let their number be increased.

SHRI P.K. BIJU (ALATHUR): Sir, the Walayar-Vadakkanchery National Highway – 47 is passing through my Constituency. This stretch has already been opened for travelling and toll collection has also started. But the work has not yet completed. The NHAI authorities say that the contractor have a right to collect toll after completion of 80 per cent work. But the problem is that after opening this stretch, accidents are taking place daily there. We had meetings with the Collector and all the representatives from that section. Even today the NHAI and the contractor is not ready to fulfil the promises made to the people. They have not erected street lights, signal boards and side roads have not been prepared. These things are pending even today. Sir, a proposal has been placed before NHAI, Palakkad, the National Highways Authority here in Delhi. I have personally sent letter to the Minister but till today the Government has not yet completed the work and save the lives of innocent people.

I urge upon the Government to take immediate action and give sanction to proposal to complete the work at the earliest.

श्री विद्युत वरन महतो (जमशेदपुर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, झारखण्ड में प्रधानमंत्री सड़क योजना वर्ष 2000 से शुरू हुई थी। आज वहां की स्थिति यह है कि पिछले पांच, छः, सात एवं आठ फेज के काम इरकॉन, एनबीसीसी, एनपीसीसी एवं आरआरईओ द्वारा चलाए जाए रहे थे। पिछले एक साल से पूरा काम बन्द है। पिछले मानसून सत्र में मैंने इस बात को इस सदन में उठाया था और केन्द्रीय एजेंसी द्वारा उसकी पूरी गुणवत्ता की जांच की गयी। जांच में रोड की गुणवत्ता इतनी खराब पाई गयी कि वे लोग हैरान थे। पिछले एक साल से पूरे झारखण्ड में प्रधानमंत्री सड़क योजना का काम पूरी तरह से बन्द है। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों को शहरों से जोड़ने का यह एकमात्र साधन है, लोगों को काफी आशाएं हैं। अधिकतर क्षेत्र नक्सल प्रभावित है। वहां लगभग 70 प्रतिशत काम ठप्प पड़ा हुआ है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से केन्द्रीय सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान की जाए और बन्द पड़ी पीएमजीएसवाय की सभी सड़कों के काम को पुनः चलाया जाए, जिससे आम जनता को लाभ पहुंचे।

आपने मुझे बोलने के लिए अवसर दिया, उसके लिए धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

*DR. K. GOPAL (NAGAPPATTINAM): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, Vanakkam. Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and our beloved leader Dr.Puratchithalaivi Amma has brought to the notice of Union Government about the detention of Tamil fishermen several times while they were engaged in fishing activities in Indian waters. Hon. Prime Minister is well aware of the case filed in Hon. Supreme Court regarding the Maritime Boundary dispute between India and Sri Lanka. The case challenging the constitutional validity of agreements of the years 1974 and 1976 entered into between India and Sri Lanka is with the Hon. Supreme Court. Tamil Nadu government under the leadership of Hon. Puratchithalaivi Amma has been implementing a scheme of subsidy - the first of its kind in the country- allowing the fishermen of Tamil Nadu to purchase fishing boats for deep sea fishing. This revolutionary scheme of providing subsidy up to Rs.30 lakh for deep sea fishing has been implemented successfully in the State of Tamil Nadu led by Hon. Puratchithalaivi Amma. Fishermen are trained with techniques involved in deep sea fishing. As many as 170 fishing boats meant for deep sea fishing are being built which will directly benefit around 581 families of fishermen in the State. Hon. Puratchithalaivi Amma has demanded financial assistance from the Union government for implementing a detailed project with a cost of Rs.1520 Crore and with an annual recurring subsidy of Rs.10 Crore for maintaining the infrastructure facilities and deep sea fishing. I therefore urge that the Union government should grant approval to this Scheme of the State Government of Tamil Nadu. As on date, 55 Indian fishing boats are kept in the custody of the Sri Lankan government. I also request that Hon. Prime Minister should issue orders to

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

the External Affairs Ministry to take up the issue seriously with the Government of Sri Lanka and ensure release of Indian fishing boats at the earliest. Thank you.

श्री भैरों प्रसाद मिश्र (बांदा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र बांदा-चित्रकूट के अन्तर्गत सड़कों की हालत बहुत ही खराब है। सड़कों की हालत यह है कि वाहन वहीं रास्ते पर ही गड्ढों में फंस कर खड़े हो जाते हैं। मरीज समय से अस्पताल नहीं पहुंच पाने के कारण अकाल मृत्यु को प्राप्त हो जाते हैं। प्रसूता मां अपने बच्चे रास्ते पर ही पैदा करने पर मजबूर है और गम्भीर मां प्रसूता की व बच्चे नवजात अवस्था की समय पर प्रसूत गृह न पहुंच पाने के कारण रास्ते में ही मौत हो रही हैं। राज्य की सड़कें, ग्रामीण सड़कें और प्रधानमंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना की सड़कें ध्वस्त पड़ी हैं। कई बार कहने और लिखने के बावजूद भी इन्हें ठीक नहीं किया जा रहा है। अतः आपके माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध है कि वह राज्य सरकार पर दबाव बनाकर इन सड़कों को अविलम्ब ठीक कराए या सीधे इन सड़कों के मरम्मत और नवनिर्माण के लिए धन उपलब्ध कराने की कृपा करें।

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Kirit P. Solanki is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra.

SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE (NASHIK): Sir, I want to draw your attention towards the mega projects announced by the Central Government to be implemented in the State Governments.

The mega projects such as the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, National Institute of Pharmaceutical Research Centre and other projects have been announced by the Central Government for various State Governments. The Central Government has given authority to the State Governments to recommend the locations of such projects. For such Central projects, generally the State Ministers recommend the project location in their own constituency. Sometimes, recommendation of a particular location has no basis. For example, the Fishery Academy has no coastal base and the Forest Academy has no forest base. The Union Government spends thousands of crores of rupees to see that the project becomes justifiable and benefits a large number of people but in some cases, it does not happen.

So, I request the Union Government that while announcing the mega projects for the State Governments, there should be some guidelines for selection of locations such as the guidelines drawn for selection of smart cities. The project location should be selected on merit basis and not only on a simple recommendation. Only then the project will be justified and maximum number of people would be benefited. Such a practice would also help for a balanced development of the States and the country as a whole.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Kirit P. Solanki is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Hemant Tukaram Godse.

*SHRI K. PARASURAMAN (THANJAVUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, Vanakkam. World famous Mahamaham festival, called as the Kumbhmela of South India will be celebrated with grandeur in Kumbakonam of Thanjavur district on 22.2.2016. Ancient sayings stress upon the importance of making holy dip in the Mahamaham pond which may bring you plentiful blessings and fortune. People from abroad and different parts of the country visit this place for a holy dip. Besides security arrangements, transport facilities, drinking water, sanitation, electric supply and other basic amenities will be provided. Police booths at 72 places, security towers at 55 places, CCTV cameras at 132 places, revolving cameras at 26 places, road barricades at 1163 places will be set up. Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has ordered for swift action of authorities in this regard. Hence I urge upon the Union Government to provide funds as its share in organising this grand festival. I also request the Ministry of Railways to arrange for temporary cloak rooms in all the Railway Stations in Thanjavur district with a view to help the rail passengers expected to arrive during Mahamaham festival in large number, especially from other States of the country. I request to arrange medical facilities with Doctors and paramedical staff, adequate catering facilities in all platforms of Railway Stations in Thanjavur district especially during the Mahamaham festival. Thank you.

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA (TUMKUR): Sir, the farmers in the country are facing a very peculiar situation. In some parts of the country, there is severe drought and there is no drinking water. In some portion of the country, because of the heavy floods the farmers are losing their crops. In my constituency, in Tumkur in Karnataka, the same situation prevails. In more than fifty per cent of the area, the standing crop was lost because of the heavy rains in Tamil Nadu. As a consequence of heavy rains in Tamil Nadu, we lost crops in fifty per cent of the area in my constituency. In the remaining fifty per cent of the area, there is severe drought. There is no drinking water. As a result of this, the farmers are forced to commit suicide. In 2014-15, more than 4,650 farmers committed suicide.

In the last UPA's regime, Dr. Manmohan Singh was kind enough to waive the farmers loan in nationalised banks. Nearly Rs. 72,000 crore of loan was waived in nationalised banks. Hence, I urge upon this NDA Government to take at least one measure to see that the farmers loan in nationalised banks is waived and save the farmers in this country. That is my submission.

DR. A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): Sir, during the time of V.P. Singh Government, the Trivandrum International Airport – now it is Thiruvananthapuram – was declared as international airport. More than ten per cent of the Kerala's total population is either working or living outside the nation.

According to the data which is available as on 31st of November this year, more than one million domestic passengers availed the services of the Thiruvananthapuram international airport. More than two million international passengers have also availed the services of this international airport.

I have been reported by various media that the developmental activities of this airport is being sabotaged. The Director of the airport at Thiruvananthapuram, even though the Airport Authority is earning a very good profit, does not have even the power to construct a toilet or even to allow a refreshment area or a canteen somewhere in the check-in area. Can you imagine an international airport where in the check-in area people will not get even a cup of tea? This is the pity

of that airport. One third of the passengers are women and many of them are carrying children also. So, when we do not have sufficient number of women CISF personnel, there is a long queue. At the toll gate also, there is a long queue. So, my humble request to the Government, through you, the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation may convene a meeting of the MPs State-wise before the Budget Session like the hon. Railway Ministers usually do, so that the issues of various airports can be discussed and some of them can be rectified; and the developmental activities can be initiated. ... (*Interruptions*) I am going to conclude.

There are casual labourers working under the Air India. There is a plan to privatise all these activities and to leave them on the streets. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can raise only one matter.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can ask for amenities. It is all right. But the labour issue is another one.

DR. A. SAMPATH : We are all getting the votes of the labourers. We cannot throw them to the streets. They are also human beings. They also feel hungry and thirsty.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can raise that issue tomorrow because only one issue will go on record. We will permit tomorrow.

DR. A. SAMPATH: I am concluding. Let me land.

I have already submitted one request, that is convening the meeting with the MPs. The second request is, give ample powers to the Director of the Thiruvananthapuram international airport to give some rest area to the drivers, toilet facilities, refreshment area, etc.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri P.K. Biju, Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan, Shri Ninong Ering are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Dr. A. Sampath.

SHRI V. ELUMALAI (ARANI): I wish to raise an important issue pertaining to my constituency. National Highway No. 66 is the prime road connectivity to many

tourist places and pilgrim centres, like Arunachaleswara Temple in Tiruvannamalai and Angalamman Temple in Melmalaiyanur.

Laying work in this National Highway started in the year 2009. But still the work is pending. During November, 2015, after the North-East Monsoon rains and due to the worst condition prevailing in this National Highway No.66, a precious life was lost in an accident. These kinds of accidents are a routine nature in this highway since laying work has not been completed for long. I have written letters to the hon. Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari and the hon. Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways Shri Pon. Radhakrishnan to look into this issue.

I, therefore, once again urge the Ministry concerned through this august House to expedite the laying work and making this National Highway No.66 safer and secure for vehicular traffic at the earliest. Thank you.

श्री सी.आर.चौधरी (नागौर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं राजस्थान की एक अच्छी बात के लिए मानव संसाधन मंत्री जी से कुछ मांग करने के लिए आज अपनी बात रखना चाहता हूँ। मैं अपनी मुख्य मंत्री माननीय वसुंधरा जी को धन्यवाद दूंगा कि राज्यों में शैक्षणिक दृष्टि से पिछड़े राज्य को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए पहली बार इतिहास के अंदर पांच हजार सैकेंड्री स्कूलों को upgraded to Senior Secondary School. Every panchayat headquarter is now having a Senior Secondary School. अब जब राज्य सरकार पूरी कोशिश कर रही है कि Senior Secondary होने के बाद में लाइब्रेरी, लैबोरेट्रीज़ और कक्षाओं के लिए कमरों की काफी आवश्यकता है, राष्ट्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा योजना जो है, इसके तहत हर स्कूल को काफी फंड एचआरडी मंत्री जी के द्वारा दिए जा रहे हैं। माननीय एचआरडी मंत्री जी से मेरा निवेदन है, क्योंकि यह बहुत बड़ा काम हुआ है, एक साथ पांच हजार स्कूलों को अपग्रेड किया गया है तो इसके एक विशेष पैकेज राजस्थान को दिया जाए, ताकि राजस्थान के जो अपग्रेडिड स्कूल हैं they must have the laboratory, library and infrastructure. आपके मार्फत यह मेरी गुजारिश है।

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh is allowed to associate with Shri C.R. Chaudhary in respect of the 'Zero Hour' issue which he raised today.

DR. KULMANI SAMAL (JAGATSINGHPUR): Sir, I would thank you for the opportunity given to me to raise an important issue of my constituency.

Paradip Port region in Jagatsinghpur Parliamentary Constituency in Odisha attracts a number of tourists from all the corners of the country as well as from abroad. The scenic beauty of the place called Nehru Bangla along the confluence of river Mahanadi and Bay of Bengal, the cargo ship dock area inside the port, the fishing harbour and the sea beach stretched along the region has been a constant destination of tourists over a period of time. However, these sports are not being maintained in terms of tourism purpose.

So, I draw the attention of the Minister of Tourism to take necessary steps to develop Paradip Port Region as a tourism destination.

SHRI K. ASHOK KUMAR (KRISHNAGIRI): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

India is one of the largest consumers of pesticides in the world. India does not have a system to manage pesticides in a sound manner. It also allows the sale and usage of highly toxic pesticides banned in several countries. There are three different Government agencies to control and regulate pesticide usage in India. The CIBRC under the Ministry of Agriculture approves introduction of new pesticides. The second FSSAI under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare are responsible for checking the MRL of pesticides in food crops at the end level. The third APEDA under the Ministry of Commerce sets the guidelines and standards for certifying organic farms.

Sir, in recent days, the CIBRC gives approval to pesticides without hesitation and FSSAI's norms on permissible level of pesticides are not supported by any scientific base. DDT is known for the danger it poses but India still continues to produce it. Unregulated pesticides that are banned or partly restricted in most parts of the world are largely used in India. There is also no control over sale of pesticides at the retail level. Many scientists suggest banning is the best way forward to tackle the growing unregulated pesticide consumption in India.

So, Sir, I urge upon the Government to take constructive steps to control and regulate the pesticide usage in India.

श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह वर्मा (जालौन) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे लोक सभा क्षेत्र जालौन के अंतर्गत विधान सभा क्षेत्र गरौठा और भगनीपुर जो बुंदेलखण्ड क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत आते हैं, यहां पर कई वर्षों से ओलावृष्टि एवं सूखे की स्थिति से किसान तबाह हो गया है और आज वह भुखमरी के कगार पर है तथा पलायन को मजबूर है। क्योंकि खेती को समय से पानी न मिलने के कारण फसल नहीं हो पाती है। विशेष रूप से खेती में पानी न होने की वजह से जमीन सूखी रह जाती है। उत्तर प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान की सीमा पर मेरे जिले जालौन के ब्लॉक रामपुरा के अन्तर्गत पचनदा एक संगम स्थल है, जहाँ पर पाँच नदियाँ पहूज, क्वारी, सिंध, यमुना और चंबल आकर मिलती हैं। यहाँ अपार जल इकट्ठा होता है। अतः मेरी केन्द्र सरकार से माँग है कि पाँच नदियों के संगम स्थान पचनदा पर बाँध बना दिया जाए तो जालौन, झाँसी, हमीरपुर, इटावा, कानपुर देहात तथा मध्य प्रदेश व राजस्थान के कई जिलों को सिंचाई हेतु एक स्थाई संसाधन मिल जाने से बुन्देलखण्ड के किसानों की माली हालत बेहतर होगी और पलायन जैसी समस्या का समाधान होगा। धन्यवाद।

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the august House on the problems faced by the pilgrims visiting Sabarimala, the abode of Lord Ayyappa. Every year millions of devotees visit Sabarimala in Pathanamthitta district, Kerala. It is one of the temples situated inside the dense forest and the devotees visit the shrine after 41 days of rigorous fasting and other rituals. Over the years, the devotees are complaining about the limited facilities at Sannidhanam in Sabarimala and at Pamba, the entry point. Every year, the number of devotees are increasing but there is no place for enhancing the facilities.

The Government of Kerala and various devotees organizations like Ayyappa Sewa Sangam and others are requesting the Central Government to allot more land for providing facilities to devotees. Even though the Government has assured that the facilities will be made without disturbing the eco-system of Sabarimala hills, yet no action has been taken to release more land. Similarly, there is a huge demand from the Government of Kerala and the general public to

declare Sabarimala as a national pilgrimage centre. Concerned Ministry in the Central Government is not taking any positive action in this regard.

Thousands of devotees from Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are visiting Sabarimala and are facing huge problems. That is why I am raising this issue. Another major demand of the people is transportation facility – that is also very important – from Chengalur, Kottayam and Erumeli to reach Pampa is very difficult. Road condition is very bad. Hence, we need more land for construction of roads. This aspect should also be taken into consideration by the Government of India.

SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR (CHENNAI CENTRAL): Thank you, hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, four major National Highways maintained by the NHAI are connecting Chennai with other parts of the country. Due to the recent unprecedented rainfall during the North East Monsoon, the entire Chennai Bypass II and the NH-45 –Chennai-Tiruchchirappalli-Theni and many stretches in NH 4 – Chennai-Bengaluru-Mumbai and NH 6 - Chennai-Vishakapatnam-Kolkatta have been completely damaged and become non-motorable.

Sir, NH-45 connects Chennai with major towns in Tamil Nadu and the unfit road condition is causing hardship to a very large number of commuting general public and all road-users. No less is the condition in Chennai Bypass II. Also, the commercial activity in general and logistics movement in particular have been severely affected causing huge overall revenue loss.

Following the instructions given by the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu *Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. Amma*, immediate temporary repair work of all damaged roads maintained by the State Government are being undertaken by the State Government on a war footing despite availability of only limited resources.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Government of India and the NHAI to follow the footsteps of the Government of Tamil Nadu and repair these four National Highways immediately, and also waive toll charges on these

National Highways till they are restored to complete motorable condition.

कुँवर पुष्पेन्द्र सिंह चन्देल (हमीरपुर): महोदय, पूरा देश जानता है कि बुन्देलखण्ड आत्महत्या, पलायन, बेरोजगारी, कुपोषण, सूखा और कर्ज से कराह रहा है। वीरभूमि बुन्देलखण्ड की धरती अब पीने के पानी को भी तरस रही है। अभी गर्मी आने में करीब चार-पाँच महीने बाकी हैं। हमारे यहाँ अभी से पेयजल संकट की स्थिति उत्पन्न हो गई है। पीने के पानी के लिए लोगों को किलोमीटरों दूर जाना पड़ रहा है। वर्तमान में, यह स्थिति है कि सैंकड़ों गाँवों में, नगरों में, टाउन एरिया में लोग पीने के पानी के लिए परेशान हैं।

महोदय, मेरा आपके माध्यम से भारत सरकार से और उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार से यह निवेदन है कि केन्द्र की सरकार, प्रदेश सरकार को कहकर या यहाँ से इन्तजाम किया जाए, तत्काल राहत के तौर पर कम से कम पूरे बुन्देलखण्ड के लिए और मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र हमीरपुर, तिन्दवारी, महोबा के लिए दस हजार हैंडपम्पों का इंतजाम किया जाए, वरना आने वाला समय बहुत संकट का समय होगा। इसके साथ साथ जो नदी जोड़ो अभियान चल रहा है केन-बेतवा रिवर लिंकिंग वाला, अगर इस योजना से एक नहर को सलारपुर बाँध, बेलाताल बाँध और मझगवाँ बाँध में डाला जाए ताकि वहाँ क्षेत्र के जितने जलाशय हैं, वे भर सकें और पेयजल एवं कृषि सिंचाई का संकट दूर हो, और साथ ही साथ जल स्तर भी बढ़ सके।

SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN (MADURAI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am happy to share that under the leadership of *Puratchi Thalaivi Amma*, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, our State Tamil Nadu is progressing in all respects and particularly women, girl children and farmers are the beneficiaries who benefit most. Our *Amma* is persevering for the welfare of the people of Tamil Nadu.

As a welfare measure to the farmers of Tamil Nadu, Amma has directed the Cooperative Banks in the State to extend interest free farm loans to the farmers on pledging gold. Short term loans for a period of six months against pledging gold is highly welcomed by all the farmers of Tamil Nadu. Small and marginal farmers are highly benefited as their interest is waived off on repayment of their loans within the stipulated time period. It is interest free loan. This waived off interest is borne by the State Government of Tamil Nadu. This has inculcated the habit of timely repayment of loans. The Cooperate Banks and the Primary Agriculture Cooperative Credit Societies are motivated and functioning to their full strength

and capacity. The Central Government has to adopt and introduce the said interest waive off scheme of *Amma* in the Nationalised Banks also for extending agricultural loans to the farmers. I would like to mention that the Nationalised Banks are fully stressed with Non-Performing Assets. I am sure that they will not be disappointed in extending loans to farmers if the Central Government bears the interest burden.

Since the last four-and-a-half years, the Cooperative Department has provided jewel loans of Rs. 1,849.71 crore to 4.05 lakh people through Central Cooperative Banks and Rs. 900.12 crore to 2.31 lakh people through Primary Agriculture Cooperative Credit Societies (PACCS).

These kinds of efforts and initiatives are to be encouraged by the Central Government. The Central Government should provide interest free and subsidized loans to the farmers through the Nationalised Banks and NABARD.

I would like to suggest that the Central Government should follow the initiatives of our *Amma* as a role model. It may be extended to all the farmers of the country. I am sure that the farmers of the country will never think of committing suicide any more.

So, I urge upon the Central Government to take necessary steps to complement the welfare measures taken by our hon. *Amma* and the State of Tamil Nadu should be provided funds generously as a supportive measure.

डॉ. किरिट पी. सोलंकी (अहमदाबाद) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपको धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे एक महत्वपूर्ण और गंभीर विषय पर बोलने की अनुमति दी है। हम सब जानते हैं कि पिछले काफी समय से देश के विभिन्न स्थानों पर तबीबों पर हमले हो रहे हैं। कई जगह पर जानलेवा हमले भी हो रहे हैं। आप अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं कि तबीब 24 घंटे ड्यूटी पर होते हैं। जब उनके पास कोई मरीज़ लाया जाता है, हो सकता है कि वह सीरियस कंडीशन में हो, उसको कोई हार्ट की या डायबिटीज़ की या अन्य बीमारियाँ हो सकती हैं। कभी कभी ऐसी घटनाओं में मरीज़ की मृत्यु हो जाती है जो बहुत ही दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है लेकिन जिस हिसाब से तबीबों पर हमला किया जाता है और रिलेटिव पैनिकी हो जाते हैं वह ठीक नहीं है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से भारत सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि तबीबों को सुरक्षा दी जानी चाहिए, उनकी सुरक्षा के लिए पर्याप्त सुरक्षा उपलब्ध करवानी चाहिए। वहाँ सीसीटीवी कैमरा लगाना चाहिए और जो लोग कानून हाथ में लेकर तबीबों पर हमला करते हैं, उनको पिनलाइज़ करना चाहिए। आपका धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे बोलने की अनुमति दी।

SHRI C. GOPALAKRISHNAN (NILGIRIS): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with the blessing of my leader *Amma*, I appeal to the Government of India to start a Rope Car Service from Mettupalayam to Coonoor.

Ooty is famous for its tea. The Tea and Tourism Festival is one of the major tourist attractions in Ooty and the Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary also attracts a large number of tourists. There is a huge demand for film shooting in and around Ooty both by the South Indian Film Industry as well as Bollywood and so, Ooty, which is called the queen of Nilgiris, has become filmdom's new Mecca. The Hindi film makers are now shifting locale from Mumbai to Ooty. The annual Tea and Tourism Festival attracts people in huge numbers to Ooty from all over the world.

There is daily tourist flow of about 5,000 people and during the summer season, it increases manifold. The main problem in Nilgiri Hill is frequent landslide. There is only one approach road. Many a time, even due to small problem, the road gets jammed and the lifeline of this hill area is very much affected.

As you are aware, there is a Heritage Train which runs between Mettupalayam and Coonoor and *vice versa*. Many a time, it is unable to undertake its journey due to landslide and technical fault of locomotive. Hence, there is great desperation among tourists, especially foreign tourists. It is worth to mention that there are some environmental clearances for construction of Helipad which is long pending

There are demands from public all over the country, foreign tourists and NRI to construct Rope car/Rope cable service in the model of Switzerland which is capable of carrying 60 persons in a car. The cost is also less compared to the

other modes. There is no terrorist problem as our Amma is making the whole Tamil Nadu as a terrorist-free State.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to introduce the ropeway connectivity from Mettupalayam to Coonoor. Thank, you.

SHRI J.J.T. NATTERJEE (THOOTHUKUDI): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, *Vanakkam*. I express my sincere gratitude and thanks to our beloved leader hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma for giving me this timely opportunity to speak in this august House.

The north-east monsoon has witnessed extremely heavy rainfall and subsequent floods have resulted in heavy damages and extensive disturbances to lives and properties in the entire Tamil Nadu. In Southern Tamil Nadu, heavy and extremely heavy rains have battered the life in the district of Tuticorin.

Many huts collapsed and villages were inundated and a bund attached to Sivalkulam irrigation tank was partly damaged due to heavy rain. Two huts at Srivaikundam and one at Vilathikulam collapsed in adverse conditions.

Meanwhile, Sankaralingapuram village near Kovilpatti got flooded as Veppankulam irrigation tank overflowed and water entered 50 houses. In Tuticorin, Anthoniyarpuram, Maravanmadam, Bharathi Nagar, Muthammal colony are the most affected places. They were completely submerged in flood waters. The Tuticorin collectorate and nearby areas also were flooded with water. More than 5,61,000 food packets have been distributed to the people affected in the floods. They were lodged safely in five community halls and provided with food, water and medical aids.

The fishermen were advised by the district administration not to venture into the sea and therefore their livelihood was affected badly. The district recorded a total rainfall of 674 mm in the last 24 hours.

The Government of Tamil Nadu, under the dynamic leadership of hon. Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has sought generous support from the National Disaster Response Fund for flood damages. Hon. Prime Minister

expressed his deep anguish and grief about the loss of lives in Tamil Nadu due to continuous rain and flood. He had spoken to our hon. Chief Minister Amma and assured full support and cooperation from the Centre.

I urge upon the Union Government to consider this calamity as a national calamity and release adequate amount from the National Disaster Response Fund immediately.

Thank you, Sir.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 3rd December, 2015, at 11 a.m.

19.48 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, December 3, 2015 / Agrahayana 12, 1937 (Saka).
