

all these necessary steps which were suggested. He requested that I may withdraw the resolution. I do not want moving a resolution to be just a ritual.

Though he has accepted the spirit, he has rejected the resolution. Very often you say, 'We accept the spirit but reject the bottle.' That is what he has said. I am not one of those who move resolutions just as a ritual. Therefore, I press my resolution—I may not ask for division. But let it be put to vote. After its fate is decided, there will still be 4 or 5 minutes and we can take up Shri Virdhi Chander Jain's resolution.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will now put Mr. Daga's amendment to vote—Mr. Daga is not here. So I put it,

The question is :

'That in the resolution,—

after 'poverty line' insert—

"according to the scheduled programme because of increase in population." (1)

The motion was negatived.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : Before you put the resolution to the vote of the House, I may be permitted to say a few words.

The hon. Member has made very valuable points. Otherwise I have no objection to his Resolution. It is a very pious resolution. There is no question of rejecting it or accepting it. I agree with the spirit with which this Resolution has been brought. As he himself has said, why, should one divide the House on such a thing ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am not dividing the House. I want only voice vote.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will now put the Resolution moved by Prof. Madhu Dandavate to the vote of the House. The question is :

"This House expresses its concern over the failure of the Government to lift vast sections of the masses above the poverty line and demands, concrete measures to eradicate poverty from the country."

The motion was negatived.

17.56 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE : DESERT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the House will take up the Resolution on Desert Development Programme to be moved by Shri Virdhi Chander Jain. Before we take up the Resolution, we have to fix the time for it. Shall we fix 2 hours ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : (Raipur) : Why not fix it in the next session ? He will still remain on his legs in the next session.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I think we can fix 2 hours for the present.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We have fixed 2 hours for the present. Shri Virdhi Chander Jain.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHĪ CHANDĒR JAIN (Barmer) : Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move :

[Shri Virdhi Chander Jain]

“This House is of the opinion that there should be parity between the Desert Development Programme and the Hill Areas Development Programme in the matter of provision of funds, facilities and concessions in the Seventh Five Year Plan.”

While moving this Resolution I want to say that the conditions in desert areas are worst than those in the Hill Areas. The desert area comprises of 11 districts of Rajasthan, 4 districts of Haryana, and 2 districts of Gujarat. It includes certain parts of Himachal Pradesh and Kashmir also. There is serious crisis of drinking water in this area.

There is very little rainfall in this area. During a season rains fall only on 5 to 7 days. In a period of 5 years certain parts of the desert area remain in the grip of famine for 3 years and certain other parts face famine situation for 4 years. The desert area is not in a position to face drought situation any longer. Though the Central Government and the State Governments provide financial assistance to farmers but the assistance thus given is not adequate. The people of the desert area have to leave their native places and go to Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab for earning livelihood because they are not in a position to earn their livelihood in Rajasthan.

As I have already said there is serious crisis of drinking water, though the Central Government and the Rajasthan Government have tried to provide drinking water. The Central Government during the last 5 years have provided Rs. 30 crores for Barmer district and Rs. 15 crores for Jaisalmer district but this problem is still continuing.

The total area of my Parliamentary Constituency is 70,000 sq. km., which is equal to the total area of Punjab

State, more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ times that of Haryana and 2 times that of Kerala. The area of villages ranges from 25 sq kms, to 200 sq kms., Even in a village where there is provision of drinking water, a farmer or a worker has to cover a distance of 5 kilometres to 15 kilometres to fetch drinking water. One member of the family and a camel remain always busy in fetching drinking water.

18.00 hrs.

This is the situation in regard to drinking water. The people who live in huts or in fields are demanding that drinking water arrangements should be made for them so that they may not be required to traverse a distance of 5 to 15 kms. to fetch drinking water. Arrangements for drinking water should be made by considering every 250 people as a unit. We have put this view before the Rajasthan Government as well as before the Central Government.

Here each area spreads over 25 sq. kms. Unless you make provision of drinking water for a unit of 250 people, the problem of drinking water will not be solved. Tubewells have been installed for this purpose but only a few of them are working successfully and thus we have been able to make provision of drinking water at certain places.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Jain, you can continue your speech next time.

18.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, January 29, 1985 / Magha 9, 1906 (Suka).