

munication headquarters. There are a number of Central and State Government offices. There are also a number of industries there, like Godavari Fertilisers and Nagarjuna Fertilisers. There is also a proposal to locate an 800 MW gas-based power station. There is already a building for telecommunication depot at Kakinada, accommodating the entire office.

It is likely that telecommunication depot may be shifted to some other place in the same district where there is no accommodation except on rent, which is not less than Rs. 12,000 per month.

I would like to bring to the kind notice of the Minister that the shifting of the depot would not only result in great hardship but will also be detrimental to the interests of the people at large, involving loss of money to the Government. I, therefore, request him to personally look into the matter and see that the telecommunication depot is kept at Kakinada and not shifted to some other place.

(vii) Demand for extending the period of Central Subsidy to backward areas till March, 1990

SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI (Dadra & Nagar Haveli): Sir, Central subsidy was being given to the States and Union Territories till 30th September, 1988 for the backward areas. States have also their own policy for giving subsidy to backward areas, in addition to the Central subsidy. But Union Territories have no such schemes for backward areas, except the subsidies given by the Union Government.

Many units in Dadra and Nagar Haveli had not placed orders for the machines though they had constructed the buildings. With the decision to withdraw the Central subsidy, units which had not placed orders for machinery but had constructed buildings, will no longer be able to purchase machines. Thus the money spent on buildings would go waste and the development of the backward areas will be hampered and many units will

be put to great hardship.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to extend the subsidy scheme till March, 1990. It was expected that the extension will be announced in the Union Budget for 1989-90 but no such announcement was made except the provision of Rs. 20 crores made for growth centres for backward areas. Though this will be an additional incentive to backward areas, it cannot be in replacement of cash subsidy.

[*Translation*]

(viii) Demand for declaring areas falling under Palamau Parliamentary Constituency of Bihar as famine affected areas

KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI (Palamau): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my constituency, Palamau (Bihar) people are facing famine conditions for last many years. Earlier, there was an acute shortage of foodgrains but now there is acute shortage of water also. The stock of fodder for the cattle is negligible. I have seen 6-7 such wells in Vikrampur block of Palamau district where there is no water only the silt is there. Due to the shortage of water, the rural areas are facing a lot of difficulty. The rabi crop has been damaged by frost in recent months and the people are likely to face starvation. The recovery of loans from the farmers is continue which should have been suspended under such circumstances. The interest of those who are not in a position to re-pay the loan should be waived off for sometime. In view of such conditions, the District Deputy Commissioner had recommended that this area should be declared as famine affected area but no action has been taken by the State Government.

Therefore, the Central Government is requested to take immediate action at its level in order to control the deteriorating situation and start relief measures on war footing after declaring it a famine affected area.