

12.16 hrs.

**BRENTFORD ELECTRIC (INDIA)
LIMITED (ACQUISITION AND
TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS)
BILL***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the acquisition and transfer of the undertakings of the Brentford Electric (India) Limited, with a view to securing the proper management of such undertakings so as to subserve the interests of the general public by ensuring the continued manufacture and production of electrical equipments which are essential to the needs of the economy of the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the acquisition and transfer of the undertakings of the Brentford Electric (India) Limited, with a view to securing the proper management of such undertakings so as to subserve the interests of the general public by ensuring the continued manufacture and production of electrical equipments which are essential to the needs of the economy of the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto"

The motion was adopted

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : I introduce the Bill

12.18 hrs

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

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar): At present, about 17 crore people of the country are facing famine and drought out of which 3 crore belong to Rajasthan State alone. Similarly, about 19 crore 60 lakh cattleheads in the country are affected by drought. It is true that the responsibility of making water and fodder available to the cattle is that of the State Government, but the Government of India is also equally responsible for it. Sir, I would like to say that this year, as many as 15 states besides 3 Union Territories are in the grip of drought. Never before in the last 100 years the country had to face drought of such a wide dimension. Therefore, the Government should make announcement of some specific schemes to deal with this grave situation. I am sure the hon. Minister will come forward with such schemes while giving reply to the debate in the House so that the morale of people affected by drought and famine may be boosted.

Sir, I am proud to say that our Prime Minister has taken timely and courageous steps to face the situation. He has announced a package scheme of Rs. 2 thousand crores in this regard. Now we have to ensure that the benefits of the scheme reach the states in an equitable manner and the states on their part should also ensure proper utilisation of the funds

In case of drought or floods anywhere in the country, a Central Study Team is sent for on-the-spot study of the situation. In the same way, study teams should be despatched to the various States affected by drought, floods or any other natural calamity to monitor the utilisation of funds pro-