

such as Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra on the ground that the credit discipline has been vitiated by the cooperative institutions in those States. Stoppage of credit in the thick of agricultural season, namely, current Rabi season will cripple agricultural operations, in addition to causing untold hardship to farmers.

Both the short-term and long-term loan institutions in the cooperative sector in the State depend upon refinance from NABARD to carry out lending activity to farmers. Various State Governments tried to lessen the loan burden on farmers by extending certain concession. The RBI and the NABARD took a negative view of these concessions. What happened in Andhra Pradesh was that the State Government had only announced rebate of 5 1/2 per cent to farmers who repaid their loans in time. This was only an incentive to farmers for prompt repayment and cannot be treated as a negative influence on the credit environment. Even without going into merits of the issue, nobody can dispute the proposition that adequate notice must be given to the institutions regarding the consequences of alleged contravention of lending policies.

I therefore, plead that the credit flow from NABARD to farmers of Andhra Pradesh and other States be resumed immediately pending formulation of proper norms for maintaining healthy credit climate. Your remarks, Sir.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I had already made the remarks.

[English]

I was much faster than you even.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Sir, for the first time he is making a reasonable submission. For the first time he said a sensible thing.

MR. SPEAKER: It appears that everybody has become sensible to-day.

[English]

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: Jaipalji, your 377 is peculiar.

[Translation]

(x) Need to increase the honorarium of Nambarda in Punjab

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, even today the work of collecting revenue from the farmers in 12,000 villages in Punjab and depositing the same in Government exchequer is being done in the traditional way by the Nambardars, appointed for the purpose. They are getting the same amount of remuneration, what they used to get decades ago. Keeping in view the rising prices the Nambardas had requested the administration to increase their emoluments. The authorities in Punjab assured that an eight member committee, will be constituted for the purpose, and it will be asked to make suitable recommendations. The committee was to submit its report by 30th September 1988. But it is regretted that no concrete steps have been taken in this direction even after the expiry of that date. The Nambardars have demanded that they should be paid at least Rs. 300 per month as honorarium in view of the rising prices. I request the Government to accept their demand immediately and implement the order accordingly.

Sir, you had also been a Nambardar.

MR. SPEAKER: I had never been a Nambardar but of course I was a Sarpanch. I am a democrat.

[English]

(xi) Need to set up a Development Board for economically and socially backward areas

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTHNAIK (Kalahandi): Special Development Board, as per the provisions of the Article 371 of our Constitution should be set up for the eco-