

of the project which was just Rs. 11 lakhs will now increase manifold. This will not only result in financial loss to the Government but also create obstacles in the development of the area.

I would, therefore, request the government to complete such Lift Irrigation Schemes immediately in the interest of the people and development of the country.

- (vi) Need to provide free railway passes and other amenities to all the freedom fighters in the country

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal) : On November 19, 1985, the Hon. Prime Minister had declared at the All India Freedom Fighters' Conference at Allahabad that with effect from 1-12-85, free railway passes would be issued to all freedom fighters in the country.

But according to *Home Minister's* statement of 19th November 1985 in Lok Sabha, only those freedom fighters are eligible for free railway passes who get their pension from Central Revenue. Those getting pension from State Government have been deprived of this facility. Under this provision the *Satyagrahis* who participated in Goa Liberation Movement which was a national movement—have also been deprived of this facility.

I, therefore, request the Government to reconsider the matter and provide free railway passes and other amenities to all freedom fighters in the country.

[English]

- (vii) Need to grant relief to the victims of heavy snowfall in Jammu and Kashmir State

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I make a statement Under Rule 377.

That the people of Kashmir suffered untold miseries during the unprecedented snowfall in December, 1985 and January, 1986 is a confirmed fact and known to all. What is not known to the country-

men is that the victims have not received any relief so far. I presented a memorandum to the Hon. Home Minister in January, 1986 seeking Central Government's intervention in the matter and grant of relief to the victims. It was on the basis of my memorandum that the Government of India asked for facts from the State Government. Then the State Government responded and presented estimates of loss to the Central Government. Now that the Government of India have decided to grant relief, it must ensure that the relief goes to the deserving persons. Central Government should either distribute relief directly or appoint a Committee to supervise administrative machinery charged with the duty of distributing relief to victims.

12.23 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up further discussion on the motion moved by Shri Eduardo Falcão and seconded by Shri Zainul Bashir on the 25th February, 1986, namely :—

“That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms—

‘That the Members of Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 20th February, 1986.’ ”

Shri Dinesh Goswami.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity of participating in this debate on the Motion of thanks on the Address by the President of India. It is with a sense of pride and happiness that, I am participating in the debate, I am happy because, it is after