

(vi) Need to send a team of experts to explore the Possibility of gas deposits in Mado village of Rewa district, Madhya Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI (Rewa): On 6th February, 1991, a farmer named V.K. Singh was sinking tubewell when all of a sudden natural gas gushed out of the well causing heart-rending death of the tubewell owner, Shri V.K. Singh and three Keralite labourers. The gas spread to the surrounding villages in a radius of 8 kms. around Mado village with the result that the villagers deserted the village. The dead bodies remained in the well for four days. Report to this effect was sent to the State as well as Central Government, but no scientist was deputed by the Centre for an on the spot investigation. Gushing of gas remains a mystery till today. No compensation has so far been paid to the dependents of the deceased. Therefore, I request that a sum of at least Rs. one lakh be paid to the families of the victims as compensation and a team of expert scientist from the Oil and Natural Gas Commission be deputed to explore the possibility of deposits of crude oils and natural gas there.

(vii) Need to provide financial and technical assistance to Government of Uttar Pradesh for overall development of ravine area of Ghatampur, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI KESHARI LAL (Ghatampur): The major part of my Constituency Ghatampur (Kanpur Dehat) and the surrounding area comprises ravines alongside Yamuna river. Nothing has been done so far for the development of this areas with the result that the economic condition of the people of that area is very weak, the youths are unem-

ployed. As a result thereof, the entire area is dacoit infested. The people in the area live under the fear psychosis of dacoits. This is the area where a woman dacoit has massacred 18 people in 1981, following which a dacoit eradication campaign was launched. But the campaign did not yield much success. The only solution to this problem lies in all round development of that area for which the Central Government had given assurance to provide some funds to the State Government, but nothing has been done in this direction so far.

Therefore, I would request the Government that with a view to effectively implement the dacoit eradication campaign and ravine development scheme and also to facilitate all round development of the area and to remove the fear psychosis from the minds of the area and to remove the fear psychosis from the minds of the people, financial, technical and administrative assistance should be provided to the State Government. A time-bound programme should be formulated for the development of ravines, construction of roads and other developmental works and steps taken for its expeditious implementation so as to improve the economic condition of the people and to remove the fear psychosis.

(viii) Need to expedite sanction for Kuriyarkutty-Karappara Project in Palghat district, Kerala

SHRI A. VJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat) Kuriyarkutty-Karappara project is a long cherished demand of the farmers in Palghat District, Kerala. The project will cater to irrigation needs in half of the district and will be helpful to solve the acute power shortage. Palghat district is the only draught-hit area in the State and according to some survey reports published recently this tendency may increase in the future. The Kerala Government has submitted the revised project report

Deputy Speaker

[Sh. A. Vijayaraghavan]

in this regard. I request the Central Government to expedite sanction for Kuriyarkutty-Karappara project in Palghat District.

13.46 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY DEPUTY-SPEAKER

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that on 25 February, 1991, a notice was received from the Assistant Registrar of the Supreme Court of India requiring the Speaker to show cause in connection with Transfer Petition (Civil) No. 105 of 1991. The Transfer Petition has been filed under article 139A(1) of the Constitution of India seeking to withdraw the case filed in the Delhi High Court *vide* Writ Petition No. 537/91 to the Supreme Court for disposal in which the validity and constitutionality of paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution have been challenged.

As per well-established practice and convention of the House, the Speaker has decided not to respond to the notice. The Speaker has passed on the relevant papers to the Minister of Law and Justice for taking such action as he may deem fit to apprise the Supreme Court of the correct constitutional position and the well-established conventions of the House.

13.47 hrs.

ARREST AND LODGEMENT OF MEMBER

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have to in-

of President's rule in Tamil Nadu

form the House that the following communication dated 25 February, 1991, from the Home Commissioner, Dispur, has been received today:

"Shri Rameshwar Prasad, MP, has been arrested in Guwahati for violation of prohibitory order under section 144 Cr. P.C. and now kept at Pan Bazar Police Station of Guwahati."

13.47-1/2 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE. PROCLAMATION OF RULE IN TAMIL NADU—
(CONTD.)**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we take up further on the Statutory Resolution moved on 25th February, 1991 by Shri Subodh Kant Sahay. Shri Jaswant Singh was on his legs.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Jodhpur): It is an interrupted discussion that I am resuming. So as to catch the thread of the statement that I was making, very briefly I shall reiterate in a minute what I said yesterday when the debate was interrupted.

As there are some exceptional features of the step in the context of the conditions prevailing in the State of Tamil Nadu I am obliged to make clear the stand of my Party and to State explicitly where the BJP stands in this regard. We subscribe to the view that invocation of article 356 of the Constitution and imposition of the President's rule is an extreme step. To our mind, only the highest consideration of national good can merit in taking of such a step. Secondly, when imposing such a rule ordinarily an elected Assembly must not be dissolved. Such dissolution amounts to dissolving the people's