

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

services of a part of the financial year 1988-89."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Sir, I introduce** the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you may now move the Bill for consideration.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Sir, I beg to move:**

"That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 1988-89 be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of a part of the financial year 1988-89 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 4 and the Schedule stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 4 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15.36-1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[Translation]

Forty Ninth-Report

SHRIMATI USHA RANI TOMAR (Aligarh): I beg to move that this House do agree with the Forty-Ninth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 16th March, 1988.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Forty-Ninth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 16th March, 1988."

The motion was adopted.

15.37 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: MEASURES FOR UPLIFTMENT OF TRIBAL PEOPLE- Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We shall now take up further discussion of the following

** Introduced/moved with the recommendation of the President.

Resolution moved by Shri Diteep Singh Bhuria on the 16th April, 1987:

"This House expresses its concern over the continued backwardness of tribal people in the country even after thirty-nine years of independence and in order to prevent their exploitation and uplift them economically, socially, culturally and educationally, recommends to the Government to -

(1) take necessary measures for proper and effective implementation of various tribal welfare schemes in tribal regions;

(2) open more schools and adult education-centres in the tribal regions;

(3) give priority in employment to tribal people in various Government development schemes viz., construction and other works undertaken through the Department of Irrigation, Public Works, Forest Development, Public Health and Rural Engineering etc., in tribal regions; and

(4) purchases their forest produce at reasonable prices."

Shri Maurice Kujur may continue his speech.

SHRI MAURICE KUJUR (Sundargarh): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, last time I was just on my legs and the House was adjourned. So, hardly I could speak anything on this Resolution.

Sir, nature has fortunately endowed the tribal areas with the country's richest forests and minerals. But instead of enjoying the fruits of these natural resources, the tribals are adversely affected by the establishment of big industries and irrigation projects. Large scale industrial ventures, hydro-electric projects and irrigation dams have come up in the tribal areas. Because of these large industries and projects, the tribals of these areas have to sacrifice the

land on which they have been depending hitherto. Sir, as per the report of the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, out of 119 projects so far undertaken, 17 lakh people have been displaced. Out of the 17 lakhs, 8 lakhs are tribals and out of these 8 lakhs only 2 lakhs have been given land for land. And the land which is given is also of third grade land where there is no water facility for agricultural purpose. Displacement is one of the reasons in some form or other where the voice of discontentment has been raised by the tribals on different occasions in different forums and platforms. The rehabilitation of these tribals has become a never-ending problem and employment to the displaced tribals also is a never-ending problem. These projects are necessary in the national interest and displacement is inevitable. But the methods adopted for rehabilitation need definite planning and improvement. Rehabilitation should be accompanied by allotment of alternative piece of good land, not just land for land sake. Arrangement for importing technical skill to the tribals should be made so that the tribals of the soil will get employment in the projects which come up on their land.

Almost in all the States, laws have been passed prohibiting alienation of tribal land to non-tribals. In spite of these laws, with some plea or the other, still the lands of the tribals are being grabbed. All lands of tribals should be protected and help should be provided for agricultural development. About two lakh tribal families in about 5,000 forest villages in the country do not possess the right to the land they cultivate since many years. Without these forest villages being declared revenue villages, these tribals cannot get benefit from various development programmes which are meant for tribals. There are many such forest villages in my constituency also. A survey should be made on such forest villages and landless tribals who are cultivating on forest land for more than 15 years should be granted lease of such land.

In spite of the various beneficial programmes, tribals are still lagging behind. We must find out the reasons for this

[Shri Maurice Kujur]

backwardness. I think, one of the factors responsible for backwardness of the tribals is lack of education. It is really shocking that literacy rate among the tribals is very low compared to the literacy rate of other communities. Only 8% of total tribals are educated. What is needed is, educated tribals and not merely literate tribals. In the light of this, attention should be paid for better facilities in the tribal areas in the form of school buildings, hostel buildings, and teacher quarters. Efforts should be made to induct more tribals teachers to work in the tribal areas where others are reluctant to serve. Special allowances and incentives should be given to make the job more attractive in the tribal areas.

Schemes for providing stipends and scholarships to the tribal students for pre-matric classes is prevalent in almost all the States, while the finances for post-matric classes are provided by the Central Government. The present rate of stipends should be enhanced and payment should be made regular and timely so that the tribal students get real and timely benefit. There should not be income limit for the award of stipends for tribal students. The present strength of Scheduled Tribes in various categories of Services is very poor. The reservation policy is only on pen and paper in many of the States. The reservation policy is not followed strictly in many States. Implementation of reservation policy should be ensured in all States. The Welfare Department should arrange for imparting intensive coaching to Scheduled Tribes and to the educated unemployed so that they will be able to derive advantage from the large-scale industrialisation which is taking place in the country.

The Central Government has been allocating funds for the uplift of tribals under different schemes. The State Governments are also spending money for the welfare of the tribals. But it is unfortunate that the tribals have not got all the benefits of the developmental programmes. This is because the implementation of these development programmes is more in letter than in spirit in several cases. Somewhere at some point it appears there is understanding between exploiters and pro-

gramme implementing agencies. This is the real tragedy of the tribals. This exploitation should be stopped at all levels and in all Stages. Unless this is done, the real fruits of any programme and scheme will not reach the tribals who are mostly illiterate, ignorant and simple.

For effective implementation of different programmes and schemes, the District Tribal Council should be formed in all the tribal populated districts and the local tribal leaders be involved in the development programme.

With these words, I welcome the Resolution.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now Shri Narayan Choubey will speak. Be brief.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): While welcoming this Resolution, I have to make a few submissions to the hon. Minister. First of all, I would like to take up land reforms. Most of the tribals in this country are very poor and most of them are landless people. In most of the states, land reform has not been implemented. If we can implement the land reforms properly and if we can give land to the tribals, that will be a big thing and it will be a step forward in the matter of ameliorating the condition of the tribals.

The Government of India have a Plan to give cheap food to the tribals. In places where the tribals are in a majority, the Government reserves wheat and rice supply at cheap prices to the tribals, cheaper than the ration shop prices. But I know that the supplies are not reaching the tribals. Some touts and some middlemen here and there and most of whom are not tribals, are making money out of this. I would like the Government to make enquiries into this matter so that proper action taken and the money spent by the Government of India for the cause of the tribals really reach the tribals.

The tribals are generally son of the jungles, and we are having a very big deforestation in almost all the tribal areas. Previously deforestation was taking place in

connivance with the contractors and the officers of the Forest Department but now-a-days even the common tribal people are also engaged in deforestation and they have no fear of morrow's consequences. One of the reasons of this deforestation is the non availability of fuel, energy. The non-availability of fuel is one of the reasons for the tribals to fell the trees. They are suffering from the non-availability of fuel. So, they are bound to do this. I would like to point out one thing. Now, the Government of India is giving enough subsidy for gobar gas plant and solar energy plants. Special efforts should be made to involve the tribals with much subsidy - sometimes free of cost if it is possible - in order to provide them with this solar energy plant and gobar energy plants in a big scale in the tribals areas. By doing this, they can make use of these types of energies for preparing their food so that there is no reason for them to fell the trees in the name of getting fuel-wood. I hope that the Government will consider this suggestion. At the same time, we have to see to the afforestation programmes. The afforestation programme is so much needed for the entire country as a whole. Whereas we know that only 33 per cent of our entire land is to be covered by forests. But in India, it is not more than 18%. In my State, it is something between 7-8%. In some States, it is less and in some other States it is more. If we can involve the tribals themselves in the afforestation programmes, we can achieve a lot. Now, money is spent through the contractors. So, without spending that money through the contractors and if you can help the tribals and involve them through Gram Panchayats, we can have two things. We can have afforestation and we can also have a source of living for the tribals. It is a big problem in the tribal areas because mostly they live in the hilly areas, in areas where there is acute problem for potable water. Our hon. Finance Minister has said that one-million wells would be sunk in these hilly areas. I would like to request the Government to give thought to one thing. It is easy to say but it is very difficult to implement things. I have seen certain things with my own experience. Suppose,

if you want to spend Rs. 5000 per well, in some places you will be able to dig a well by spending much less than Rs. 5000/- and in some places you will not be able to have a well by spending Rs. 5000/-. You have to spend much more than that amount. But, since the Government's standard amount is Rs. 5000/- the entire money would be spent without actually getting any water. Therefore, I would suggest to the Government to see that this programme is implemented mostly in the tribal areas.

Regarding education, I would like to say a few things. It has been noted that in the name of giving benefits to tribals, many schools have been opened but it is noted with concern, that in most of the schools, most of the teachers do not teach. These schools are mainly meant for deriving income by the teachers and they are not meant for imparting education to the tribals. We have also noted that many of the teachers are non-tribals and they have been appointed as teachers in the tribal areas. They do not want to go to the tribal areas and stay there. Their only concern is to have a school in the tribal areas to earn money alone and nothing else.

15.53. hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM in the Chair]

I would like to request the hon. Minister and the Government to see that the teachers appointed in the tribal schools are preferably to be tribals themselves so that they can love the people and impart education with a zeal. Otherwise, the non-tribal teachers in the tribal areas would prefer to have a school under the sky to earn money and not to impart education to the tribals.

Lastly, I would beg to submit one thing. There is a problem and the hon. Minister also knows this problem. Let us, for example, talk of a tribal in Andhra Pradesh, who is in Government employment. He is transferred from Andhra Pradesh to Delhi. But in Delhi, in the list of tribals, he may not find a place. Naturally, he is out of benefit. A man, who has been appointed

[Shri Narayan Choubey]

as a tribal in Andhra Pradesh, if he comes to Delhi and if he wants to get a certificate to his son as a tribal, in Delhi his son is not going to get that certificate. Therefore, this problem is raging us. This problem is existing for the last several years. We have been able to solve several other problems. But it is a wonder of wonders that even after so many years, you could not solve this small problem that a poor tribal of Andhra who is living in Bengal for the last more than 60-100 years, there is nobody for him to certify that he belongs to that community. Nobody will certify him in Andhra. Neither the West Bengal Government nor the Orissa Government will give him a certificate. This problem should be solved. With this, I support this Resolution. I hope, the Government will take proper steps to ameliorate the difficulties of the tribals. Thank you.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI
(Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on this Resolution brought by my Hon. friend Shri Bhuria.

I quite appreciate the spirit and the contents of the Resolution. But I find something very important, which is in the very interest of the tribal community, missing in this Resolution. That is, of absence of a clause relating to banning or prohibiting establishment of liquor shops in the tribal areas.

It seems to me that this is a serious matter, a serious disease, a menace that is really striking at the roots of our very economic prosperity or even at the attempts for the betterment of the tribal people. Why tribal communities alone? We talk of tribals because we feel concerned about them that they are the most neglected community.

As you know, ours is a composite society and this tribal community is a very essential ingredient, an essential part of our community. There are several reasons - historical reasons, biological social reasons - for the neglect of the tribals. Not just that

it originates here but it dates back to time immemorial. There are several reasons - historical, cultural, social and economical - for the present state of economic affairs or economic position of the tribals.

Ever since independence, our country is marching forward along the path of progress and prosperity. National income is definitely on the increase. Per-capita income is also on the increase. But, by and large, the tribals do not share such increase. What are the reasons for that? We have to go deep into the matter and find out the solution. Otherwise, as you know, only we will be progressing ahead. And some sort of imbalance is going to be perpetuated. Some sort of imbalance is going to be created and ultimately, it will be perpetuated. That is a danger to our economy and that is also a danger to our solidarity which is very much needed. Solidarity and integrity are much sought for in our set up, in our country. At the same time, emphasis is being laid on the prosperity of the tribal community.

16.00 hrs.

Therefore, after independence in all our Plans emphasis is being given to this aspect, inasmuch as in different States Ministries are created, Departments for tribal and harijan welfare have been created. Of course, of late here in the Centre also there is a Ministry - now the Welfare Ministry. Earlier it was a part of the Home Ministry. The whole lot of tribals, harijans was being looked after by the Home Ministry which was over-burdened with many other important subjects. Therefore, the creation of a separate Welfare Ministry to look after exclusively the down-trodden, tribals, harijans and socially and economically backward communities, etc., is a step in the right direction.

Many other things are also in our schemes. But I feel that these schemes are not being properly implemented. For instance, it is mentioned in the last clause of the Resolution: "Purchase their forest produce at reasonable prices". There is a provision, as far as I know, for purchase of all the agricultural produce, forest produce of

tribals in the jungles and forest areas at reasonable and fair prices. There have been societies like Tribal Development Cooperative Society and others formed for this purpose. But still there is scope for making complaint that they are being exploited, proper remunerative price is not ensured to the tribal people and tribal cultivators and growers are not getting proper prices. What is the remedy? The proper implementation of schemes is the remedy.

There is a tendency, as you know, for exploitation. Those who are in a better position, they try to exploit by and large. Barring very few, there is a tendency among the people in the positions of authority to exploit socially and economically backward people, and those who are in a position to be exploited. Therefore, there should be a lurking fear in their minds. Drastic action should be taken against those who are exploiting these people. Even the officers of the Tribal Welfare Department also are not lagging behind in the matter of exploiting the tribals.

Funds are being sanctioned; but I know several cases and many instances of misuse of such funds meant for the tribal welfare. All the schemes should be properly implemented. What is really needed is the proper implementation of the useful programmes formulated for the welfare of the tribal community.

At the same time, education, as you know, is the basic point for one's development. In the modern age, schools are there. In tribal areas also schools are there. Of course, there is need for opening many more schools. Because tribal habitation is much scattered, the numerical restrictions which are there should be done away with while locating schools in tribal and forest areas. It is not that opening of schools will automatically solve the problem. We come across schools which are opened; but the teachers don't attend the schools. These are people from other areas. They are appointed as teachers. Even without going there one can manage. No inspector goes there for inspection. The

people of the village are not conscious. They do not complain to the higher authorities. It is a question of social inertia, they are in. So, greater attention has to be paid by the administration to see that schools opened in the tribal areas function properly.

Now I come to the question of drop-outs. Children are admitted into the schools. But we find the percentage of drop-outs is quite high particularly in respect of tribal communities. They are so poor that even those who should go to the schools, are engaged by their parents in some other work like grazing cattle and for earning something. Also, they have to take care of their young brothers and sisters at home when their parents go out in search of their livelihood. This point has also to be taken care of.

There should be provision of mid-day meals in every school. Sometimes we give so many incentives like books and other materials. But mostly these do not reach them in time. It serves as disincentive rather than incentive.

My friend, Mr. Kujur dealt with the subject with many facts and figures and illustrations. I am not going to repeat those things. But this point should be well taken care of. At the same time, I also share the feelings expressed by other hon. Members about the miseries of the tribals. It has to be a collective endeavour. It is a question of missionary zeal. Mere orders and instructions do not work fully. The Government instructions and policies should be implemented sincerely and seriously. Unless there is an element of missionary zeal in it, I think, that won't bring in the desired results.

We are constrained to observe that some tribal people, after taking advantage of different Government schemes, when they get well-placed in the society, forget that they too have an obligation towards their brethren. They get higher education. They get good position. They become happy and they become self-seekers. They have obligation. We all have obligation for upliftment of downtrodden - be

[Shri Sriballav Panigrahi]

they Harijans, be they tribals, be they people belonging to other castes or communities. I find that there are some people who get into Indian Administrative Service or other all-India services. But many of them just forget that once they were belonging to the Harijan community, tribal community. Instead we come across instances where, after being well placed, they establish matrimonial contacts etc., outside their own community. I am not opposed to such matrimonial contacts. But what I mean is that they should not forget about their obligation towards their own community.

Again, there is a question of caste barrier. Discrimination is coming up and is being discussed throughout the country. It may be because of historical and so many other social reasons. But physically they are well built and are capable of doing hard work. In fact, they are being exploited. If they are guided properly, very many things can come out and also they can build their own fortune without being exploited by others. At the same time, there are poor people belonging to higher castes. Therefore, I plead that those who attain a certain status, for instance, those who have attained a status wherein they are required to pay income tax, they should not get all the benefits as accrued to the SCs and STs, by way of reservation etc. They have been educated, they are earning well. What is the motive or philosophy behind it? It is for their upliftment, to bring them to a certain level and people who have now come to that level, should be kept out of this purview of reservation. This is my view. There are people, with the advantage of different schemes, who become upgraded, who have been placed well, who have been uplifted, who have risen above the normal level and such people should be kept out of the purview of different advantages by way of caste or creed, etc.

This Government is giving a lot of emphasis on the anti-poverty programmes. In fact, the objective of our planning is growth with social justice, growth with regional balance and not imbalance. In our endeavour, we are making serious efforts and the Centre is allotting enormous

amounts to different States for the upliftment of the downtrodden, poor class, etc. Schemes like NREP, RLEGP, IRDP are being implemented and carried on in the States and while nominating or selecting the beneficiaries also, preference is being given to the SCs and STs. What happens actually is that they are again harassed. They are harassed at the time of sanction of money, at the time of real payment. I am afraid that in some cases, the actual amount is not paid to them. Thereby they lose interest because of harassment, because the entire amount is not paid to them. From the very beginning, they lose interest in the process and thus, the scheme does not work properly. After the money is paid to them, necessary follow-up programme and necessary guidance has to be provided which in many cases is not there. Without proper guidance and follow-up programmes, the scheme will not achieve success as we expect it to be. These anti-poverty programmes must be monitored from the Centre. There are also Councils in different States, particularly with tribal and SC, ST dominated population. There are in certain States Councils for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but in some places these councils do not meet at reasonable intervals and also in some places the funds meant for the schemes for the tribal areas are being diverted. All these things will have to be taken note of seriously. These schemes should be monitored by the Centre.

The hon. mover of the Resolution has expressed his concern for these people and we share that. But all these things are already there; it is a question of proper and right implementation wherever it is not being done.

As I told you Sir, the use of liquor by these people is a great menace for them; it is like a *rakshah*; it is dangerous. Sometimes we feel the allotment of more funds by the Centre will reach these people and they are getting benefit out of this. But that is not so. We may have some statistics in our records to show that this much percentage of people have gone above the poverty line, but that is not so.

While I appreciate the Government of India's initiative for welfare of the down-trodden people, particularly tribals and Harijans, but at the same time, I request the Government to take note of the spirit of the resolution and try to plug the loopholes wherever they are. There is a agitation in Ranchi and elsewhere and discontent is growing among the people. The tribals are being exploited not only by other people, but by the tribal leaders also socially and politically. In some areas of Bihar in the name of *Jharkhand* movement what is going on? We have visited that areas and know the position by experience.

Finally, I support the spirit of this resolution but at the same time, I request the Government to take note of it and try to plug the loopholes and see that the tribal community gets benefits and they join the national stream of our progress and prosperity and our developmental efforts.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will not take much of your time. My predecessor has taken a lot of time and has expressed his ideas very nicely and in detail.

Sir, I find that this resolution is very much balanced, and I was provoked by this resolution to make a couple of suggestions only. I will not delve deeper because my friend has expressed his opinion on every aspect of the resolution.

Our Minister of Welfare has worked at the grassroot level and she has a lot of experience. I request her to consider this resolution and take up this resolution for serious action by the Government.

I would expect the Government to come forward with a suitable Bill. Of course, this Resolution cannot go through here, though we may support it. That will not achieve any purpose. But it has very good ideas. The tribal people have lagged behind. And what is touching in the Resolution is that even after 39 years of independence, the tribal people are not there

where they were. Of course, we cannot say that nothing has been achieved. There are so many achievements and their life style and the standard of living has changed considerably. But then there is no qualitative change in them. Therefore, I support this Resolution and urge the Minister to kindly consider to bring a Bill so that we can organise a qualitative change, for the better, so far as the tribal people are concerned.

My second suggestion would be, let the Minister kindly consider to have a survey. We sometimes speak for the tribal people and other backward classes like the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and sometimes we tend to be bookish. We can go to the library, prepare a speech and then speak. I would request the Minister to kindly conduct a survey and let us know the socio-economic status of the tribal people. Where do they stand? What they have achieved during these 4 decades? What is their present status? So that we organise some action. So, there should be a survey.

Then, I would like to say that there are so many programmes, as my friend was referring that we have very laudable programmes and we want to cover the whole strata of people living around the poverty line, but whether these programmes have been implemented or not? And whether they have achieved something? Programme implementation is very important.

I would like to speak about one aspect but there is a very important resolution coming up after this and I am interested in that resolution also, so I would have to be very brief. But it is an aspect which requires pointed attention of the Hon. Minister. It has been touched by my friend very cursorily. It relates to the education of tribal people. If we want to change the society, the greatest and most effective tool is education. We do many things for education but I feel that some special measure will have to be taken for the education of the tribal people.

Now for the last 3 or 4 years, I have

[Prof Saifuddin Soz]

been saying that the funding in the Government school sector is very meagre. When the Model School Scheme was presented, I opposed that simply because those schools would become elitist schools. I wanted that money to go into the improvement and modernisation of the Government school sector. Only 3 percent of the student population at the elementary stage go to the private and public schools. Some private schools can be called public schools. It is a debatable point. What is a public school? I call all them as private schools because they are commercial concerns. If I were in any position to suggest to the Government, I would have suggested to socialise the education in this country. There should be no public or private school. All the schools should be socialised. All the schools should be under the Government sector. The bureaucrats', politicians', traders' - because they can give the capitation fees - sons and daughters go to the public school. But the majority of the population go to the Government schools, and they are in shambles. Last time, I told the Education Minister that you want 1500 crores increment in the Budget for the education but this will go only to the model schools which will create more elitist society and Government schools will remain in shamble. The Government school sector is in a very difficult situation where a common man's son and daughter are studying. So, what will be the position of the children of tribal people, you can very well imagine. Even the lower middle-class children are going in Government schools. These schools are suffering the shortage in every aspect. Last time Shri Narasimha Raoji said that they are having some Operation Blackboard'. He was telling me and others that they will provide blackboards to every school. I said, kindly provided a science kit worth Rs. 500 to every school. Then I will say modern India is organising modern education.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: It includes improvements all round.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ That is correct. That was the idea. At least every primary school, every elementary school will have a

blackboard. It was made known to the Government and the Education Minister that there are so many schools where there are no blackboards. There is no chart. There is no science kit. There is no education. But India is to be educated. So, against that background, I am requesting the hon. Minister who has a lot of experience that something substantial, something qualitative should be done for the education of tribal people. Then only they will not remain tribals in their habits. The expression tribal confuses that they are backward. They are not backward culturally. They are not backward so far as their intellect is concerned. That intellect is to be sharpened. They have whole history. They are Indians. They are culturally as great as other people in India. But we have to provide education so that they become modern. They become a little more civilised. Therefore, education must receive a pointed attention. If there is a will it can give a lot of emphasis on education. I would remind the hon. Minister - I am speaking for tribals this time - that we feel concerned about the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and also other down-trodden people. I will remind her, since she is in-charge of the Ministry of Welfare, that Indiraji had devised a fifteen point programme for the minorities, even though that has no direct relevance here. So kindly have an assessment whether that fifteen point programme has been implemented because that is also connected with a sector of people who are backward, if viewed from various angles. But my friend made a suggestion within the tribal people, within the minorities there may be social groups who are very rich, who are very affluent, we should have a method whereby we tell those rich harijans, those people who have come to a level that they will not benefit from the welfare schemes, that are essentially meant for the people who are down-trodden in the real sense of the term.

SHRI SIDHA LAL MURMU (Maurbhanj): Mr. Chairman Sir, I support this resolution.

The total population of India is seventy crores. We can divide it into four parts, viz., the Aryan Group, the Dravidian

Group, the Mangolian Group and the Clariyan Group. I support the resolution which is concerned with the tribes of Clariyan Group. Even after forty years of independence, the economic condition of the tribal people has rather deteriorated. The basic reason of this is illiteracy and non-implementation of the schemes made for their upliftment. They have not been able to take advantage of the various schemes formulated for them and that is why their problems remain unsolved. There is a provision for lunch for students in the residential schools, but the psychological study of the tribal children reveals that they suffer from a inferiority complex. This is the reason that their language is different. The Government spends huge amount of money on the welfare of Adivasis and Harijans. They are there in every State and speak the language of the same state and receive education in that very language. But the mother-tongue of Adivasis is different from the language of the State. They do not speak the language of the State and so are unable to get mixed with other people like Harijans. The tribal people are in such a position that they consider themselves inferior and thus do not mix with the people and citizens of the country.

The total number of tribal people in our country is 7.5 crores, out of which 5 crores speak Santhali. They live in Bihar, Assam, Bengal and Orissa. Their spoken language is entirely different from that of the official language of the State. They consider the latter as a foreign language. For they have been speaking an entirely different mother-tongue of their own since long. Their mother-tongue is Santhali in Ole Chick script. The State Governments should be directed by the Centre to give education to the tribal people in their own mother-tongue - Santhali. I congratulate the Chief Minister of Bengal for introducing the policy of giving education to the tribal students through the medium of their own mother-tongue at primary stage in his State. Similarly the Chief Minister of Orissa is also considering to provide education to the tribals through the medium of their

mother-tongue in Orissa. A Department of Santhali language has already started working in the Ranchi University.

What I mean to say is that the tribal people should also be given the same opportunities for development as are available to others. They can progress only by receiving education through the medium of their own mother-tongue and like other citizens of the country, they can also become self-dependent after receiving education. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would request the hon. Minister, through you, to consider my suggestion and implement this programme.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are fully aware of the fact that we have been setting up various Commissions like the Dhebar Commission and the Mandal Commission from time to time for the tribals. The tribal people had submitted their memoranda to these Commissions also demanding that education be given through the medium of Santhali language. We the members of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have also submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister to provide education to the tribal people through the medium of their mother-tongue so that after receiving education they may also achieve the heights of progress like other people of the country.

The Santhali speaking tribals live in the Mines Belt. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you know, that our projects for Irrigation, industries and forests are also being implemented there by displacing tribal people from their land while they have not at all been rehabilitated properly. That is why they are dissatisfied. None of the members of their families has been given the required employment in any of the industries. They used to depend on their agricultural land. But now they have not been allotted any land as compensation. The situation cannot improve unless the problems are solved. After forty years of independence, the tribals have started feeling that in spite of being Indian citizens they have not yet achieved independence in the real sense. They have to face a number of problems to become self-dependent.

[Shri Sidha Lal Murmu]

I urge the hon. Minister to pay attention towards these matters so that they are uplifted. In Articles 19-27 of our Constitution, it has been envisaged that the people with the requisite percentage of population shall receive their education through their mother tongue. But it is not being done. It is, therefore, requested that directions be issued to every State Government to comply with this provision and ensure their expeditious development particularly in the field of education.

*SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO (Amalapuram): Mr. Chairman Sir, I wholeheartedly support the resolution moved by Shri Dilip Singh Bhuria. Though it is more than 40 years since we attained our independence, the gap between the rich and the poor has not yet been bridged. In fact, the gap between the rich and poor has further widened. The rich have become richer and the poor poorer. If this is the general condition of the people one can well imagine the conditions of the tribals who are living in remote jungles and hilly areas. They are totally cut off from the rest of the country. Though the Central and State Governments have initiated several measures for their upliftment, their lot still remains to be improved. The benefits of various schemes like IRDP, RLEGP etc. have not yet percolated to their level. Many welfare measures have flopped due to poor implementation. The Government needs effective machinery and dedicated band of workers for carrying out welfare schemes. It is a fact that these poor tribals continue to lead the same miserable life, due to the failure of the Government to deliver the goods. There are many tribal areas in Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa. The tribal areas have no proper approach roads. The conditions in the tribal areas are so worst that they are not in a position to rush somebody who is critically ill to nearby hospitals. These areas do not have even primary health centres and primary schools which are the basic necessities. Even the essential commodities do not reach them due to the lack of proper roads. Though there are some hospitals in some tribal belts, they

* The speech was originally delivered in Telugu.

are not functioning properly. There are no doctors in such hospitals. Doctors, who are posted in these hospitals are reluctant to take up their job there. They are reluctant to work in those inhospitable areas. Similar is the case with teachers. Mere allocation of money for the development of tribal areas will not do unless they are followed by effective steps like providing accommodation facilities etc. so that others can reach and stay in these areas and serve the people there. Sir, leave alone doctors, even teachers are not willing to work in tribal areas. Even if some teachers turn up out of compulsions, they will not remain there for more than 2 or 3 months. Hence, first of all the Government should take care of the needs of the professional people like teachers and doctors by providing them the minimum facilities. If this is done, the professionals and others who are posted in the tribal areas can stay there and save the tribals better.

Sir, tribals depend on forest wealth for their livelihood. Throughout the centuries, they depended on forests. But now, the Government is trying to deprive them of their livelihood by declaring the forests where majority of these tribals live as reserve forest areas. Now they can no more go to forest to collect their food or wood. On the one hand the Government snatched away their livelihood and on the other hand made no arrangements whatsoever to create alternative employment. It is a great injustice perpetrated on them. Hence proper steps should be taken to see that these people are not driven away from forests where they were living since centuries in search of some employment.

Sir, tribals are frustrated. The uneducated youth among them have no employment. Hence out of ignorance they take to violence. The educated tribals too are turning violent as they have no employment. The reservations are not being implemented and hence they are not being absorbed into jobs though they are suitably qualified. Hence every tribal youth in the country is beginning to think in

terms of weapons and violence. If the suitable remedial steps are not taken to provide suitable employment to both educated and uneducated tribal youth, they may pose a threat to national unity. The tribals are well built and intelligent. The Government should take steps to mould them in the professions of their choice. If done so, the tribals would get their livelihood and the nation would stand benefited by their contribution in various fields. The Government should also see that the reservation policy is strictly implemented. Sir, the tribals grow crops after much difficulty. Since they cannot reach the markets where they could get prices which are remunerative, they depend heavily on the middlemen. The middlemen purchase the produce from tribals at throwaway prices and mint money. These middlemen are sucking the blood of tribal people. Hence the Government should take upon itself to purchase various items of their produce from them directly in order to ensure a reasonable price.

Before I conclude, I would once again request the Government to see that at least the minimum facilities like education, health, roads, telecommunications etc., be provided in tribal areas. I request that the policy of reservation be strictly implemented. I also request that many more programmes for the allround development of the tribal areas be taken up and strictly implemented. The Government should ensure that the benefits of various programmes undertaken for the welfare of tribal people do reach them. The resolution moved by Shri Bhuria is quite timely and the Government should take steps to see that all the points mentioned in the resolution are immediately implemented. I hope the Government would accept this resolution.

I thank you once again for giving me this opportunity and conclude my speech.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, after independence, the framers of the

Constitution examined, evaluated and concluded that the problems of crores of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe people living in India are different from those of other people. They had been constantly facing the problems arising out of their exploitation, backwardness, poverty and illiteracy. The framers of our Constitution realised this fact and this is the reason that special facilities were provided for them in the Constitution. It is wrong to say that nothing has been done for them since independence. The Central Government as well as the State Governments have taken a number of steps in this regard after independence. But still some facilities have not been provided due to some shortcomings as a result of which our hon. Member Shri Bhuria has to move this resolution in the House. Since the Resolution relates to Adivasis. I will confine myself to their problems. In this vast country, their population is scattered in various parts of the country and they are victims of neglect, poverty, exploitation and economical and cultural backwardness. In some states their population is more and in other States it is less. Their population is, however, found everywhere in Arunachal Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh etc. The 1981 census shows that there are 54 million tribals in our country and they constitute 7.8 per cent of the total population. The number of tribals in our country is fairly good but it cannot be denied that the Central Government formulated several plans to give education to their children, to uplift them, to provide them equal status in the society and to provide them shelter and drinking water. The Government has also reserved certain percentage of posts in the Government service for them. According to figures, a provision of Rs. 1100 crores was made in the First Five-Year Plan for the progress and welfare of tribals. It shows that the Government is very much concerned about the problems of tribals since the very beginning. The intention of the Government is very clear and it has always been endeavouring to uplift these neglected section of the people. When we take note of the total outlay of the Sixth Five Year Plan, we find that a provision of

[Dr. Chandra Shekhar Tripathi]

Rs. 5 crores was made in this Plan and various schemes were introduced for the welfare and upliftment of tribals. In the Seventh Five Year Plan also, provision has been made for the upliftment and development of 40 lakh tribal families under the Tribal Sub Plan, Component Plan, Special Central Assistance and Tribal Development Programme, etc.

It is also true that they have not achieved progress to the expected level. For this, sometimes we blame the Government and sometimes other institutions and committees who are responsible for the upliftment of tribals. In all fairness, the Government's intention has always been clear and it has endeavoured to uplift these down-trodden. The late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had visited Maisur during her tenure as Prime Minister. She also saw the huts of these poor tribals, met their children, asked about their well-being and tried to understand and solve their problems. We are proud that after taking over as Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, first of all visited Jhabua, a tribal area in Madhya Pradesh, represented by Shri Bhuria. It shows that our Government is concentrating its efforts on upliftment of the tribals. The Prime Minister visited the tribal families, talked to women and children, the old and the young, asked about their problems and formulated programmes accordingly. He also tried to know as to how much resources are being allocated by the Government, how many developmental works are being done and how much benefit the tribal people are getting from these programmes. It shows that the policy of the Government is quite clear and it wants that these neglected and exploited people should get a higher place in the society. Many provisions have been made in the Budget for this purpose and several institutions are also working to achieve this objective. But as has been pointed out by several hon. Members and I also support their views that there are some drawbacks in the implementation of these schemes as a result of which these poor persons are not getting full benefits of these schemes. In this context, I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister that all

of us want that all down-trodden, poor tribals, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes should progress and march forward shoulder to shoulder with others on path to development. We also want that all areas should develop without any discrimination whether they are hilly areas or desert areas. For this purpose, different Boards have been set up and sufficient funds allotted to them, rules and regulations have been framed, the policy has been laid down, the guidelines have been given and directions have been issued but whenever the question of monitoring of these works arose, it was got done through the same officers who were responsible for their implementation. The audit and inspection is also done by the same persons who are spending the amount and maintaining the accounts. It will not be possible to meet the ends of justice in this way. For ensuring justice and proper maintenance of accounts, it is necessary that the monitoring of an institution, to which the money has been granted for the development of any particular community or area, should be got done by an independent body. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister that the representation of Government machinery alone in the monitoring body is totally wrong. Due to this wrong practice, the benefit of these schemes is not reaching the beneficiaries and corruption is spreading rapidly. With a view to monitoring the schemes at all levels and conducting proper audit of accounts of the organisations working for the tribals, a monitoring body consisting of both official and non-official members should be set up. It will be better if the Members of Parliament are also associated with these bodies because the Government is spending a lot of money on the schemes.

Ever since Himachal Pradesh attained statehood - previously it was a Union Territory - the work relating to construction of roads, electrification of houses and huts, supply of drinking water and opening of schools, was going on there and it appeared that through all these works the State Government was determined to uplift the poor tribals at a fast pace. But as I have stated earlier, a high powered and

independent body should be constituted to monitor the implementation of these schemes. Only then, we would be able to know why our schemes could not reach those people for which they were meant. I would like to request the hon. Minister to make provision for stringent punishment for those who have indulged in cheating and swindling of funds of these schemes and did not implement these schemes. We have seen in the constituency of Hon. Prime Minister that by sinking only three feet pipe into the ground, they claim on record to have made available the drinking water facility to the public. In my opinion, the provision of death penalty should be made in the C.P.C. for those persons who are found guilty of misuse of such funds at any level. None in this country has any right to make mockery of these developmental programmes. In the absence of appropriate laws and also due to slackness in the existing ones, some people are becoming rich day by day by pocketing the funds meant for the helpless and poor people. I would strongly demand once again that the monitoring system should be made effective and powerful and it should be so devised that the inspection should be done by a body other than the one that spends the funds. There are chances of dishonesty, corruption, and mis-reporting in a system where the spending and the inspection authority is one and the same. I am to submit that the Government should make effective provisions in respect of crores of rupees which it allocates for the welfare of the poor.

There is no need for the Central Government to allocate any additional amount. There are some lords - billionaires even among the tribals who also get the same facilities which the poor tribals get. Due to this, one lakh families out of a total of 53.54 lakh tribals, have cornered all benefits and higher posts in the Central Government and all facilities have got centered around their families and relatives and the rest of the poor tribal population is being deprived of these facilities.

Therefore, I would like to say in very strong words that in order to help the poor and to uplift the tribals, the Government should not treat those tribals as tribals who have become millionaires and billionaires, have got a say and authority and are occupying higher posts in the Central Government. When these persons are excluded from the list of scheduled tribes, the poor tribal families will get all the funds which are sanctioned by the Government for them. I, once again request the hon. Minister to bring forward a legislation on this subject so as to fix a limit that no Government facility would be available to a family whose income is more than Rs. 4-5 thousand. Until and unless this Law is enacted, these Adivasis will continue to remain poor for hundreds of years. I would, therefore, like to request you to withdraw the facilities from those Adivasis who have since become well of and are now availing of these facilities in the name of Adivasis. An income limit should be fixed for a family so that the standard of living of all Adivasis could be raised.

Besides, there are some Adivasis in the country who still live in the forests. There are lakhs of such people who have no home of their own. I am citing an instance from Mirzapur district which is being represented by Shri Panika. There are still some Adivasis in this district who dig caves and use them for living. The schemes made by the Government for these Adivasis do not reach them. There are large number of such Adivasi families who are living in utterly neglected and far-flung areas and use caves as shelter in the forests. I would like to submit to you that a survey of these families may please be conducted and their standard of living may please be raised on top priority basis.

The hon. Members have spoken a lot on education. A lot has been said about it in the Directive Principles of State Policy. A number of schemes are being run on universalisation of elementary education and adult education. In order to raise the standard of living of these Adivasis, it is very necessary that educational facilities should be provided to them. I have seen 10 to 12 year old Adivasi boys cutting

[Shri Chandra Shekhar Tripathi]

wood in the forests and carrying loads on their heads. I mean to say that their families are being maintained on the children's income. If the Government does not make arrangements for their food and shelter, their children aged 10 to 12 years will be compelled to work as daily wage workers. At the same time, the Adivasi children should be provided free education and they should also be supplied books free of cost. All these expenses should be borne by the Central Government. I am of the view that only when these arrangements are made for the Adivasis, their uplift can be possible.

Some traditional customs of these Adivasi brethren have become a part of their civilisation. These customs pose a hurdle to their uplift. The Government should put a ban on these customs. It is mostly seen that these Adivasis are habitual gamblers and addicted to home made liquor. It should be the responsibility of the Government to root out all these evils. It is all the more necessary to create a sort of awareness in them and make them understand that they should not waste the money, which is given to them for their developmental works, in gambling and liquor. This work can also be got done through voluntary organisations.

One more submission that I would like to make in this connection is that the schemes, already made or to be made should be chalked out keeping in view their civilisation, materials available and their work.

At places I have seen that large quantity of timber wood is available in far-flung forests. There is no need to construct houses of cement and iron at these places.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, in the district plans a decision is taken to construct a primary school at a cost of Rs. 70,000. It is possible to construct a primary school at a cost of Rs. 70,000 at places which are nearer to market or railway station and where cement, brick and iron are available. But a

primary school cannot be constructed at a cost of Rs. 70,000 at a place which is 50 kilometres from the market, is not connected by road and where cement, brick and iron are not available. It is, therefore, necessary that while preparing construction schemes for development, the Government should allocate more funds for far-flung areas and comparatively less funds for areas which are close to market. When funds are allocated on a uniform basis, it causes problems. For instance, while on a visit to a backward region named Kachhar in Basti district, I was told by the people that despite receiving sanction from the Government they are not able to construct the building for primary school at a cost of Rs. 70,000. The reasons they put forward were that the brick kiln was far from there, the cement is to be transported from a far off place and iron is available at a distant place. I would, therefore, like to say that while preparing development schemes, the Government should keep in view that as much funds as are actually required to implement the developmental works in far-flung areas are allocated. If funds are allocated on a uniform basis, only those areas which are close to cities will develop and far-flung areas will remain neglected.

17.01 hrs.

[SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN
in the Chair]

With these words I congratulate Shri Bhuria for bringing forward such a good resolution. I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that he should bring forward a suitable and comprehensive Bill to implement the few suggestions made by me for the development of Adivasis.

[English]

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur): Sir, I support the Resolution which has been moved by Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The extended time for this Resolution is over. So, we have to extend it by at least 15 minutes. Is it the pleasure of the House to extend the time by 15 minutes for this Resolution?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Parashar, you may continue and you may take only 5 minutes.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Sir, I support this Resolution which has been presented to this House with the spirit of helping the tribal people. Sir, the most important thing about the tribal people is that the geographical backwardness of these people should be properly looked into and tribal sub-plan as are being executed at present should be given a new look and this be reviewed and liberal financial allocations should be made for this tribal sub-plan. All these developmental works are quite all right and the Members have expressed their views. I would like to make two or three important points. There is a resentment among the tribals that one region of a State recognises a tribe as a tribe and the other regions of the same State are not. I would quote an example of Himachal Pradesh where 'Gujar' community is recognised as tribe in the old Himachal area. But in the new Himachal area, that is, before 1966, both Punjab and Himachal were one part. It is now 22 years past the people have been demanding that they should also be treated on par with their brethren in other parts of the State, that is, old Himachal Pradesh. Similarly, there is a move to have that list expanded and some tribes have been demanding for their inclusion. Now, one of the small tribes living in Darjeeling District, Sikkim, Meghalaya and parts of Assam - the Chief Minister of Sikkim has supported their plea - are demanding for inclusion in the list. But for certain reasons West Bengal has not so far included it. It is not the fault of those people.

The third thing that I would like to point out is that the tribal language should be developed. Hindi is all right. Let the people learn it. It should be a link language and it should be a national language. But it should not hinder the tribal dialect which is dying out. Some of them have very rich vocabulary and rich spoken literature. But for want of recognition and appreciation by

the Government they are dying out. I would refer to the case of Lahaul-Spiti where the people use to read and write Tibetan. But now unfortunately they are unable to read the religious books also because the arrangement for teaching and publication etc. of this language is no longer there.

Similarly Santhali is spoken by millions of people, but unless somebody is able to print some literature in it or something, some small booklet, people will forget their languages. So, I would plead that there was a practice with the DAVP to publish the wall newspaper which was published in all the major languages which are not included in the Constitution Eighth Schedule, but which was patronised by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, by the Press Information Bureau, by the DAVP, by the Publications Division, and it was also patronised by the All India Radio and various other agencies of the Ministry. So, when the spoken word is recognised as important, the written words also should be recognised as important. So, I would plead that the tribal languages may be given their due place. So far, 7.5% of the population in the country is tribal, but there is not even a single tribal language which has been accepted and listed in the Constitution or given some encouragement. So, I plead for not only the development of the region of the tribal people, the upliftment of their economic conditions, but also of the preservation and promotion of tribal culture which include the promotion and preservation of their dialects and languages and for making arrangements in the schools and institutions and by the Ministry of I & B for publishing suitable literature in them.

Lastly, I would re-emphasise the point again that certain groups being recognised in a part of the State as tribes and in the same State in other parts their not being recognised causes avoidable heart-burning, frustration and resentment. So, the hon. Minister will look into this aspect and also appreciate the demands of the people like Tamang who are willing to join the mainstream of the country and give them some

[Prof Narayan Chand Parashar]

protection by including them in the Tribal list when the sister tribes like Lepcha etc. are already in the Scheduled Tribes list. So, a comprehensive list and protection and promotion of their language and culture and development of their areas is the surest way to preserve the tribal identity of the people. Thank You.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): Mr. Chairman, it is almost one year since this Resolution was moved by Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria on the 16th April 1987, and I am just replying on 18th March, It is almost an year now.

I must say in the beginning that Mr. Bhuria has done great service to the tribal people in highlighting their problems. It is also very much encouraging that all the Members, whoever have spoken on this Resolution during this period, either on this side or on that side, have shown keen interest in the tribal problems. It shows that the nation wants it because Parliament has discussed these problems for the whole year. It shows the concern of every section of our people and those who are representing the people in Parliament. It is not only the tribal group Members, but everybody is concerned and the Government is also concerned with the development of tribal people.

The four points which had been raised in this Resolution are:

- (i) take necessary measures for proper and effective implementation of various welfare schemes in tribal regions;
- (ii) open more schools and adult education centres in the tribals regions;
- (iii) give priority in employment to tribal people in various Government developmental schemes viz, construction and other works undertaken through the Departments of Irrigation, Public Works, Forest Development, Public Health and Rural Engineering etc. in tribal regions; and

- (iv) purchase their forest produce at reasonable prices.

Sir, as the points are raised through this Resolution, Government have taken up so many steps in this direction. First of all, I want to assure the House that Government have seriously considered all these points and already taken up steps in this direction. The tribal sub plan approach is nothing but the development plan for the tribal people. From the figures you will see that in terms of financial involvement, there has been considerable improvement over the years, for the development work. The investment during the 7th Five Year Plan period for tribal development is of the order of Rs. 10,500 crores. This is almost double the amount of what is provided in the 6th Five Year Plan and about 10 times more than that of the 5th Five Year Plan period. During the Fifth Five Year Plan period, tribal development plan was envisaged and taken up. In these three Plan periods, more money is invested and allocated for economic development of the tribal people. The tribal sub-plan is implemented through 184 Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP). There are 184 tribal development blocks all over the country where the tribal population is concentrated, and 285 MADA pockets. I need not explain it because, I do not want to take much time on this.

We are paying special attention to anti-poverty programme and our estimates are that during the Sixth Five Year Plan period, about 39 lakhs tribal families were assisted economically so as to enable them to cross the poverty line and further during the 7th Five Year Plan, a target of assisting 40 lakhs scheduled tribe families have been set. So, the achievement during the first 2-1/2 years of the 7th Plan period, i.e., 1985-86, 1986-87 and first 10 months of 1987-88 (upto January, 1988) has been 8.73 lakhs, 10.28 lakhs and 7.96 lakhs tribal families respectively. These are the figures which are not only on paper but actually these are the beneficiaries and these families have come above the poverty line.

Again, some of our hon. Members have raised the problem of forest produces of

the tribals. In order to solve this problem, we have decided that cooperatives which were established in the form of LAMPS can be strengthened and for that we have now constituted apex body of the cooperatives in the tribal areas for giving booster to tribal produce, to give price support and marketing facilities. From the first of April, it will come into operation. Other preparations are being made. This will help in giving remunerative price to the tribal produce. There are States which are producing tribal produce. There are some monopoly purchases also. But that has not solved the problem. That is why, we want involvement of tribal people also. For that, State Corporations, tribal corporations and agencies at the lower level will help in sorting out this problem.

Now, we have adopted family oriented poverty alleviation programme. These are IRDP and the employment oriented programmes such as National Rural Employment Programme and the NREGP which have become the main instruments for economically assisting the tribal families to cross the poverty line. These Programmes help the tribals. The hon. Members want that we should effectively implement all the various tribal welfare schemes in the tribal areas. These programmes are being implemented.

Most of the hon. Members have mentioned about education and the lower percentage of education among the tribals. It is true that still the percentage of literacy among the tribals is quite low but it is gradually increasing. If you take the figures from 1931 it was 7.5%; in 1961 it was 8.54%; in 1971, it was 11.29% and in 1981 it was 16.35%. That means it is increasing year to year. But, at the same time, we cannot say that it is quite satisfactory. We have to improve this.

In the new Education Policy of 1986, a suggestion has been made for the education of Scheduled Castes and that has been adopted also. First priority will be accorded to set up primary schools in tribal

areas. Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria also wanted more schools and adult education centres in tribal regions. In our Education Policy, we have taken care of this and it has been decided that the construction of school buildings will be undertaken in these areas on priority basis.

The socio-culture milieu of the STs has its distinctive characteristics including in many cases their own spoken languages. Just now Prof. Narain Chand Parashar was saying about their languages. Four or five hon. Members also said about this matter. In our Education Policy, we have taken care of this and this underlines the need to develop the curricula and devise instructional materials in tribal languages at the initial stages with arrangements for switching over to the regional languages. Educated and promising school youths will be encouraged and trained to take up teaching in tribal areas. We have started on these lines. Residential schools including Ashram schools will be established on a large scale. Incentive Schemes will be formulated for the Scheduled Tribes keeping in view of their special needs and lifestyles. Special remedial courses and other programmes to remove psycho-social impediments will be provided to improve their performance in various Courses.

Schemes have been drawn up for conducting coaching classes so that from 8 and 9 classes, boys and girls are specially trained and their knowledge is improved so that they can compete in other higher competitions. We have taken up that also.

The curriculum at all stages of education will be designed to create an awareness of the rich cultural identity of the tribal people as also of their enormous native talent. Hon. Members have expressed this in the resolution. Government has already adopted and accepted it and we are in the implementation stage. We have drawn up an action plan and in the coming years we will be working on these lines. So, the suggestion that has been made through this resolution is in the interest of the tribals and it has helped us. I think that there will be no further cause of disappointment

[Dr. Rajendra Kumari Bajpai]

and we will be solving the problems on this line also.

Regarding providing employment, I would like to say that only after giving education, giving proper training and job-oriented education, they will be able to have employment and other things. Then only they will be able to come up in the competition. In all the departments, we are going to do this.

One point which has been raised during the discussion is about the land alienation and land acquisition for projects etc. The Government has taken a new initiative and now the Bureau of Public Enterprise has, of late, issued guidelines for land acquisition and rehabilitation aspects, involved in major projects. These are one of the causes of dissatisfaction among the tribal people. This point has been raised again and again. This point has also been taken care of. Under the guidelines, it is provided to have a Rehabilitation Cell which would be in charge of the Rehabilitation of these people - both social and economic. It has also been provided in the guidelines that rehabilitation costs hereinafter be a part of the project cost. So far as the tribals are concerned, the guidelines provide that rehabilitation schemes would be prepared in consultation with the Ministry of Welfare and the Ministry of Environment and Forests. As per the guidelines, a standing Committee under the Chairmanship of our Deputy Minister has been constituted and we are monitoring it. We will see that these rehabilitation schemes for the displaced tribals under the major projects be taken care of and under these guidelines, I think, in future whatever projects are taken up, the rehabilitation costs will also be included in that.

Sir, Shri Arvind Netam has raised a point regarding allowing tribals to decide the course and quantum of development themselves. This is a good suggestion and I welcome it. I also agree with him. It is the Government's endeavour to improve the involvement and participation of tribals

in institutions like Gram Panchayats, Panchayat Samities, Zilla Parishads, Autonomous Development Authorities in tribal regions, tribal cooperatives including LAMPS, Project implementation Committees. From the ground level, the tribals are involved in all these activities. The recommendations of the working Group on development of Scheduled Tribes during the Seventh Five Year Plan in this regard have been brought to the notice of the State Governments for implementation. I have taken up the matter with the concerned State Chief Ministers, having Tribal Advisory Council to call meetings of the councils more frequently and utilise these forums in the field of tribal development and administration of tribal areas. I agree with Mr. Soz that this policy is there already but the implementation part of it is not that much. All the hon. Members have been exercised on this point. They have highlighted these things.

Shri Shahabuddin and some other Members mentioned the low level of infrastructural facilities in tribal areas compared to non-tribal areas. Under the Tribal sub-Plan strategy funds from State Plan, Central Ministries are separately quantified for tribal areas. Separate demand numbers/major heads/sub-heads have been created in the State budget so that funds meant for tribal areas are not diverted to other areas. Special Central Assistance is made available as an additive to the State Plan Fund in the priority sectors of tribal development. This has resulted in creating more infrastructural facilities in the tribal areas such as, roads, dispensaries, hospitals, schools, residential schools, rural water supply, rural electrification, minor irrigation schemes.

One point also was raised about giving incentives to officers and employees who will be posted in tribal areas. This incentive scheme is there and States are implementing it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What do you say about their cultural activities? They have got folk dances and tribal dances. That is also, nowadays, disappearing. You will have to take some steps to keep it alive.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: It is our policy. The tribal traditions and tribal culture must be maintained and they should be preserved. In our Education Policy also, we have taken up this language problem. In their own language, they can have their cultural activities. For that, we have got about 12 tribal research centres and with that, tribal museums are also there where their old things, dresses, costumes are preserved. People go and study there. Research work is also going on in this. We want to preserve that. This is our open declared policy. Still, there are some primitive tribes. They are not coming out. Those who are coming out and mixing up with the mainstream, we do not want that they should forget their own culture and tradition. They should maintain that. We encourage them for that. That is Government's policy.

Again Shri Shahabuddin and Shri K.P. Singh Deo referred to the problem of distressed tribes. I have already mentioned about it.

Shri Somnath Rath and Shri Chintamani Jena referred to the difficulties experienced by the tribals in marketing forest produce. Already, we have solved that.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj): I have asked to revise the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes because many tribes are left out. This revision must come in this session itself.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: That is under active consideration of the Government. We have worked on this. As you know, when the Bill will come in Parliament, then only, we will be able to do something.

✓ In conclusion, I would like to mention that over the decades, the programmes and schemes for development of tribal people and tribal areas have been drawn up and refined with the objectives of successfully reaching them for their benefit. The endeavour of the Union and State Governments is to ensure rapid development of the Scheduled Tribes. It

will be our continuous effort to remove impediments that stand in the way of their rapid development. I am sure that in this task, the cooperation and assistance of all sections will be available.

Having regard to the reply given by me, may I now request Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria to withdraw the Resolution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Mover to reply.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA (Jhabua): I require half an hour to reply to 42 Members.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You be as brief as possible.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA (Jhabua): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while bringing forward a resolution regarding the development of the Adivasis, I had a point in mind that the hon. Members should highlight the problems of the Adivasis and express their concern for them. I am happy to note that 42 hon. Members participated in the debate. All of the hon. Members supported this resolution and expressed their concern for the Adivasis.

[English]

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil): Only tribals are sitting here. All other have gone.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Very few are interested in tribals, that is all.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: I express my thanks to all those hon. Members and the hon. Minister. I do not want to go into statistical details. The development which ought to have taken place of these people and the task of connecting them with the mainstream and bringing them at par with other people of the society has not been done even after 40 years of independence. There can be a number of reasons for that. It is absolutely correct, as

[Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria]

has been said by the hon. Minister, that crores of rupees have been allocated for this purpose. Our hon. leaders, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi took keen interest in tribal development. But we have failed to bring them to the mainstream which we should have done by going to their villages and staying amidst them.

The Central Government entrusts the State Governments with all the works related to tribal development. The State Governments on their part take action according to their own view point. It is due to all these reasons that the Adivasis cannot march forward. The Government has gained a lot of experience during the last 40 years and it should not hesitate to set up an agency to develop the tribal areas. The Government allocates funds for various schemes and these funds are being utilised. Even then their condition is worsening. If a patient does not come round by a light dose, he is given a heavy dose. Similarly, the Government should set up an agency which will work as a heavy dose and bring them to the mainstream. If it is not done, they cannot come at par with other sections of the society even in hundred years. Though Government is increasing the reservation quota for the last 15 years, yet the required number is not coming for recruitment in services. The Government should enact a law making it compulsory for all departments to fill up the reserved vacancies only by the candidates belonging to these communities. If this is not done and these rules are not compulsorily followed, the facilities which ought to have been made available to these people will not be available to them inspite of our holding discussions here.

The Government, by a law, should make it mandatory that no other person can acquire adivasi land. If at all anybody acquires, it will be with the prior approval of the Government. The Government should also enact a law on national labour as it has enacted several laws on various subjects.

A law should be enacted at the national

level that no non-tribal can acquire tribal land. If anyone does so, he will have to pay compensation or provide employment to the tribal concerned in lieu thereof. The situation today is that, the non-tribals have acquired tribal land thereby ruining them. The Adivasis know either farming, working as a labourer or putting hard labour. They do not know anything beyond that. The Government acquired their land and developed industries on it or utilised the land for some other purpose. Now they are left with nothing. Since they are accustomed to wild life, they earn the livelihood of their family from various forest products and also through hunting. But due to gradual denudation of forest, they have become helpless as to where to go, what to do and what to earn. Drought has hit all parts of the country. In Madhya Pradesh, it is most severe in the Adivasi areas. It is, therefore, necessary that the Government should prepare a time-bound programme and earmark a fixed amount for their development so that they could be brought to the mainstream. It is all right that a sort of awareness is developing in them gradually. Even then, a time-bound programme should be prepared and a fixed amount should be earmarked for their development.

The hon. Minister, has stated that a tribal project has been launched for them. But I know that earlier the tribal project was a very specific project. The hon. Minister also said that the Government is formulating a family benefit scheme for them. But he did not spell out the details of the scheme.

Today, the Government spends crores of rupees and brings the Adivasis above the poverty line. But some vested interests throw them back to the same line. They grab their money. Further, there is no guarantee that the people who are being brought above the poverty line will not fall below the poverty line. I, therefore, would like that the Government should check those non-tribals who are exploiting the tribals and should not allow any non-tribal to enter tribal areas. Unless the Government draws a specific line to ensure that the benefits being extended to Adivasis ac-

tually reach them, it will be of no use.

Today the Government is connecting villages by roads and is opening hospitals. But the Adivasis do not gain anything out of it. If the Government wants to improve the lot of the Adivasis, it should treat the entire 5.4 crore population of Adivasis as one unit and develop it. It should provide them employment, land, and such work which they can do. The work so provided should fall within their culture. They know rearing of cows, buffaloes and goats. They should be provided such type of work so as to enable them to march forward.

So far as education is concerned, if we exclude cities, only 5 per cent girls are educated, because the entire tribal population lives in villages. In Madhya Pradesh, their literacy percentage is hardly 9 to 10 per cent whereas their population is about 20 lakhs. This is my experience that the education scheme of two-three hours will not be of any use for the poor Adivasis as the teachers teach them only for one hour and wander for the rest of the time. These teachers join them in their evils and as a result, they are further spoiled instead of becoming prudent.

I would request the hon. Minister to treat every Panchayat a unit and make a resident roster separately for boys and girls and employ ten to fifteen teachers there. The Government should bring forward a resolution that no Adivasi child, male or female born after the year 1988 will remain illiterate. The child should be provided with financial aid if his parents are poor and if he goes either for doing labour or for grazing cattle. Mahatma Gandhi's dream of a socialist society would become meaningful only when the whole society lives unitedly and benefits of our national resources go to all. Why is it so that such a large section of the society is backward? Nobody knows how to bring them into the mainstream. This question is of great concern to us today. We can get success only when we make these programmes effective. Today there are different cultures in our country. But what steps have been taken to develop the culture of Adivasis? It looks very odd when the tribal is asked to

give a dancing performance at the arrival of a VIP. What is all this? When we come to Delhi, no other culture is shown to us. This should be stopped. Today, taking snaps of Adivasis of Bastar or Jhabua has become a practice in the country. How do you want to keep their culture alive?

We must try to stay amidst them and mix up with them to win their confidence. Today most of the Government employees and officers visiting adivasi areas are engaged in exploiting them. Outwardly all of them talk of serving the poor, but practically when these officials reach tribal areas the Adivasis get suspicious about their intention. Thereafter these officials just leave that village and move to another village. Hence the Government should create an institution on the strength of sincere and social workers and officials who really wish to serve them, are ready to live amidst them and are prepared to share their agonies. The formation of a voluntary agency is very essential to instil confidence in the poor Adivasis. Unless such an agency is set up, they will not be able to know the language and culture of each other. In the absence of such an intense relation with them, most of the Government schemes remain incomplete. How much do they spend on these schemes. The expenditure is only on paper. That is why we do not get the desired success.

I would request the hon. Minister to ask the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and tribal agencies to formulate a time-bound programme to ensure the development of Adivasis. The Constitution makes it obligatory on the part of the Governor of a State having Adivasi area to report to the Central Government, but till today...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: How will he report, he is a slave.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: This is not so. I ask you why do not you use that Agency for this purpose? The Governor of the State must visit that tribal area at least once a year to see whether the Government schemes formulated for the welfare of Adivasis are really being implemented or

[Shri Dileep Singh Bhuria]

not? If any shortcoming comes to his notice, he should give instructions to the State Government to remove that shortcoming.

The meetings of Adivasi Advisory Councils are not held for two to three years and as a result they do not function as actively as they should. You should pay attention to all these things. Upliftment of these Adivasis is not possible unless a proper system is developed. The Members of Parliament can also be invited to these meetings. Only once you had invited us for discussion but I want such discussions to be held at least once in three or four months. I do not say that non-*adivasis* do not think about the well-being of *Adivasis*. They also know a lot about these tribals and take great deal of interest in them. There are many people in the country who believe in socialistic ideology, have a concern for the poor and want to do something for them. I request that such people should be associated with these councils.

Many people think that the forests are cut by *Adivasis*. This is a wrong notion. These forests are being cut by contractors and only they are responsible for their gradual destruction. As you provide land to the farmers for farming, in the same way, the contract of planting bushes and trees should be given to *Adivasis*. They will do this type of work in a better way. The *Adivasis* like to live in forests. They do not want to go to the cities. They hate cities. They come to cities in search of work only when they become helpless. The Government is running many schemes and is spending a lot of money for the upliftment of *Adivasis*.

I request you to hand over the forests to these *Adivasis* because the forest is an inseparable part of their life. I would also like to say that you have built a number of major irrigation projects in tribal areas and many more of such projects involving evacuation of tribals from their lands are likely to come up in the near future. I would like to urge upon you that when you evacuate *Adivasis* from area, you should

acquire irrigated land belonging to other people and hand it over to them as they want to settle within the radius of about 10 kms. At present tribals are not being helped timely despite power projects, irrigation projects, industrial projects and mining projects having been set up in their areas. Before evacuating them from the area, you must provide them with houses, food and means of livelihood because they are too simple to know the rules and regulations of the Government... (*Interruptions*)... I want to conclude my speech with these points.

If the hon. Minister replies two-three points that I have raised and gives clarifications thereto, I shall withdraw my resolution. The Government and Hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi have formulated many schemes and have also supplied wheat to tribals. Although the object of spending this money is good but the intention, the policy is not just. We have Schemes but we did not get success in implementing them. Hence, I would like the hon. Minister to clarify how is he going to set up the Implementation Agency.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI: The hon. Member has put forward very valuable suggestions. So far as the question of Agency is concerned, provisions of development blocks were made in the Fifth Five Year Plan and they were considered to be helpful in extending this work further. It was done primarily to accelerate this work by taking funds from different departments and special assistance from the Centre. But so far as the drawbacks in the implementation are concerned, there is need to accelerate the pace of the schemes and to involve the tribals at lower level, panchayat and village level. While replying to the discussion, I had stated that the proposed agency should be such through which all works from bottom to top could be done at one place. I also agree with Shri Bhuria that tribals should not be made to give dancing performance if it is seen with that intention, but if we want to keep the tribal culture alive, various efforts for the development of this culture must continue. We have started such schemes which could generate work for them pertaining to tribal

produce. We shall see that these works are increased further in future. All the points mentioned by the hon. Member in his speech are covered under the policies of the Government. As he has himself said, our Hon. Prime Minister is taking keen interest in it and have gathered knowledge about the problems of villagers by visiting these areas personally. The Government is further strengthening the monitoring system to ensure development of these areas in reality and not merely on paper.

This is a fact that these people are very backward from education point of view. Even the Operation Black Board has not made much impact in those areas. The objective of "Operation Black Board" is to educate these Adivasis in specific time-frame. So we are committed to all these things. I think Shri Bhuria will now withdraw his resolution.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: The hon. Minister and particularly our Prime Minister is concerned about the development of Adivasis. Enough discussion has taken place on this resolution.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please say whether you are withdrawing it or not.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: I withdraw my resolution.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his Resolution?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

The Resolution was by leave, withdrawn.

17.53 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE. CENTRE-STATE
RELATIONS

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we will take up other Resolution. Shri H.M. Patel.

SHRI H.M. PATEL (Sabarkantha): I rise to move:

"This House expresses its deep concern over the present Centre-State relations and demands their early restructuring so that federalism underlying our Constitution is made more meaningful."

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Sir, I propose to move an amendment to this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can move only after the speech.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: I would like to read out the Rule and then you can decide.

I will read out the Rule for you and then I will obey your ruling. There is no problem.

Rule 177(1) says

"After a resolution has been moved any member may, subject to the rules relating to resolutions, move an amendment to the resolution."

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: So your ruling is that I can move my amendments afterwards.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Moving of Amendment includes the speech.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: If that is so, then it is all right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: After the speech, you can move your amendments.