

[Shrimati Sheila Dikshit]
also.

S. BUTA SINGH: Soon after the Question Hour, we can take it up.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA
RAO(Vijayawada): Supplementary Demands can be taken up tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let us finish Half and Hour Discussion first.

Mr. Shantaram Naik..

17.33 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Intensive Monitoring System for 20- Point Programme

[English]

SHRISHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Sir, I am raising an half-an-hour discussion on the 20 Point Programme. It was given to the nation on the 1st July 1975 by Smt. Indira Gandhi, which was one of the best gifts given by any leader to this country after Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru gave the Five Year Plans. It is on the basis of Five Year Plans that we started to shape our economy. In 1975 when Madam Gandhi felt that we should stress on certain aspects of our economy, on 1st July 1975, she gave to the nation the 20th Point Programme, which I would humbly say, has become the Economic Constitution of this country.

This country has got a political constitution which we cherish and honour. Similarly we have got this economic constitution which the poor masses of this country are cherishing and honouring. Because it is through this economic constitution, in the form of 20 Point Pro-

gramme, that the poor masses of this country derive the benefits given under the political constitution, viz., the Constitution of India.

This economic constitution or the 20 Point Programme was subsequently amended on 14th January 1982 and on 20th August 1986. During the course of these last more than ten years, any independent survey will indicate that the common man has been immensely benefited by this 20 Point Programme, amended from time to time.

As I said, it is not a programme which is a substitute for Five Year Plans; but this Programme lays stress on certain aspects of our Five Year Plans. Therefore, this laying of stress has benefited this country.

Out of all the points which are stressed in the new 20 Point Programme 1986, one point viz., the 20th Point is one of the most important points on the basis of which the implementation of the rest of the Programme lies. This 20th Point lays stress on five aspects; viz., simplify procedures, delegate authority, enforce accountability, evolve monitoring system from block to national level and attend promptly and sympathetically to public grievances.

Although I have said that the people of this country have immensely benefited by this; but due to certain lack of monitoring at some level or due to some sort of percolation, we are not getting the benefit of the 20 Point Programme as we ought to have got. In certain aspects where stress ought to have been laid, has not been laid. The Hon. Minister may inform me about this. He is looking after the Programme Implementation Ministry. I would like to point out at this stage that the 20 Point Programme concerns several Ministries. It is difficult for him, as I understand, to throw light on certain aspects of some points which are directly dealt with by some other Ministries. Therefore, I would

suggest that the implementation of the 20 Point Programme should not rest with the Programme Implementation Ministry as such. Each concerned Ministry should be given the responsibility of maintaining specific programme. For instance, if I raise anything about agriculture I do not know whether the hon. Minister will be able to reply to my full satisfaction because several Ministries are involved.

Coming to the aspect of simplification of procedures I find that ever since this programme has been started the procedures have not been simplified. The procedures have been laid down in the rules framed under the Act passed by this House. If rules are amended to simplify procedures we can say procedures have been simplified but I do not know whether any State government has for the purpose simplified the procedures except one labour legislation which is shortly coming before the Parliament. Therefore, I will urge upon the hon. Minister to request the State governments to assess what are the rules that they would like to simplify for the purpose. Delegation of authority should be done wherever it is to be done. Further there should be accountability at the bureaucratic level. If in sanctioning the project so many officers are involved then at each stage you should fix the responsibility and that too by rules framed by the Government otherwise you will not be able to enforce accountability. You will not be able to punish anyone who does not do sufficient enough to implement this programme.

Public grievances aspect has also been stressed here. The Ministry of Personnel and Administrative Reforms has done a lot in connection with the setting up of public grievances cell but we do not have so far a law for public grievances. Unless we enact a law and frame rules for the purpose of public grievances the machinery of public grievances will not function properly. What has been done today is that some guidelines

have been framed for State governments to follow public grievances machinery but each State government is understanding it in a different way and each Central Government department understands public grievances machinery in a different way. They are establishing the machineries in a different way and the people are confused. Therefore, we should have a law of public grievances so that every State machinery and the Central Government departments establish public grievances cell in a uniform manner. Therefore, I would like to know whether State Governments have been contacted in this matter.

Another aspect is that as far as government servants are concerned have you taken any action against any government official at the Central or State level under Prevention of Corruption Act or other criminal laws for having defaulted in the implementation of the 20-point programme? I have not seen it. Under this 20-point programme I have no doubt that several cases of corruption take place but there is no stress laid. I do not know whether you have prosecuted or got convicted the government servants for having defaulted in the implementation of this programme. Another aspect is that these days consumer goods prices are increasing. Some acts of hoarding are also going on. How the monitoring is done? At apex level in Delhi, I suggest that there must be some monitoring system which controls prices, which gives position about stock of certain goods available in certain cities, towns and villages.

Now I have heard in Bombay and at other places, some merchants have started spreading rumours that after some months, you will not get milk and oil. Some of them are advising the people to hoard these commodities. Some families have started hoarding oil, etc. At this stage, how your apex body is going to convince the people? You have to reveal them the existing stock.

[Sh. Shantaram Naik]

You have to convince the people that there is no such panic and this is created only by the hoarders. I have not heard during the last one month about any arrests having been made under the Essential Commodities Act. If somebody is indulging in such malpractices, he should be prosecuted and punished under the Essential Commodities Act. You have to enquire from the State Governments whether these things have been properly implemented in respect of prosecution, etc.

Lastly, I would like to submit that in case we actually like to face the present drought situation, we have to take the help of this 20-point programme because, as I have said, this is the economic constitution of our country. The rights given to us under the Constitution of India are actually given to the masses through this constitution. Therefore, even in times of droughts, floods, etc., we have to take the help of this 20-point programme. In certain places, the droughts and floods, have not occurred or otherwise people are not affected. Even those people must share sentimentally the difficulties of the affected people. How we can spare something? How the Government can solve their problems? I would like to suggest that we have to follow what Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said on 1st July 1975 when she, for the first time, placed before this nation the 20-point programme. She said:

"We also need to follow a far stricter code of austerity all around. Government has its duty to curb conspicuous consumption, but citizens also have a responsibility. That is the only way to better the life of the nation."

At this stage, I would suggest that so long as the drought and floods exist, we should cancel all the public lunches or dinners except where it is absolutely necessary to hold them in the case of a foreign dignitary.

We should give up all public functions where there are public lunches and dinners for the time being, that is, till the situation improves.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I share the concern of our Hon'ble Member, Shri Shantaram Naik, on the constraints which he has pointed out with regard to the implementation of the 20-point programme. He has rightly mentioned that this programme is concerned with the amelioration of the socio-economic conditions of crores of people of this country. When this programme was launched for the first time by the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, under the caption of '*Garibi Hatao*', it was successfully implemented. Subsequently, the revised programme was announced to the nation by late Shrimati Indira Gandhi on 14th January 1982. Some of the items of the programme were discontinued by the Janata Government when it came to power and some were continued as part of the plan.

Now our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has restructured this entire programme. It has been broadened to cover the major areas of social concern. I need not mention all of them.

Now, there are about 114 items as against 36 items which were under the previous programmes and more stress is laid by the Central Government on the successful implementation of this programme. That is why when complaints came to the notice of the Prime Minister, he introduced a scheme of concurrent evaluation, under which 29 research institutes of repute in the country have been entrusted with the job of analysing the performance of the IRDP and Water Supply Scheme of the 20 Point Programme. This was accepted by the Rural Develop-

ment Ministry in the case of IRD, IRDP and water supply scheme. Some deficiencies have been found in certain areas and they have been reported. As you are aware, our Prime Minister carved out a special Ministry, known as Programme Implementation Ministry, just to ensure that these programmes are successfully implemented. The Programme Implementation Ministry monitors a number of items on monthly basis and the evaluation is done on quarterly basis. Whenever any shortfall or any constraint in the implementation of the 20-Point Programme is found, the State Governments are requested to rectify them or the nodal Ministry concerned is requested to ensure that those things do not happen in future.

As far as the accountability is concerned, this is the new point in the restructured 20-Point programme and all the State Governments have been asked by the Centre to ensure that in case of any malpractice or any misappropriation detected by the State Government, strict action should be taken against the officers or the officials concerned.

As the House knows, the 20-Point programme is implemented by the State Governments and it is for the State Governments to ensure that the accountability is fixed and when the cases are detected, action is taken accordingly.

Shri Shantaram Naik mentioned about bringing out legislation by the Ministry of Labour. It is not necessary that in every matter, you have to bring out a legislation for delegating or decentralization of powers. As far as the Central Ministries are concerned, under the direction of the Prime Minister, all Ministries have taken appropriate steps to ensure that powers are delegated and all Ministries including the State Governments have been asked to prepare action plan and targets are fixed, and the monitoring is being done on the performance by the State

Governments.

SHRI ANANDA GOPAL MUKHOPADHYAY (Asansol): What is the supervision charge of the State Government as regards implementation of 20-Point Programme.

SHRI SUKH RAM: I cannot say what is the supervision charge of the State Government, but this programme, as I said, is implemented by the State Governments. Executing agencies are the various departments of the State Government. I do not think the State Government have employed any extra staff for supervision purposes. It is the executing agencies which are supposed to implement and supervise also and bear the expenses. As far as I know, there is no separate agency engaged by any State Government for supervision purposes. It is the department concerned which is required to ensure supervision also.

As far as monitoring is concerned, all the State Governments have constituted committees at all levels, at the State level, at the district level and at the block level. As you know, the data and analysis have to be furnished from the grassroot level and a number of agencies are involved in it. This data is supplied at the State level, then to the nodal Ministry and Programme Implementation Ministry also, which monitors it. But I can agree to this extent that it may not be a foolproof method. But what we are trying is that any constraint which is detected in monitoring, is removed by the State Government

18.00 hrs.

In order to ensure that the programme is successfully implemented, we have been laying stress on public participation in the implementation of this programme. It is not only in the implementation, but in the formulation of the plan also. Almost all the State

[Sh. Sukh Ram]

Governments have constituted Committees at the State level under the chairmanship of the Chief Minister and at the district level under the chairmanship of the district Minister and at the block level also. We have also stressed the necessity of constituting the committee at the block level consisting of the beneficiaries, so that we are able to create awareness in the people, particularly in the beneficiaries and the powers are not misused. I agree with Shri Shantaram Naik that the accountability has to be ensured and any malpractice detected has to be severely dealt with. The whole purpose of this programme is to eradicate poverty from this country and to increase the all round productivity and also eradication of inequalities in the income. In other words the aim is to improve the quality of life. This is not a small job. I think this is the only country which has taken up this programme of such a magnitude. A large number of population will be benefited by this programme. I assure this House that any suggestion with regard to proper implementation of this programme which will come from the Members of this House will be taken care of by the Planning Ministry. As you are aware, the Prime Minister addressed the Chief Minister in 1985 that they should hold regular elections for the 'Panchayats' and that the power should be decentralised. There was recently one meeting called by the Rural Development Ministry where it was stressed that the powers have to be decentralised at the Panchayat level, at the block level not only at the formulation stage but at the implementation stage also. We have stressed the necessity of involving the public representative in various committees particularly at the district level. I think in almost all the States, the MLAs, MPs and Members of Panchayat Samiti are involved at the district level. As far as I know there are certain States which really have decentralised powers, for example West Bengal, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh,

etc. There are certain other States where we are stressing the necessity of decentralised power. But you have to appreciate that as far as the Central Government is concerned, we simply have to issue the guidelines and we are to ensure that the guidelines are properly followed by the State Governments. I think you are justified in bringing these constraints and shortfalls to the notice of this hon. House. But I think it would have been more proper if these programmes are more frequently discussed in the legislatures. We have already asked to prepare the Action Plan and they are being followed by various Ministries. I think Shri Shantaram Naik has brought to the notice of the Government the shortcomings and we will definitely take note of them. With these words I thank you very much.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: For how much time do we have to extend the House because it is already 6 o'clock and I have to inform the Members.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): Sir, we will be taking up the next item, i.e. the supplementary demands for Punjab right now. The BAC has advised that we can sit up to 8 o'clock for the whole week so that we can complete the business or if the business gets over earlier than we can finish earlier.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: So, the time of the House is extended up to 8 o'clock.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Half-an-hour discussion is on a very vital and important problem with its focus on eradication of poverty. This was introduced by our late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi and revitalised by our present dynamic leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Sir, one hon. Member has said rightly that this discussion should not be limited to a half-an-hour discussion. This should come

either under Rule 193 or as a Special matter so that it can be discussed at full length. Sir, what has happened to the implementation of all these programmes? Sir, the hon. Minister has emphasised one specific point with regard to the 20 Point programme of our beloved Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. He has stated that the implementation part of it depends on the State Governments. But what is actually happening in the field? He has told the House that they are monitoring and reviewing the programmes regularly on monthly and fortnightly basis. Even if they review the programmes every day, I do not think the situation will improve.

I may just cite one or two examples to convince the hon. Minister and the Government about the real situation obtaining in the field. Point 1 of the 20 Point Programme relates to attack on rural poverty. Since the time at my disposal is very short, I will try to be very brief and touch only one or two points. One of the points is on payment of minimum wages. This is not implemented in most of the States. Similarly, enforcement of land reforms which is the fifth point in the programme, is not implemented in many of the States except two or three States. In Orissa, land reforms were started way back in 1950, but no reforms were implemented due to some loopholes in the laws and enactment.

I now come to special programmes for rural poor. The Prime Minister has emphasised the importance of this programme many times. Massive funds are also earmarked. The hon. Minister has stated that many of the States could not utilise the funds provided to them under this programme. Same is the case of RLEGP.

I want to point out that the Panchayats and Zilla Parishads should function in a proper manner and there should be decentralisation of power. Is the hon. Minister aware that there are States where for the last

20 years, from 1967 onwards, there have been no Panchayats or Zilla Parishads? Will the Minister look into it? There are many States including Orissa, West Bengal, etc. where there are no Zilla Parishads, at all. In Orissa, the Zilla Parishads were abolished and during the last 20 years, no attempt is made to revive them.

In this connection, I draw the hon. Minister's attention to the report of a Committee headed by Shri G.V.K. Rao, who was a former member of the Planning Commission. The hon. Minister must have gone through the report. The committee opined that the collector and the District Magistrate are preoccupied with the law and order situation and other administrative matters and hence the responsibility of development should not be entrusted to them. The Committee suggested that a Development Commissioner's post should be created for this specific purpose of developmental activities. It also suggested that the Zilla Parishads should function properly, in each and every district. The Committee headed by Shri Rao has also stated that the BDOs, who are the real persons to implement the programmes in rural areas, are not at all effective. They are not effective because the extension officers who are posted on a deputation basis in the blocks are more loyal to their own departments and not to the BDO. They do not care to implement the programmes on the field and nor do they have any regard for the BDO. How the BDOs become ineffective? In this connection also, the Ministry should look into it as to what is their thinking.

The hon. Minister has already told that in case of Zila Parishads, Development Commissioner, District Board, etc. the MPs, the MLAs will be taken as their members. I want to ask the hon. Minister, in how many districts, these Planning Boards are functioning effectively? I am representing two districts. In my two districts, only one meet-

[Sh. Chintamani Jena]
ing of the Planning Board was held and that too in the residence of the hon. Minister. On my enquiry, I was told that one meeting could be convened of the Planning Board, every year. They have no finance. What is the use of constituting a Planning Board, when there is no finance?

Regarding Poverty Alleviation Programme, the Government of India are giving their contribution. They are contributing 60 per cent till today. I would request you to kindly raise the same to 75 per cent, because most of the States are facing constraint of resources. They cannot implement it. Ultimately, the pious intention and the achievement to eradicate poverty cannot be successfully implemented.

With these words, I thank you very much.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupathi): Due to pseudo socialism, lack of political will, neo-colonial and mixed economic principles and pseudo political built up, socio-economic inequalities in this country are growing day by day

The late Madam Prime Minister, 10 years back came out with a slogan *Gharibi hatao*. I would say that this slogan has remained merely a slogan.

Now, we have got a young Prime Minister. Now-a-days we are not even hearing these slogans. The late Prime Minister used to fill up the country with slogans. But the present Prime Minister has totally failed even to give slogans to this poor society. Mr. Buta Singh knows it very well.

(Interruptions)

I am very serious about this. Probably you are failing to understand the problem. You see the vision and reality of the Prime

Minister. What is happening today? There is a big hiatus here. I recall the vision of the late Madam Prime Minister. I call it a blurred vision. It is totally a blurred vision. The poor people are suffering today. The thrust of the 20-Point Programme is only on three things, namely, Food, Work and Productivity.

First let us think about food. Today 90 per cent of the people are to think about tomorrow's food.

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: (Alleppey): You come to the subject. Floor is given to you to ask questions. It is not a speech.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Now, I am coming to my question.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Now you are not in the Chair

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): On what subject, he is speaking?

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: I am coming to the implementation part, Mr. Buta Singhji.

S. BUTA SINGH: That is over. The hon. Minister has already replied.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is putting the question.

S. BUTA SINGH: Let him frame the question. Why should he talk all nonsense? He should put a question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): He is trying to formulate it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY (Adilabad):

In line with the tradition of the House.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Coming to the 20-Point Programme, I do not want to go point by point here. I would like to touch three points here.

Late Madam Prime Minister had put main emphasis on rural indebtedness. It is the main thrust of the 20-Point Programme. Today, Mr. Buta Singh knows that people in the villages are going, with their *mangal sutras*, for a loan of Rs. 10 to pawn-brokers. Probably Mr Buta Singh might have forgotten totally that students who want to have a professional education, or to continue such education, are going in for loan at 'eight annas interest'. Also, immediately after their wedding, brides are going with their silk sarees to get a loan of Rs. 10 to the money-lenders. The rural poor are today going with their utensils to get loans of Rs. 10 or Rs. 15. This is what is happening in the rural areas.

You spoke about implementation of the programme regarding rural indebtedness. You spoke of *garibi hatao*. (Interruptions) But there is a lacuna between your vision and the reality today. You are not able to understand it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr Mohan, you address the Minister and ask for clarifications.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: Coming to land reforms, you had brought out a policy. You say you have got a Land Ceiling Act. You said that surplus lands would be distributed. I want to know from the hon. Minister how much of land he has distributed. If at all he has distributed lands, it will be distribution only on paper. Even if the land has been distributed on paper, the position of the landless today is such that they have no means to cultivate that land. This is the plight of the people, even after your Land Ceiling Act.

My third point is about agricultural wages for the rural poor. You are bringing in so many Bills. You are saying so many things. But the agricultural labour in the villages are not able to get Rs. 10 per day in spite of pouring out their sweat and blood. This is what is happening in the country. You are bringing in so many reforms and programmes. You spoke about the 20-point programme of the late Madam Prime Minister. We had in 1986 the young Prime Minister's programme. But nothing is happening in this country. We want results. We do not want any slogans. We want to know how you are going to remove poverty from the society.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA (Tonk): Are you telling us about the situation prevailing in Andhra Pradesh?

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have returned from my constituency only an hour ago. This area has been inundated with flood waters. I have seen the situation of my area with my own eyes. I have seen there that the people are sitting on the trees. Three members of a family died of cholera. Two persons were bitten by snake. The rest of the people are suffering from hunger and diseases. In such a situation, my attention repeatedly goes to my constituency and my heart weeps. A thought that comes to my mind time and again is that are these unfortunate people destined to it only?

I agree that a lot of economic development has taken place in this country. But I do not agree with the hon. Minister on the point that the responsibility of the Central Government is over once the funds are allocated to the State Government. Thereafter, it is the responsibility of the State Government how

[Dr. G.S. Rajhans]

honestly it implements the programmes for which the funds have been allocated. It is like a parent saying that since he has married off his daughter his duty is over. Now it is her fate whether she meets a burning incident or something else. I want to say that our responsibility does not end with that. We raise money after a great deal of difficulty. What can the Home Minister do if the officers and other intermediaries swindle the funds. I have said in this House several times that a committee each should be set up in every M.P.'s constituency for the implementation of 20-Point Programme and the concerned M.P. be made responsible for that in his constituency. They should be made accountable for the work done in their respective areas. Why do not you associate the elected representatives with this work? I have said on a number of occasions that in every district or in every constituency, the concerned M.P. should be made the Chairman of the 20-Point Programme Implementation Committee. Thereafter, if the work is not done, he can be pulled up. If this is done, he will have some say in his constituency. For years together, the meeting of the 20-Point Programme Implementation Committee is not held in our State. The Minister-in-charge in the State misleads them. You may go through the speech of the hon. Member, Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad, which he delivered in the House while speaking on 20 Point Programme on the previous occasion. He too has said that the Minister-in-charge in our State changes the programme every now and then. Whenever we go to our constituency to take part in the meeting of the 20-Point Programme Implementation Committee, we come to know that the hon. Minister has not come. Hardly one or two meetings are held in a year and even in those meetings, nothing is done. Our responsibility does not end with allocation of funds. Implementation too is our responsibility. You should not say even by mistake that this is the responsibility of the State Government. Many a things in the world can be done by

showing the whip. The whip of the ring-master in the circus has no power in itself, but when he threatens to flog with the whip, the lion gets scared. Similarly, the lions are sitting there in every State in the guise of engineers and officers who will feel scared only when they know that the Centre is monitoring the programme.

I would like to cite a small example. Now when the Hon. Prime Minister has accepted our invitation to visit some rural areas of Bihar, we see that a virtual terror has been created there among the authorities to set right everything. They do not know where and in which district Rajiv's plane would touch down. The work is going on round the clock there. Nothing of this sort could be seen there 5-7 days ago. All of a sudden the officers have come to know that an opportunity for a loot has come. Therefore, I would request that the concerned M.P. should be made the Chairman of the District Implementation Committee. If there are two M.Ps from the same district, let the Chairmanship be taken over by rotation and thereafter they should be made accountable for the progress of the work. If it is done, I am fully confident that the work will run smoothly. Apart from this, 4-5 M.Ps from another State may be asked to visit a selected district to report on the progress of work every six months. The funds that are allocated to the States by the Centre are raised after a great deal of difficulty. But these funds are being swindled by the class which is exploiting the poor and is befooling one and all. Therefore, the interest of us all lies in ensuring that this class does not thrive. The engineers and officers who are indulging in loot should be stopped to do it forthwith. In the end, I would only ask the hon. Minister whether he would consider these two suggestions? I would request him kindly to clarify it in his reply.

[English]

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): The 20-Point pro-

gramme launched by the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and re-structured by our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, is a laudable step in the right direction for elevating poverty among our poor people. To remove poverty is the main thrust of this 20-point programme; and during the past five years, we have been able to raise more than 10 crore people above the poverty line. Whatever may be the lofty ideals and the reasons behind this 20-point programme, the success of the programme lies in the speedy implementation of this programme. So, in this connection, I would like to ask certain questions.

Our village still witnesses a class war between the landlords and the landless peasants. Of course, the fifth item in the revised 20-point programme provides for the enforcement of the land legislation throughout the country. How many States have succeeded in implementing this land legislation and what about the remaining States in the country which have not implemented this programme? What are the steps taken by the government to induce the remaining States to implement this land reform?

Secondly, item 6 of the 20-point programme provides for special programme for rural labour. In this connection, I would like to have certain clarifications from the hon. Minister. In some of the States, the scheme for minimum wages for labour has not been implemented. In my State of Kerala, of course, we have been successful in implementing this scheme. But in many of the States legislation about these minimum wages for labour has not been implemented. May I know whether the hon. Minister will give instructions to the concerned State Governments to ensure that this labour legislation is passed within a stipulated period?

I also would like to know whether bonded labour has been abolished from the country, and if not, the time by which it is

likely to be abolished.

Item 11 provides for justice to be done to Scheduled Castes and Tribes. May I know whether any drastic steps have been taken to ameliorate the living conditions of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes in the country. We know about the conditions of Adivasis and Harijans how deplorable they are; even the women among the Adivasis are subjected to sexual exploitation. In this connection, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what drastic measures will be taken to do away with these social evils.

Item No. 14 is about shelter. Of course this is the International Year for Shelter. Item No. 14 provides for shelter for the rural poor people, amelioration of the conditions of the poor people and improving of living conditions and removal of slums in urban areas and rural areas. Is there any special scheme with the Government for the clearance of the slums all over the country?

Lastly, almost all the hon. Members have stated clearly that the monitoring process is not being done properly, throughout the country. So, in this connection, may I know whether the lack of accountability which is visible in the monitoring system is going to be removed? Accountability can be ensured only by a proper monitoring process. Of course, you are now getting some feed back from the State Governments. Mostly you depend upon the feed back. Is there any arrangement for re-checking or cross-checking the information which you receive from the State Governments, regarding implementation of the 20-Point Programme?

To my mind these block level as well as the district level committees which have been formed for the implementation of the plan have not been functioning well. My humble suggestion is that M.Ps and MLAs should be associated with these commit-

[Sh. Mullappally Ramachandran]
tees, as also people from all walks of life. In this connection, may I know whether these block and district committees will be re-vamped so that the people of different walks of life can be involved with them and the programme can be implemented in a most useful way?

SHRI SUKH RAM: Sir, a person with jaundiced eyes sees everything yellow. The hon. Member from the Opposition has made a reference about certain matters without going into the merits of the cases. He has made sweeping generalisations. I would simply request him to go through the Programme and see what has been done, if not in the entire country, at least in his own State.

He can compare the conditions of the rural people before launching of this Twenty Point Programme and the conditions now prevailing. He will definitely find some difference. He has raised one issue regarding these land reforms. This is a State subject. The Central Government in the 'Fifties or 'Sixties under a policy of this very Government — Congress Government — had requested all the State Governments to pass land reform legislations and all the State Government passed those legislations and we have been insisting that the land reforms should be properly implemented. It is for the State Government to ensure that those land reforms are implemented. There are certain States, for instances Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and some other two three States, which have successfully implemented the land reforms. I come from Himachal and I can say with certainty that there is no tenant now in Himachal. All the tenants who were tilling the lands of the landlords have been given the proprietary rights. I wish the same is done in other States also, and the hon. Members of this House put pressure on the respective Governments to ensure that this legislation is implemented. For Andhra - I do not have the facts and

figures available with me, but I can supply those facts and figures to the Member if he wants.

Sir, this Twenty Point Programme is a very vast subject. If you want me to furnish all the information of all the points which as I said earlier, 114 points are being implemented by the State Governments, then how can you expect me to give information regarding all the points. There would not have been a necessity of putting any question in the Question Hour. If you want information, you put a specific question and you will get that information.

As far as this point is concerned, it has been agitated by almost all the Members in this House and the other House also that the Members of Parliament should be properly associated in the formulation and implementation of the Plan. I fully agree with you. We have been requesting the State Governments to associate the Members at the block level also. I know, in almost all the States, Member of Parliaments, MLAs and Block Pramukhs are associated at the District level, in certain States at the State level and in certain States at the Block level also.

Now the question is that the Member of Parliament should be made the Chairman of the District Committee. Here, this is a question which needs consideration. The Minister of the District by and large, in all the States, he is the Chairman of the District Committee, which monitors and formulates the Plan of the District also and the Twenty Point programme gets desegregated and made a part of the District Plan. So, when the public representative was there.... (*Interruptions*)

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: But the Minister being the Chairman of his district is not there in all the States.

SHRI SUKH RAM: As far as I know, in

most of the States the Minister hailing from the same district is the Chairman of that district.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Can you not have confidence in the MPs?

SHRI SUKH RAM: There are certain merits and demerits in it. In certain States Ministers belonging to some other district is made the Chairman of a particular district. Now, this thing has merits and demerits because the Minister, who is the Chairman of his district, knows fully the drawbacks and other things of his own district. In the other case, if the Minister of other district is made the Chairman, then there is an argument that he will behave impartially.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: That means MPs have no role.

SHRI SUKH RAM: MPs have their roles to play. They are the members of the district committees.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: But the meetings are never held.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: He can appoint the Minister as Chairman and the MP as Vice-Chairman because the Minister often remains absent and the Vice-Chairman will conduct the meeting.

SHRI SUKH RAM: If you let me know in which States meetings are not being held, we will definitely write to the State Governments.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: In most of the districts in Bihar meetings are not being held.

SHRI SUKH RAM: When I took charge of this Ministry I wrote to all the Chief Ministers of the States and the Union territories and they had responded favourably saying

that all the MPs and MLAs had been associated. If you want, I can give the list of the States where MPs and MLAs have been made members. I can supply this information if you so like.

Another point raised by one or two hon. Members is that when the Central Government is financing this programme, then there has to be some effective system by the Central Government to check and supervise the performance of this thing. I simply put one question to you. In case there is a parallel agency by the Central Government, already there is a financial constraint and you will have to spend a lot of money on that agency. Spending money for that agency means much shortfall in the assistance which we are giving to the State Governments for implementation of these programmes. It is not possible. Monitoring is done by a separate Ministry which has been carved out. Whatever constraints have come to the notice of this Ministry, we have written back to the nodal Ministry in the Central Government and the State Governments must have taken necessary steps. We have interacted with the other nodal Ministries. We have requested them that they should introduce this system of concurrent monitoring. One or two Ministries have agreed. They are introducing this system. We are insisting that other Ministries should also introduce it so that an independent agency can monitor them, analyse them, go to the field, meet the beneficiaries and analyse what the State Government agencies have done and pose those matters directly to the Programme Implementation Ministry.

As far as SC&ST people are concerned, there are some area specific schemes. There are some class specific schemes. There are schemes for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. They are made for them. There are centrally sponsored schemes also. The State Governments are assisted for helping the Sched-

[Sh. Sukh Ram]
uled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

If you want something additional to be done, you please write to us and we will definitely look into it. If there is any shortfall in implementation of any....

(Interruptions)

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna): Land ceiling laws have to be implemented. In Bihar there was a sugar factory. They have got 6000 acres of land which was

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot allow others. No clarification.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUKH RAM: As I stated earlier, this is a State subject and there is land reform in every State.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: You said about the land ceiling Act and distribution of land to the poor. In Gujarat you have given 20,000 acres of land to a rich man. What is the policy?

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUKH RAM: If you put a separate question, I will reply to that. How do I know what a State Government has done and whom land has been given. I cannot reply to a question relating to the State subject.

I can supply you the figure which the State Government has implemented under the Lands Reform Act. That I can supply.

If there is any State case, you have to put a separate question. You have to give a notice. Then only I can reply. It is not possible to cover all the points.

I have tried to cover all the points. I think Members feel satisfied.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND FOR GRANT (PUNJAB), 1987-88

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We now take up Supplementary Demand for Grant (Punjab).

Motion moved:

"That the Supplementary sum not exceeding the amount on Revenue Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Punjab to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the financial year ending the 31st day of March, 1988 in respect of head of demand entered in the second column thereof against Demand No.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMAND FOR GRANT (PUNJAB), 1987-88 SUBMITTED TO THE VOTE OF THE LOK SABHA

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
1	2	3	
22	Revenue and Rehabilitation	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.

91,60,00,000