

[English]

(iv) **Demand for a UPSC Examinations centre at Vijayawada**

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): Sir, I draw the attention of the Union Government to the fact that in the absence of UPSC examination centre at Vijayawada, a large number of candidates appearing for UPSC examinations experience a lot of inconvenience.

Next only to Hyderabad, the capital city of the Andhra Pradesh State, Vijayawada has largest number of colleges in the State. In addition to large number of degree colleges, Vijayawada is having several colleges with post graduate courses like M.A., M.Com., Bachelor of Journalism etc. It has two Engineering colleges and one medical college. University of Health Science is also located at Vijayawada.

Vijayawada is located centrally in the coastal Andhra. It is a very important junction in respect of rail transport and road transport, connecting every part of the country. It has airport facility also.

At Vijayawada, Bank Probationers examinations, Bank clerks examination, C.A. examinations, A.M.I.C. examinations, Railway Service Commission examinations are already being conducted.

I request the Government to take necessary steps for grant of UPSC examinations centre at Vijayawada at the earliest.

(v) **Effective steps needed to contain the prices of edible oils, ghee, milk, bread and other consumer articles**

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Jhunjhunu): The rates of edible oil and vanaspati which are already high are reported to be further increased by the manufacturers from 128.87 and some of the popular brands have already

disappeared from the market. The prices of Ghee are likely to be increased by at least Rs. 5/- per five Kg can, edible oils by Rs. 5/- to Rs. 10/- whereas the rate of refined oil is likely to go up by Rs. 15/- per five Kg can. During the last two months, the prices of popular brand of refined and edible oils had already risen by more than Rs. 10/-. The prices of vegetables and Dals are already beyond the reach of the common man. Ironically, the rates will also be effective at the Super Bazar and at Cooperative Stores. The price of five Kg tin of Postman groundnut refined oil which is selling at Super Bazar for Rs. 188/- from Rs. 161/- in March has been priced at Rs. 195.55 at the INA market even though the rates at the open market were cheaper at Rs. 185/- than the Super Bazar. The rates of 5 Kg of Dalda refined are stated to have been revised thrice within the last 20 days. Failure of monsoon or any other reason is good enough for the manufacturers to raise the price of their products despite the increased quota of imported oils. The latest price hike will have a far reaching impact on the consumer particularly when the overall increase in the prices of soaps, hair oils and cooked food products etc. is round the corner.

I would, therefore, urge the Government to move in the matter effectively and to contain the price of edible oils, Ghee, vegetables, milk, bread, butter etc., and to make them available to the consumer at reasonable prices.

(vi) **Need to set up a T.V. Centre either at the Elaigiri Hills or Javadu Hills—North Arcot district**

SHRI A. JAYAMOHAN (Tiruppattur): The existing low-power TV Centre at Katpadi which relays the TV programmes from Madras and other TV stations does not cover the entire North Arcot district. A survey regarding the percentage of population covered in this district would reveal that about 50% of the

population is covered by this TV relay centre.

My constituency consists of about 35 of the tribal population and, therefore, there is an urgent need for the development of these areas to bring the tribal people into the national mainstream so that the fruits of various developmental schemes percolate down to the weaker sections of the society. It is, therefore, necessary that a TV relay centre is established either in Javadu Hills or Elaigiri Hills in order to cover the Western and other border areas of North Arcot district to educate tribal people through this medium. If the existing TV relay Centre which is only serving the people in Katpadi and its adjoining areas had been established at the top of the Elaigiri hills or Javadu hills, the entire North Arcot district including the tribal people in the hill areas would have been covered.

I would, therefore, request the

Government to consider establishment of a TV centre either at the Elaigiri or Javadu hills, as early as possible.

12.24 hrs

DISCUSSION RE: DROUGHT
SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY—*Contd.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we will take up further discussion on the statement made by the Minister of Agriculture in the House on the 30th July, 1987. Shri V.S. Krishna Iyer.

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South): Yesterday, I was quoting facts and figures to show that the Government of India had not taken drought situation in several States seriously.

To quote one more latest figure for the year, 1987-88 (pre-monsoon period) which is the official statement given by the Government.

(Rs. in crores)

State	Assistance sought	Ceiling of expenditure approved
Andhra Pradesh	240.75	25 19
Gujarat	429 87	31.55
Maharashtra	453.02	31.01
Rajasthan	781 83	69.13
Tamil Nadu	348 45	34 74

What do you want the States to do? How can you help the State if you do not give them financial assistance? In what manner are you going to help them? I am surprised that so far some of the States have been reeling under serious famine for the past four years, Karnataka, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh.

That is why I said that the assistance from the Centre so far has been only casual or token. Now at least I am glad that the Government of India has taken up seriously. I hope they will take further steps. They have constituted a high-level committee under no less a person than the Prime Minister himself.