

[Shri B. N. Reddy]

deaths also, and particularly in Mahaboobnagar district—to mention it in a nut shell—3.5 lakh hectares of wet land has been spoiled, thus affecting the Kharif crop, and the loss of production is estimated at 7.14 lakh tonnes. In monetary terms it has been estimated at Rs. 14.20 crores. As far as the dry lands are concerned 10 lakh hectares of the left fallow land has been damaged, standing crops in 10.38 lakh acres have been damaged and the total crop loss comes to about Rs. 207.60 crores. This total loss is due to the areas left unsown and the production loss resulting therefrom and finally the failure of crops. The consequent reduction in yield both under wet and dry crop together is estimated at Rs. 496.80 crores. Seven districts in the State are affected, due to the recent heavy floods, in which about 75 lakh people were affected, in 4,433 villages, killing 308 people and injuring 29, and as many as 17,383 heads of cattle have been killed. As many as 4,41,000 or five lakh villagers have been totally ruined as an area of 8.262 hectares of standing crops were destroyed costing about Rs. 380.97 crores. The total value of houses, crops and public utility services damaged comes to Rs. 1,598.36 crores.

The above mentioned facts and figures clearly speak that it is not purely a local calamity but a national calamity which the State had to face. The State Government sent three memoranda about this drought situation requesting for help, to meet the situation. A detailed memorandum about the flood situation also has been sent to the Centre for aid. When thousands of crores of damage has occurred the Centre is giving only some tens of crores, this cannot solve the problem.

Two central teams have already visited the drought affected area. My only request is that the Centre should treat it as a national calamity—not as a local one. The attitude of the Centre is highly negative, and the Centre should immediately realise the plight of the State Government and that six crores of Andhras are reeling under the effects of these

disastrous floods and natural calamities.

13.00 hrs..

Finally, I request that at least Rs. 1,000 crores should be immediately released for the immediate repairs to irrigation works and for completing some of the urgent projects on hand now. Particularly projects like the Polavaram Project, Sri Ramapada Sagar Phase-II, Srisailem Left Canal Project, Telugu Ganga Project, Tungabhadra High Level Project and Vamsadhara Project—all these projects should be cleared immediately and funds should be released. The Centre must take the responsibility for constructing them immediately, to prevent recurrence of the damage that has occurred recently.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMPUJAN PATEL (Phulpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak on Supplementary Demands.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please continue after lunch.

13.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till  
Fourteen of the clock.*

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*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after  
Lunch at seven minutes past Fourteen  
of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR  
GRANTS (GENERAL), 1986-87—  
(Contd.)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL (Phulpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you that you provided me an opportunity to speak on the Supplementary Demands, Budget (General) for the finan-

cial year, 1986-87. The far-reaching programmes started by the hon. Minister of Finance to remove the economic disparity are very important and commendable for which hon. Minister deserves congratulations because he is doing his best in strengthening the foundation of socialism in the country and he is marching ahead towards success.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that India is an agricultural country and it is only due to the far-sightedness of the agricultural scientists and hard work of the farmers that we have been able to solve the food problem of the country. Previously, we used to import foodgrains from foreign countries; today we have become self-sufficient. Thus there is no need for us to import foodgrains. But one thing pinches me very much that the farmer who produces the foodgrains has to face a lot of legal restrictions in selling his produce at other places. Government should immediately pay attention towards this as the farmers are put to loss on this account. As the farmer is unable to send his produce to other places, he is bound to sell it at cheaper rates. Previously, we used to export sugar but today we are importing it. This thing needs special attention. Today the sugarcane growers do not get the right price at the right time for their produce. Their dues remain unpaid for years together. The sugar-mill owners exploit the sugarcane growers. That is why the farmers now grow less sugarcane and as a result of that our country is bound to import sugar from foreign countries. The sugar imported from the foreign countries is not only of low quality but we also lose the precious foreign exchange on this account. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Minister that the Government should pay special attention towards the sugarcane production and should arrange for the payment of reasonable prices to the farmers. If it is not given due consideration, then the nation will have to pay huge amount of foreign exchange to import sugar. At the same time to provide high-breed seeds, irrigation facilities, fertilizers and pesti-

cides for a good yield is a very big responsibility of the Government. But, Sir, due to deterioration of the whole system because of our Government machinery, the farmers are not getting due help whether it is irrigation through canals or any other means. I want to draw your attention to one point more. In our area, because of water-logging in fields, the land becomes saline and is rendered unproductive and the yield becomes low. The fields turn useless. So, Government should make some large-scale plan for draining water from fields so that the cultivable land can be made useful and production of foodgrains increased.

In this context I would like to draw your attention to the 'Sharda Sahayak Scheme' of Uttar Pradesh. Most of the land in Uttar Pradesh is irrigated by the Sharda Canal. This canal causes a big loss to agriculture there. So, I would request you to prepare a large-scale plan to deal with the problem of water-logging and water seepage. If this type of plan is not formulated, then we will not be able to help the farmers in the desired way. Whenever I visit my parliamentary constituency the people there complain about it and say that water there is not fit for drinking. Sir, the second means of irrigation is the government tube-wells. A tubewell, whether government or private, needs electricity. The fact is that the figures given by Government and real situation that obtains differ from each other. In Uttar Pradesh the figures show that electricity was supplied for 14 hours during the day time but the fact is that the power supply there was for about 5 or 6 hours only. Sir, attention is not being paid to the fake figures given by the Government whereas the Government should specially look into this. I would request you to provide electricity to the farmers for at least 12 hours a day.

At present the country is facing acute power shortage. So, I would request the Government to establish solar-energy projects to meet the situation because I know that whenever there is drought, the production of the hydel power falls. Sometimes, the quality of coal is not good and

[Shri Ram Pujan Patel]

the capacity to produce power in Thermal power stations suffers a set back, and the former suffers because of inadequate electricity supply. So, I would request Government to formulate a large-scale plan to meet the situation.

Now I want to draw your attention towards fertilizers. Fertilizers have a very important role in agriculture. Even today we have to import fertilisers. We have some shortcomings as well as some difficulties. I hope you also appreciate this but it is the policy of our Government that by increased use of fertilisers by the farmers the national production of foodgrains can be augmented. Hence it is very necessary to stop imports of fertilisers. We should, therefore, set up fertilizer factories in our country. It is with this object that IFFCO had established a factory in Phulpur, Allahabad. A very big conference was held by IFFCO on November 11, 1981, which was attended by our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and there the Agriculture Minister had announced that a soda ash factory as also a sugar-mill would be set up there. But five years have since elapsed; neither a soda-ash plant nor a sugarmill has so far come up there. A feeling is gaining ground in the minds of the people there that our administrative machinery does not execute the plans as announced by important leaders of our country. What could be more grievous than this? I wrote about this matter several times and every time I got the reply that the matter was being looked into. Sir, afterwards the hon. Agriculture Minister said that an Ammonia Plant would be given in place of the soda-ash plant there because that was once the constituency of Late Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru. A project for it had to be prepared. The General Manager had written that the plant to be established there would be expanded to double the size and that it would cost Rs. 275 crores only. He had said that it would take only three years to commence it and the other proposals that had come would take a period of five years and cost Rs. 450 crores.

Repeated assurances are given that it would be taken up but no final decision has since been taken.

I want to draw your attention to yet another important issue. The farmer can produce paddy but cannot thrash it. Attention must be paid towards this discriminatory treatment he is being subjected to.

The most important matter is that the hon. Finance Minister has started unearthing black money. This process should be expedited for the black money is destroying the economy of our country. The people hoarding black money can shatter the country's economy. The situation demands that earning of black money should be stopped. I hope that the suggestions made by me would be considered by the hon. Minister and he would continue directing his efforts towards strengthening the country's economy.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh) : Mr. Deputy-Speake., Sir, I rise to support this Supplementary Demand for Grants (General) for the year 1986-87. I would like to express my views in respect of expenditure to be incurred under the Supplementary Demands for Grants covering 60 grants and appropriation of accounts involving a gross additional expenditure of Rs. 3038.53 crores which has been placed before the House.

Sir, most of the grants are relating to the award of the recommendations of the 4th Pay Commission, particularly, grant of increased salary to Government employees. The Government has almost accepted the recommendations of the 4th Pay Commission. But in some cases, injustice has been done to a particular set of Government employees. For instance, the Central Government employees posted in Ladakh have been treated very harshly. I would like to invite the kind attention of the hon. Minister of State for

Finance to Table 11-17 and Chapter 17 II of the 4th Pay Commission recommendations in which the Ladakh area has been shown with the area which are much easier and where the cost of living is much cheaper. The most interesting part of the Fourth Pay Commission report was that the winter allowances which were previously allowed to the Central Government employees posted in Ladakh have been withdrawn now. It is allowed to only those areas where hill compensatory allowance is applicable. For instance, in Srinagar, in Kashmir and places like Shimla, where the winter allowance has also been allowed. While for Leh which is a difficult area, high altitude area and most difficult hill area, I should say, this allowance has not been allowed. In the year 1972, when the Leh Station of All India Radio was commissioned, the Government had allowed 1 1/2 quintals of hard coke to each employees for heating purposes of his residence. It was allowed to each employee for heating purposes at his residence for a period of six months. At that time, the cost of a quintal of hard coke was Rs. 60. From 1975 onwards, cash equivalent to 1 1/2 quintals of hard coke was allowed to the staff as fuel reimbursement allowances at the rate of landed cost at Leh of hard coke at the prevailing market rate at that time. Since then the cost of hard coke has been steadily rising and at the moment the price of one quintal of hard coke is Rs. 305 at Leh. That means, Rs. 3.5 per kg. of hard coke. With the implementation of the Fourth Pay Commission recommendation, most of the Central Government employees posted in Ladakh have to incur a loss to the tune Rs. 300/500 per month. With the result that those employees posted in those areas are not interested to go and stay over there. They just refuse to join their post at Leh. The Department concerned had to suffer greatly for the implementation of various Government scales or projects and Government work. People who have been posted have always tried to go back after making one or the other excuse like fake medical certificate etc.

I would like to appeal to the hon. Finance Minister kindly to consider this issue. It is not only for Ladakh. I am just pointing out that this is applicable to many other hill areas, not only for Ladakh. Kindly look into this matter sympathetically.

Similarly, in a recent Memorandum the Defence Scientific Workers Association of India complained that with the acceptance of the Fourth Pay Commission's recommendations, their pay scales have been further downgraded and similar reactions are coming from other Government employees associations.

The Finance Minister should kindly look into all these grievances.

Secondly, I would like to touch upon the grants of the Ministry of Defence briefly, and Border Roads Organisation in particular.

Recently a tragedy had occurred at Zojila between Srinagar and Kargil. It is quite unfortunate and the press report says that at least 100 lives have been lost and the tragedy occurred as a result of over-turning of a petrol tanker at the top of Zojila. This has resulted in stranding of over 50 vehicles including two passenger buses. The Border Roads Organisation personnel who are working over there appeared not to have taken care to clear those stranded vehicles and passengers, because they are having all the facilities like bull-dozers, snow-clearing machines. The Border Roads Organisation is constructing another alternate road over Zojila for the last 3 years. Their planning is to complete the road in another 4 years. It will take another 4 years to complete their roads. I feel their working is very slow. They have to be pressed for early completion of the work, so that similar disaster does not occur in future I would request the Minister of Defence who is also present here to kindly take note to speed up the progress of the work at Zojila as well as the re-carpeting works of Leh aerodrome. This re-carpeting

work has also been undertaken by the Border Roads Organisation. I would request him to make arrangements to finish this work earlier so that the runway is completed expeditiously.

As I told you earlier, their work is very slow. It needs to be expedited. With these words I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants for 1986.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri H.M. Patel. I am allotting you 10 minutes.

SHRI H.M. PATEL (Sabarkantha) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Supplementary Demands for Grants—the Second dose of Supplementary Demands for the year 1986-87. Sir, when the Finance Minister introduced his Budget for this current year, he said this : "I have mentioned earlier that the budget deficit at the existing rates of taxes would be Rs. 4095 crores. The proposed Tax measures taken together with relief are estimated to yield a net additional revenue of Rs. 445 crores. This will leave an uncovered deficit of Rs. 3650 crores. In relation to the size of our economy and the stock of money, the deficit is reasonable and non-inflationary". I wish to lay emphasis on the words 'non-inflationary'. It was Rs. 3000 and odd crores at the time of the budget presentation. Thereafter came one dose of supplementary demands—they of course also were of a similar size. Now comes another dose which is also estimated at Rs. 3038 crores. The effect of all these cannot but be inflationary. I think the feeling that prices will not rise was a mistake ought by now to have been realised. The prices have risen very substantially since the budget was presented. With these further supplementary grants, the situation is bound to worsen. It is bound to worsen for other reasons also. We have had the misfortune of drought situation prevailing in a number of States to which considerable assistance will have to be given. In my State of Gujarat, this is the second year of drought. Therefore the suffering will be very very severe, very bad from the point of view of availability

of water. I do not say drinking water because the situation is very much worse. It is just shortage of water over a large area. Thousands of villages were affected already; many more will be affected severely as the time passes. Similar is the case in respect of many other States. It is not only related to the State of Gujarat. There are many other States which have suffered from this. There are many other States which have suffered from floods which have caused severe damages. All these will have to be considered and assisted financially.

Meantimes as you will have realised that another situation has developed and that is the situation created by the special arming of Pakistan by the United States and Pakistan itself having made, reportedly, very substantial progress with its nuclear development. We shall have to pay a serious attention to this situation and that must mean a very radical restructuring of our defence strategy. What that might mean, I do not wish to go into, but certainly it will mean a heavy demand on the resources of the Finance Minister.

Also it seems to me that we are in for a period of prices rising very seriously. What the Finance Ministry's plans are for coping with the situation, I do not know, because they have not taken us into confidence. The Finance Minister has been saying from time to time that the receipts have increased very greatly. I think, the position there is very satisfactory; undoubtedly they have increased, but that increase falls far short of whatever increase in expenditure has taken place and is taking place. Has the Finance Minister considered any steps at all for reducing Governmental expenditure? That expenditure is rising steadily. When the next Budget is presented, we shall soon see to what level the expenditure has risen. Do not forget also that there will be yet another dose of Supplementary Demands for Grants. All in all, we are in for a very severe situation, a very serious situation, as a result of which prices will go on rising, and so far as the ordinary citizen is concerned, he is not going to receive any relief at all. There is no scheme for giving him relief such as is being given to government servants or

such as is given to industries and industrial workers. The ordinary citizen has to face the rising prices on his own.

Considerable assistance has to be given to the agricultural community. You have heard the previous speakers referring to the unfortunate situation which faces the agricultural community. Their grievance as regards prices which they are paid for their products remains, and no attention is paid to that. In spite of the fact that in the budget speech and also in certain pronouncements of the Prime Minister himself a deliberate assurance was given that this question would be attended to and it would be seen that the farmers received adequate prices for their products, this has not been the case so far. I hope, this will be attended to.

I do not wish to go into details of the Supplementary Demands. They are needed. Otherwise, he would not have come forward with these. And, of course, they will be passed. But it is the effect that I am concerned with, and that effect, as I said, will be very serious.

I do not wish to say anything more.

[Translation]

SHRI BHARAT SINGH (Outer Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me time to speak on the Demands for Supplementary Grants (General). The total demands for Rs. 3,038 crores have been presented by the hon. Finance Minister and I support them. The Government employees had to be given some relief after the acceptance of the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission and for that reason these demands for supplementary grants have been presented to the House. Through you, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to the rural areas of Delhi.

Some times back, bridges, parks and roads were constructed in Delhi in a big way and that gave a clean and tidy look to Delhi. But when we take the case of villages, then we find that there are not

even metalled roads from one village to the other. I am not against the urban areas nor am I complaining why so much money is being spent for development of the urban areas. But, at the same time, government should pay attention to the rural areas of Delhi also. Almost everyday dignitaries come to Delhi and visit villages. We should turn the villages of Delhi into model villages so that the foreign dignitaries can find them neat and clean. Some days back, our Hon. Prime Minister visited many villages and also met the poor people. He saw the atmosphere obtaining there. It is true that India is inhabited by poor people; most villages do not have roads and other facilities also are quite limited and so with a view to improving all this the Government declared the new 20-Point Programme. All the same, the poor in the villages have not received adequate facilities. I would like our hon. Finance Minister to pay attention to the whole of the rural India.

Now, I want to say something more about the villages of Delhi. There, whenever the Delhi Administration or the Central Government acquires land, the villagers are not adequately compensated. It has resulted in great resentment among the villagers. Even after pleading their case with the higher authorities, they do not get full compensation and they are put to much inconvenience also. I would like that the compensation paid to them is at least equal to what is being paid by Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana in their states. I think that land in Delhi is costly and carries a higher price than the land in U.P. or Haryana. The Government should pay at least the same compensation in Delhi also, if not more. I hope Government will give thought to this matter. Some time back, our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, had held a farmers' rally in which lakhs of farmers from all parts of the country had participated. Shrimati Indira Gandhi had declared in that rally that the farmers of Delhi who were getting inadequate compensation would be paid adequate compensation. Consequently, this much

[Shri Bharat Singh]

was done that the rate of compensation was increased from 15 percent to 30 per cent. Government increased the amount of grant and the interest was also doubled but in fact even this compensation is very low. I request you to pay good compensation to the farmers whose lands are acquired. If acquisition of land renders some persons jobless, then at least one person from such families should be given employment. There are landless people as also Harijans in villages. They should be employed according to their qualifications so that they may support their families decently. According to my knowledge, the practice had been to allot them plots of 400 yards but, of late, it has been reduced to the size of 250 yards. I want that they should get 400 yards plots again so that they can start some factory there or some other activity to earn their livelihood.

The D.D.A. has developed many colonies by acquiring land of our farmers and poor people and there are good roads, sewerage facilities, open parks, transport facilities and open air places but the villages on whose lands these colonies have been developed, have no facilities like that of roads, drinking water and electricity etc. Villages are becoming dirty. I want that in the villages, where land is acquired, first the roads should be improved, drinking water made available, drainage and sewerage system laid, electricity, parks and community halls provided. I want to thank our Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi who has directed to exempt the built-up areas in Delhi. The old settlements of Delhi date back to the times of the Muslim rulers and they have since constructed houses for themselves. The Government was acquiring those places but later our Hon. Prime Minister intervened in the matter and took a right decision to exempt the built-up areas. So, I demand that the Government should pay immediate attention to provide all facilities to the urbanised villages and it is only then that our villages can become the model villages,

Now I want to draw your attention to education. Although there are higher secondary schools in some of our villages, yet our village children cannot secure admission in the city colleges for higher education because of their low percentage of marks. Therefore, besides improving the standard of education the Government should pay attention to opening colleges in the rural areas of Delhi, wherever needed, namely, in Najafgarh, Kanjhawala etc. We want that even if one college is opened there, our rural children would be able to get higher education.

The resettlement colonies were set up in 1975. Much work has been done there between 1980 to 1984 but the sewerage lines and water pipelines are still incomplete. There are no facilities available there. I would like that the authorities should pay attention to the poor people of these resettlement colonies established in villages—17 colonies have been set up in my constituency. The 20-Point Programme envisages availability of food, clothes, shelter and education to the people but today all the programmes are incomplete. The sewerage system, drinking water and community centres are needed. Drinking water is not available and the children in schools study in tents. One tent accommodates as many as a hundred children and I wonder how the teacher can teach so many children. Adequate number of teachers should be appointed there. Sewerage system, water and electricity should be made available in the schools also so that the poor can also educate their children in a proper way.

You must have noticed that the poor people travel to this place with great difficulty. D.T.C. passes are not issued to them. The hon. Minister should pay attention to this problem and give grant to the D.T.C. so that passes for these people can be issued on checking their ration-cards and thus transport facility is made available to them.

There are many educated boys in the villages of outer Delhi. If you happen to visit some employment exchanges, then you will find queues of unemployed

persons there. Government should give them loans under the 20-Point Programme so that they can start some work and thus become self-reliant.

Today the farmer does not get adequate payment for his produce. Some time back, the hail-storm completely destroyed the crops in my area and the farmers got frustrated. They are now sitting idle. I want that the farmers be fully paid for their produce so that they can carry on well in future.

Paddy is coming in the Narela Mandi nowadays but even if it remains there for three days, the farmer does not get the full price and it does not sell. I want that arrangements should be made to purchase their paddy expeditiously and full price paid to the farmer under all circumstances.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for having given me this opportunity to express my views on the second batch of Supplementary Demands brought forward before the House by the hon. Finance Minister. I support these Supplementary Demands for Grants for expenditure of the Central Government in respect of 1986-87. This is the second batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for the current financial year. In this batch there are sixty-six grants and one appropriation and it involves gross additional expenditure of Rs. 3038 crores.

Sir, earlier in the Monsoon Session of Parliament we had the first batch of Supplementary Demands and now in this Winter Session we have the second batch of Supplementary Demands. Quite likely in the ensuing Budget Session, we will have the third batch of supplementary demands. When unforeseen expenditure is being incurred, there is no other go than to bring supplementary demands.

Out of the 3,000 and odd crores rupees of the supplementary demands, you will

see that Rs. 600 crores account for the implementation of the Fourth Pay Commission's recommendations. Another Rs. 800 crores is for payment to Food Corporation of India by way of arrears and also for carrying over the buffer stocks. In this connection, I would like to tell the hon. Finance Minister that it was quite visible that the Pay Commission was doing this exercise and giving its report and huge funds would be required to implement the recommendations. Anyway, even if the exact amount would never have been foreseen, some taken provision could have been made in the Annual Budget.

I would like to congratulate the Finance Minister and his Ministry for the excellent work that they are doing in the field of revenue collection. Revenue collection is increasing more satisfactorily and particularly in the field of raids, unearthing black money, etc., the efforts of the Ministry of Finance and in particular, the efforts of the Finance Minister, Shri V.P. Singh are really commendable. These efforts should be continued vigorously.

But, on the other hand, when the revenue receipts are increasing, our expenditure is also on the increase, rather it is increasing at a very rapid pace. The uncovered deficit of Rs. 3000 crores is also going on increasing and naturally this needs to be handled carefully so that inflationary tendencies are contained and deficit is reduced to the minimum. Compared to 1985-86, it appears that there are quite happy signs in 1986-87. In 1985-86, we had a record trade deficit. Between exports and imports also, there was mounting gap. In the first quarter of 1986-87, it has definitely shown some improvement. The deficit is being narrowed down and the imports are decreasing and exports increasing. This should be continued. But now, with these additional doses of supplementary demands, this may again go up. Therefore, care has to be taken with regard to balance of payments and inflationary tendencies.

I would now come to the report of the



[Shri Sriballav Panigrahi]

Reserve Bank of India. It is stated that the hopes of the Indian economy doing better in 1986-87 than in the previous two years. RBI says that it would seem reasonable to expect that with both agriculture and industry set to grow faster, rate of growth in real national income in 1986-87 would at least be five per cent. According to the Annual Report 1985-86, this is the view that is held by the Reserve Bank of India.

Not only the Reserve Bank of India, but also some individual experts and economists also have painted a rosy picture in a Seminar, for our economy in this year.

"A mid-year review of the economy, prepared by Dr. Malcolm Adiseshiah, has shown that 1986-87 should on the whole be a good year but what it means for employment and poverty alleviation will depend on *structural changes* and the use of the *huge foodgrains reserve*."

So, in this way things are running satisfactorily. While implementing the Pay Commission's recommendations, we also have to give grants to different States to meet the damages caused by floods, drought, etc. Besides, there is a series of wage revision going to take place one after another. The Central Government is now implementing this. The State Governments are also under pressure because of this. Some States have already declared that they are going to be at par with the Central Government Pay Scales and naturally, the remaining State Government's employees may also start their agitation to be at par with the Central Government with regard to the pay scales. Wage negotiations are going on in respect of different public undertakings. I would like to bring it to the notice of the Government, through you Sir, that there should be some parity in pay scales and wages, between the Central Government, State Government, Central Public Undertakings, State Public Under-

takings and also in between the Central Government itself. There are a lot of gaps here. So, there should be a comprehensive policy keeping in view in the background that there should be some parity.

The need of the hour is to increase productivity, and to bring down the working expenditure in the field of industries. How can it be done? Our public undertakings are required to generate 70 per cent of their own requirements in the Seventh Plan. With the dismal performance presently, can it be achieved? So, a new work culture is called for. Vigorously, all these things have to be monitored. All expenditure, implementation of different anti-poverty programmes in different States have to be monitored strictly by the Centre with tightening the expenditure and eliminating wasteful expenditure.

I would also like to say that we should give more emphasis in the field of power generation. What will happen in power generation? There is power shortage almost in all the States. We are not working our industries to full capacity due to Power Problem. Therefore, we have to generate more and more power. So, new power Stations, particularly in Orissa Ib Valley Thermal Power Plant, Talcher Power Plant should be properly financed. The Finance Ministry should encourage setting up of these two power plants in Orissa.

Sir, in the field of Railways, the Railway Minister takes the plea that because of paucity of funds, he cannot satisfy your demands, however genuine and justified they may be. I would request the Finance Minister to be liberal in releasing funds for the new Sambalpur-Talcher Railway line and the newly created Sambalpur Railway Division.

With these words, I give my whole hearted support to this Supplementary Demands for Grants and also I am full of praise for the good work done by the Ministry of Finance for curbing the blackmoney.

With these words, I thank you.

**SHRI N. SOUNDARARAJAN** (Sivakasi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to express my views on this Supplementary Demands for Grants (General).

Sir, the total Supplementary Demands for Grants (general) is estimated to be Rs. 3038.54 crores and out of this Rs. 600.07 crores all allotted to implement the recommendations of the Pay Commission. Another Rs. 600 crores have been allotted to FCI to maintain the national policy of keeping in storage 10 million tonnes of foodgrains. At this juncture, I should congratulate our Indian farmers who have made the country self-sufficient in foodgrains.

Yesterday, our Finance Minister Mr. V.P. Singh reiterated the stand of Government, viz. that the subsidy given to farmers is properly utilized, and they are getting proper benefits. So, I request the Finance Minister to give more and more subsidies to Indian farmers, so that in addition to foodgrains and cotton in which they have already made our country self-sufficient, they can also give us self-sufficiency in oilseeds, in future.

Central Government has allotted Rs. 250 crores as subsidy to FCI, to meet the difference between the actual cost of foodgrains, and the issue price as fixed by Government of India. This itself shows that in our country, there are crores and crores of people who are not even able to purchase foodgrains at the economic cost. That is why we are giving subsidy, and issuing foodgrains at subsidized rates to consumers.

**PROF. N.G. RANGA** (Guntur) : Not in all the States, but only in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

**SHRI N. SOUNDARARAJAN** : The main cause for poverty is either unemployment for under-employment. So, to eradicate both unemployment and under-employment, Central Government is imple-

menting NREP, RLEGP and other poverty—alleviating programmes which were introduced by the late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi who is one of the few great leaders in the world. Poverty is the main reason which causes people to work. Though they work they are not getting proper benefit through their work. This is also one of the reasons for the existence of child labour in India.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER** : It is common in his constituency. He represents Sivakasi.

**SHRI N. SOUNDARARAJAN** : In India, the number of child labour is the highest in Asia. To eliminate child labour in Tamil Nadu, our leader Dr. M.G. Ramachandran has introduced the nutritious meal programme, through which we are giving free nutritious meals to 80 lakh children. Not only that. We are giving employment to nearly one lakh of people, out of whom 20,000 belong to SCs and STs. More than 25,000, I think, are widows and widowers. This costs the Exchequer nearly Rs. 200 crores. Though it is an unbearable burden to the State Government which has its own limited resources, Dr. MGR is successfully implementing this scheme, not for political reasons but for the common cause of helping children.

15.00 hrs.

We are speaking of child labour and poverty. I think in a few days, we are going to introduce the Child Labour Bill. I request Finance Minister to understand the reasons behind the existence of child labour. While the income of crores and crores of people in India is so low that they are not even able to purchase foodgrains, how can we expect them to enrol their children in schools? So, in order to avoid child labour in future, I request hon. Minister to include our nutritious meals programme in the Plan outlay. Our Chief Minister, whenever he comes to Delhi persuades the Prime Minister and other Ministers to include this scheme in the Plan outlay. I

[Shri N. Soundararajan]

do not know why Government of India is hesitating to do this, and include this scheme in the Plan outlay.

About the SAARC summit held recently in Bangalore a news item has come in "The Hindu". It says :

"The Heads of State or Government recognized that meeting the needs of all children was the principal means of human resources development. Children should therefore be given the highest priority in national development planning..."

The news item also said :

"They also believed that it should be possible to ensure at the end of the century, that no child need die or be denied development, for reasons of material poverty in the family."

I congratulate the Prime Minister for having been elected as Chairman at the SAARC meeting. I request Finance Minister to include the nutritious meals programme in the Plan outlay in the light of the pledge taken by the leaders at the SAARC summit, where we were also one of the members.

Not only that ; in Tamil Nadu we are giving free clothes and textbooks to school-going children, in order to lessen the burden on the poor families ; and by introducing this scheme, we are practically seeing to it that the number of drop-outs from schools comes down to the lowest level. The number of children in schools has also gone up very much. Through NREP and RLEGP programmes which are poverty-alleviating measures, we are giving not only employment, but also creating some permanent assets in villages like school and hospital buildings, formation of new roads—and such other permanent assets. It is really a rural-oriented scheme, benefitting the villagers. In order to create facilities for our villagers,—

which have been beyond their imagination so far—these things are being done.

I request hon. Finance Minister to allocate more and more funds to these poverty-alleviating programmes like NREP and RLEGP, as also other programmes.

15.03 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH in the Chair]

DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai) : I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants wholeheartedly. I support the Bill, but I have some suggestions to make. I also request the Minister to consider my suggestions. I would like to point out that the Ministry should look into all the suggestions given by different Members, take them very seriously and try to translate them as far as possible, into action.

In the Bill, I do not find any demand for the improvement of rural areas. India is really a land of the villages. Unless and until villages are improved, India cannot progress. We still have villages where no drinking water is available, no roads are there, and people have to walk in the fields. There is no question of cars, jeeps or rickshaws plying. Even bullock carts cannot be used. (Interruptions). There is no question of hospitals ; even dispensaries are not there. (Interruptions).

SHRI H.A. DORA (Srikakulam) : The Finance Minister is not present here.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : I am acting as a scribe for the Finance Minister.

SHRI H. A. DORA : There is no Minister at all in the House. (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : There is a Minister. There is the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. I am the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. I am acting as the scribe of the Finance Minister.

[Translation]

**SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur) :** Sir, the difficulty is that he does not consider the General Budget as an item under Parliamentary Affairs. That is what his difficulty is.

[English]

**DR. PHULRENU GUHA :** Even the primary school is without a school-building in many villages. In many of the villages, a majority of the people depend on agriculture. But there are no irrigation facilities, no deep tubewells; and fertilizers and seeds are available after the season is over.

It is not a new thing; it quite often happens. Some of the villages in India are better off no doubt, but conditions of many of the villages are really deplorable. I suggest that in every budget and supplementary budget, Government of India, should take up a few villages of all States and provide drinking water, dispensary, primary schools, construct connecting roads, arrange for irrigation or and deep tube-wells. What I mean to say is that the government should take up improvement of village life and village economy. In the vast country, unless we take up specific villages each year, it will be difficult to improve the conditions of villages. I know a question will come that this is the work of the State Government. But I demand a plan is taken up. I am suggesting it to the Planning Commission and I am sure if money is provided, all the State Governments will come forward and undertake this task. Specific programme is to be taken up to train young boys and girls for different vocations. A special care should be taken for girls. We should not forget that even now prejudices are there and people do not like to send their daughters anywhere and everywhere. So far girls in certain places special arrangement is to be made.

In many villages, we have people who are talented in different crafts, songs, poems etc. They have a stock of traditional stories, but we do not have plans to

encourage these talents. There must be a definite plan to develop their talents. Their talents will enrich the country.

I also like to say that in my constituency, Contai, there are villages where no sweet water is available. In many villages, there is no deep tubewell, no irrigation facilities; so the economy of that area is going down. 90 per cent of the population is agriculturist. I hope the Minister will consider to have plans to develop a group of villages every year so that all villages in India are developed in a limited time.

I would like to say that in the budget or even in the supplementary budget, the question of nutrition should be taken up. We have nutritious programmes but they are not enough; they should be extended to more areas, because unless we have our strong children, we cannot expect India should grow stronger and stronger; and this nutritious programme is very helpful where it is implemented properly. If you have noticed—I hope all my friends will agree with me—you will find that the children of that area do develop and their health is getting better and better. So, I suggest that even in the supplementary budget there should be some amount of money to extend this nutritious programme to other areas also because this programme is one of the fundamentals to build up our young children.

[Translation]

**SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghajipur) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, while supporting the Demands presented by the Finance Minister, I want to say a few things.

First of all I would like to say something about the Fourth Pay Commission. The Government of India, on the basis of the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission, has sufficiently increased the salaries and facilities of the Central Government employees. I am not against these increased salaries and facilities but I do not know whether the Centre, while increasing these salaries, had consulted the State Governments or not

[Shri Zainul Basher]

because with this increase the employees of the State Governments have also started demanding pay and allowances and other facilities equal to those of the Central Government employees. Equal pay for equal work is what they are demanding. The State Government employees in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan have gone on strike. Presently, functioning of the entire Government machinery in these two States has come to a standstill.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : In Andhra Pradesh also.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : In Andhra Pradesh also, they are going on strike and in other States also the employees must be preparing to go on strike. There is a large scale restlessness in all the State employees because of increase in the pay-scales of the Central Government employees. I want to know that if you have consulted the State Governments, they must have put before you their apprehension that their employees could also demand pay equal to that of the Central Government employees. Did you then give them any assurance that if they faced any shortage of funds for the purpose, you would help them to make up for it. Presently, most State Governments are not in a position to pay salaries and allowances equal to those of the Central government employees.

I take the example of Uttar Pradesh which is the largest State of the country and has the largest number of State Government employees. If their demands are acceded to, the Government will have to part with an amount of Rs. 800 crores. With the payment of these Rs. 800 crores, all the development projects of Uttar Pradesh will come to a standstill. The people of Uttar Pradesh are no more in a capacity to bear the burden of further taxation. I want to know as to what attitude you are going to adopt in this connection and how you are going to help the State Governments because, the salaries of the employees of the State Governments will have to be increased. There is

weight in their demand that they should get equal pay for equal work. The State Government employees do the same type of work which the Central Government employees do, then why lesser pay be given to them and higher pay given to the Central Government employees ? After the Fourth Pay Commission's Report, the difference between their salaries has increased to two to two and a half times. Somewhere it is more than two and a half times. With so much difference, how two types of employees will work in this country ? You will have to think about this and find a solution of the problem. Without resolving the problem, functioning of the Governments cannot be smooth. I, therefore, draw the attention of the Finance Minister that he should pay immediate attention to the problem of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. What contribution can you make to help call off the strike by Government employees of these States ? How much financial assistance can you provide to these States so that the strike there comes to an end ?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, my second point relates to floods and droughts. Ours is a peculiar country. The geographical position of the country is such that almost every year some State or the other—more than one half of India—remains in the grip of drought and floods. There are so many States which face floods and drought simultaneously. I cannot say about other States because hon. Members from other States have been speaking and will speak about their respective States. I want to mention about Uttar Pradesh here. Uttar Pradesh faced both floods and drought this year. Geographically, Uttar Pradesh is in such a position that hardly a year passes when there are no floods or drought or both are not there. This year the State reeled under both drought and floods. The State Government did whatever it could do so offer relief but it lacks resources to take up relief work on a larger scale. You may be aware that Uttar Pradesh is economically much backward. Every year floods and drought break its economic backbone. If the State takes itself two steps forward

in the matter of development, then the very next year it has to retreat three steps backwards. In such a situation, one fails to understand as to how a backward State like Uttar Pradesh will make progress. No effective scheme has been formulated in Uttar Pradesh to check the menace of floods and drought though it is a State with many rivers. To check floods in Assam, the Brahmaputra Board was set up. Crores of rupees were provided to it. To check floods from the Ganga, the Ganga Board was constituted but not a single paisa was given to it. If the floods from the Ganga are controlled, the two large States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar will benefit. It will not be wrong to say that the largest part of population is affected by the heavy Ganga flood but no effective steps have been taken till today to check it. The effective steps for checking the floods can prove a boon in meeting in drought situation also. If during rains, the excess water from these rivers is collected in reservoirs, then it would not only help control the floods, but would also provide water for irrigation during the drought periods. It is not possible for the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and that of Bihar to take up such huge projects. Some major steps on the national level shall have to be taken for this purpose. The Central Government shall have to provide the entire amount for this purpose and then only can such schemes be implemented. I would request the Minister to activate the Central Ganga Authority for this purpose, and maximum amount should be made available for that purpose, and large-scale arrangements made for controlling floods in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

Finally, what I want to say concerns the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies. Uttar Pradesh has a big population. But its quota of kerosene oil is much less in comparison to what the other States get. The number of poor people is comparatively high in Uttar Pradesh. The *per capita* allotment of kerosene oil is very low for Uttar Pradesh. So, Uttar Pradesh stands in greater need of kerosene oil. But the State Government is not

allocating the quota which it demands. I want that the hon. Minister should request the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum to allot the Kerosene oil quota according to the demands of Uttar Pradesh. So is the case of allocation of sugar quota. The festivals of Dussehra, Id and Deepawali are over now, but the people belonging to the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh remained hankering for sugar. They did not get sugar. The State Government is not to blame for that. The Central allocation of sugar was not according to the requirements of the State and even if it was done, then the F.C.I. did not release the quota. Last time, I had informed this House, that the Government of Uttar Pradesh had written to the Central Government, about the fact, that, the F.C.I. officials demand bribe in order to release the quota of sugar. But no action has been taken in that regard so that the F.C.I. officials have become all the more obstinate and have not yet released sugar for U.P. even after allocation for this year. The result has been that all the festivals are now over and the rural people have not been able to get their festival quota of sugar.

I would urge upon the hon. Minister of Finance, to direct the Department of Food and Civil Supplies to allot reasonable quota of sugar to Uttar Pradesh and the F.C.I. should release and distribute this allocated quota from its godowns as early as possible. I am very hopeful, that our hon. Minister of Finance will pay attention to what I have said. Again, the employees of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, especially those belonging to my State, are perturbed over the Report of the Fourth Pay Commission since it has affected them. So I would request you to elaborate in your statement the steps you propose to take to deal with this situation and also state the type of help you propose to render to the State Government in this regard.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE  
(Panskura): Well, the present Central

[Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee]

Government is characterised for its *ad-hocism* in Cabinet making, in changing the portfolios, in taking new decisions of unheard and unthinkable nature.

Now, in the same Budget exercise—may be third time supplementary will be coming—this is the second Supplementary we are discussing. I shall not be surprised now if by way of an Ordinance, they bring another supplementary the way they are going about.

(Interruptions)

*Ad-hocism* also is a characteristic, that is of great concern to those who have money and not so much of concern to those who do not have money. That is characterised in your Supplementary Budget as well. In any case, before I go to that, the *ad-hocism* is reflected in the allotment given in the Supplementary Budget. Look at the priorities. The Plan is the priority. Now there is a Minister of Expenditure to control the expenditure. What do we see in the priorities? Under the Plan allotment Head, it is Rs. 787.58 crores as shown in the Supplementary Grants and under Non-Plan Head, it is Rs. 2250.96 crores, i.e. 3/4th for Non-Plan and 1/4th for Plan. Non-Plan is more than the Plan. Since I utter these words, Pay Commission plea will be raised—i.e. Rs. 600 crores. I would like to say one thing. Pay Commission hike is also the creation of the Government policy. In one year only consumer prices have risen by 57% according to official record. And according to non-official record, by how much has it risen? Some of our Members those who care their wives know this because they go to the market. It is much more than 57%. Naturally, if you are to spend Rs. 600 crores, it is your creation. But I would also like to mention that at least from this sum 10% you will get back in the form of P.F. and Income Tax. So, all this is not loss that way. But then this can be avoided in future if this price situation is not so bad. And price situation is bad because of your economic policies, about which I

have no time to go into details. But then, in this non-plan expenditure there is another Rs. 600 crores, that is for loan to the Food Corporation of India for carrying bufferstock.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : That is according to plan.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : This is non-plan expenditure. What is being said is that the Food Corporation used to take loans from the banks earlier. Now you have given the budgetary support for the 10 million tonnes national objective. Do you have only 10 million tonnes as buffer stock now, or are you carrying much more? If you are carrying much more, whom are you subsidising by this budgetary support? I accuse that you are going to subsidise the 'rats and sharks' because large part of it will be eaten up by rats. It is being eaten by rats unless you release it quickly. I would say that had you released all the stock outside the limit of 10 million tonnes and released that through NREP, RL GP and other poverty alleviation programmes, that would have helped employment generation, that would have raised the purchasing power of poor our people, that would have saved us from the rattages and the presence of sharks because from the Food Corporation of India nowadays the traders and roller flour mills can buy unlimited stock at Rs. 205 per quintal. What is the necessity of giving this facility to, them, particularly to the traders? I understand from Siliguri to Andhra Pradesh the traders are transporting by trucks the stock of foodgrains bought at Rs. 205 per quintal from the Food Corporation of India. How much money is spent on that and how much profit they are making, so that they can afford this huge transport cost? So, for these sharks you have to subsidise from the budget. Why? I would request that since through the great efforts of our peasants our situation has eased somewhat and 10 million tonnes is the safe limit, I would suggest that you release the rest of the lot over and above the 10 million tonnes. Therefore, this

amount of Rs. 600 crores, I think, should have been spent this way.

Let us now come to some other points. It is supposed to be a plan head—Rs. 12.50 crores' contribution of share capital of nationalised banks for schemes for industrial exports. And then there is the sum of Rs. 125 crores for assistance to export promotion. That is, of course, non-plan. But let us take this export promotion as well as this share capital. It is said that from Rs. 12.50 crores, some money will be given to the nationalised banks who will give loans to engineering industry etc. etc. for their auxiliaries so that they can export better. May I know one thing? There are a total of 80,000 crores of rupees deposits in our nationalised banks. If you have to give something, why not from that? Why budgetary support? Secondly, what is being done by these exporters? Now, the amount of Rs. 125 crores that you are now going to give, is it on actual export performance? No. Over the whole project. But the fact remains that day by day, we are losing our situation in export. A part of the responsibility has to be surely borne by those who swindled the country in the name of export. Therefore, it should be on the basis of actual exports and not on anything else. Then, you are giving some loan or whatever you may be calling, but that would be subsidy after sometime. About this cement industry modernisation, these ACC, Singhania, Bangur and Birla people who are the owners of the cement industry have earned a lot of profit, due to the decontrol policy of the Government. Can't they make their own industry modernised? Why are you creating much bigger deficit? May I know why these funds have to be released from the budgetary source?

Let us come to another extravaganza. Rs. 80 crores are to be spent for acquiring the Asiad proverty from DDA. Really, this is the limit! In this year, when all our villages are suffering from flood and drought and when you have this national poverty alleviation programme, you decided in this year, when there is an in-

creased budgetary deficit, that you have to buy Indira Gandhi Stadium from the DDA and to show that as a budgetary expenditure. May I know, what is the necessity? I understand, the necessity probably is that during the Asiad days you did not want to show much extravaganza, particularly when you were being criticised. This was shown at that time as DDA expenditure. Now, you see the time has come to give money to DDA and probably you have an under-hand understanding that you give from your fund—and later on, we will give. Therefore, why should we really bear this budgetary deficit of Rs. 80 crores for nothing but some extravaganza?

Then, I come to your National Cultural Festival and all that. We are all for culture. But in the name of culture, you are including the culture of extravaganza which is in keeping with your *ad hocism* as well as your real character of the Government. Therefore, I see no reason at all to support the supplementary demands for grants. I absolutely oppose the philosophy behind it. At the same time, I would like to tell you one thing. Even in this big book which has been given to us, I don't see any provision for supporting the States for meeting the emergency of flood and drought. I do not know where they will go. As far as the States are concerned, they are in great trouble to meet this situation. I believe that the States will be getting the money that they require for meeting the situation created by flood and drought.

With these words, I don't think that this supplementary demand for grants needs to be supported by anybody, if they have the conscience.

[Translation]

SHRI R.P. SUMAN (Akbarpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak on the Supplementary Demands for Grants. The economic situation of the country has to be evaluated and the Supplementary Demands have to be presented on the basis of the time and circumstances. That



[Shri R.P. Suman]

is why I support these Supplementary Demands for Grants.

I want to submit to the hon. Minister that there are some States which are extremely backward like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. They are big States and extremely backward ones but the Finance Ministry indulges in discrimination while allocating funds to these States. I would request that the allocation of funds should be according to the area, population and the requirement of the States.

Many of our friends have also drawn your attention to this aspect. Majority of the population of our country lives in the villages. This is a land of the villages, and the condition of the agriculturists and the labourers in our villages is not as good as it ought to be. What is the reason behind it? Some reasons are directly connected with our villages. Hence, I would like to point out, that the condition of our farmers which is going from bad to worse, especially that of our agricultural labour, needs Government's special attention.

Again, the condition of our farmers is indeed pitiable. They are not getting a fair price for their produce and those of our farmer brethren who are engaged in the cultivation of fruits and vegetables are getting very low price for their produce. All their profits are pocketed by the middlemen and the business class. It is for this reason that those articles sell at higher prices in the market and due to that prices also increase. Government should pay special attention to it, and ensure that the farmers get a fair price for their agriculture produce.

Today chemicals and fertilizers are the main requirements of our farmers. And these are becoming more and more expensive today. You should make such arrangement that fertilizers are made available to them conveniently and at a cheap rate. Development and higher production is made possible only if there

is an adequate supply of water and fertilizers. Hence, Government must ensure that fertilizers are made available to them at a fair price, and irrigation facilities like canals and tubewells are also made available to them, so that they could increase their capacity for higher agriculture produce.

Government must ensure that the projects which it sanctions, must be time-bound and must be completed within the stipulated period. There are many Schemes, the completion of which takes two to two and a half times or even more than the time allotted for their completion. On account of this, there is escalation of costs. In this connection, I would like to give an example. There is Tanda-Thermal Power Project in my constituency and its construction was started in 1979. The initial cost of the Project was Rs. 159 crores. More than Rs. 300 crores have been spent on it since then. Yet, not a single unit of this project has started operation till today, whereas the target was that one of its units would be operational by the year 1982. Therefore, it is seen that because they are not completed in time, their cost increases. Government continued to bear the excess costs and it thus increased its financial burdens. It is for this reason that the nation is suffering today. Therefore, I would like to say, that whatever projects are started or are sanctioned, must be made time-bound, and they must be completed within that time-limit fixed for their completion so that Government does not have to bear the burden of the extra expenditure. Only when such arrangement has been made, our country's development shall move at a rapid pace. Today, most of the population of the entire country is facing the drinking water problem. There are certain areas, in many states where there is an acute problem of shortage of drinking water supply. Even, in some areas of Delhi there is an acute shortage of drinking water. People are using unclean water for drinking purpose. The Government must act quickly and with speed in this regard and ensure that pure drinking water is made available to all our people.

so that the common infectious diseases which are spreading may be controlled.

Today, the Government is implementing various programmes for the welfare of Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes and more funds are also being provided for the purpose but it is seen that these funds are being utilised properly. The benefits from the Special Component Programme which has been specially framed for the welfare of the Schedule Castes are not fully reaching the poor. The condition of the poor has been deteriorating in all the States. The allocated funds are not reaching these classes, due to which the intended welfare of those people is not taking place. It is for this reason that the Scheduled Castes are getting exploited today. Therefore, it should be ensured that whatever funds are allocated for their welfare should definitely reach those poor people and labourers. Government must certainly frame a policy in this regard because Government desires to improve their lot and lift them above the poverty line.

I regret to say that in Uttar Pradesh, there is no committee at the district level to evaluate the utilization of funds allocated under the Special Component Programme. How can there be any evaluation when State level meetings in this regard are held barely once in six months. Therefore, it must be ensured that whatever money is spent for the benefit of the poor actually reaches them and they are able to derive benefits from it.

Besides, a lot of money is being spent under the NREP and the RLGP, and many link roads are being constructed. But we will have to pay a good deal of attention towards this because the development of the rural areas is possible only when there are proper roads to reach the villages, and our agriculturists are able to transport their produce to the local markets and are able to come out of their villages. So, Government must pay attention to this aspect. Roads must be constructed and electric power should be supplied to the rural areas. On account

of the power problems, several far-flung areas are under the grip of drought. Therefore, Government should pay special attention to this matter.

I would like to make one more submission. I have clear information, particularly regarding the flood-hit districts, that there are certain districts which get floods every year, as for example, my Jaunpur district which gets floods every year. So, crores of rupees are spent every year for the flood relief operations. I would suggest that the Government should take steps for the permanent control of floods in areas which get floods every year and are devastated, and relieve the people of these areas of the needless burden and also reduce the expenditure that is incurred on account of floods every year. Some permanent flood control measures must be adopted.

The Fair Price Shops for foodgrains opened in the rural areas are not functioning properly. The people living in these rural areas are not able to get Kerosene oil and other essential commodities in a proper way. Hence the Government must ensure that these commodities reach those sections of society.

With these words, I now conclude.

\*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Mr. Chairman, I support the supplementary demands. Under the leadership of the hon. Prime Minister and the Energetic Finance Minister the Government has been able to make substantial progress in the economy. Inflation has been contained unnecessary control from the economy has been removed and production has been increased in all the productive sectors. I congratulate the Govt. for this achievement. I hope that the same trend will continue in the years to come.

The hon. Minister has demanded an amount of Rs. 1590 crores on revenue account for meeting the expenditure on account of the implementation of the recommendations of the Pay Commission.

[Shri V. S. Vijayaraghavan]

In this context I want to say one thing. The Govt. must take all steps necessary to improve the efficiency of its employees. The hon. Prime Minister has given shape to programmes for the purification of the Govt. machinery and also for improving its efficiency. I welcome the steps taken by the Govt. to punish corrupt officials and remove them from service. However, in this context I would like to caution the Govt. about one thing. There is a tendency among the higher officials to misuse their powers and harass and oppress their subordinates. They must be strictly controlled. Similarly, it is necessary to amend the present procedures and rules in order to avoid administrative delay. The Govt. must fix a time limit for taking decisions on particular issues. If any officer is found delaying a disposal of a file that should be regarded as dereliction of duty on his part and action should be taken against him. If that is done then we will be able to avoid administrative delay and to a great extent reduce corruption. I hope the Govt. will take suitable steps in this respect.

Some of the demands pertain to rural development. The Govt. is spending crores of rupees under IRDP, NREP and other programmes. Recently the reserve bank conducted a study into the implementation of these anti-poverty programmes and came up with the conclusions that there are many deficiencies in the implementation. A few weeks ago there was a conference held of State Ministers Incharge of rural development in which our Minister pointed out certain deficiencies in the implementation of these programmes. He also said that Govt. would take all necessary steps to remove these deficiencies. A major deficiency is that the representatives of the people do not have an active role in the implementation. But now the Govt. has issued instructions to the Chief Minister to ensure greater participation of the representatives of people in the implementation. Sir, if these programmes are implemented effectively we will be able to change the very complexion of our villages. In this con-

text I wish to point out that Kerala, is one of the few states which have implemented these programmes effectively. I want to make a point in this regard. Under the rural employment programme a part of the wages is paid to the workers in foodgrains. The centre is allotting only wheat for this purpose. The people of Kerala are used to eating rice and therefore they do not use wheat. We are not able to attract more workers to this programme because of this. Therefore, the centre should allot rice in place of wheat.

My next point is with regard to the demand in respect of defence. I take this opportunity to demand that the naval academy at Ezhimala should be set up as quickly as possible. It has been delayed already. Similarly, it is a long standing demand of Kerala that a defence undertaking should be set up in that State. But no step has been taken in this regard. I demand that an ordnance factory should be set up in Kerala during the 7th Five Year Plan itself. I would also demand that the naval base at Cochin should be developed during the 7th five year plan.

Now, I come to demand in respect of tourism. This demand is for attracting more and more foreign tourists towards India. I welcome the various steps being taken by the Govt. for the development of tourism. Sir, Kerala is in all respects a paradise for tourists. Particularly, Palghat which is lying in the lap of beautiful Western Ghats has immense tourist potential. On many occasions in the past I had demanded in this House that a tourist complex linking Malampuzha, Nelliampati, Parampkullam, Silent Valley etc. The hon. Minister Shri Bhagat ji had assured me that it would be considered. But nothing worthwhile has been done. This complex if set up will be able to attract the large number of foreign tourists. Kerala has many other places which have great potential for tourism development. Therefore, a comprehensive scheme for its development should be formulated and adequate financial allotment should be made. With these words

I once again support the supplementary demands and conclude my speech.

(English)

SHRI M.R. SAIKIA (Nowgong) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to take this opportunity to explain the grim situation prevailing this year in the State of Assam. In the early part of the year, unprecedented drought took place in Assam causing heavy damages to crops such as paddy, jute, sugarcane, tea, etc., to forests, fisheries, sericulture, drinking water system and irrigation works, for which the State Government, after making an internal assessment, submitted a memorandum to the Union Government requesting for financial help to the tune of Rs. 80 crores. But the entire situation changed all of a sudden. Immediately after the sowing of *sali* paddy and when the farmers were looking forward to a good cultivation, incessant and heavy rains started all over the State causing extensive damages to dwelling houses, crops such as paddy, sugarcane, jute, tea, etc., forests, fisheries, sericulture, bridges, roads, culverts, drinking water installations, electrical installations, public health centres, State dispensaries, educational institution buildings, etc. Thousands of people had to run to places of safety. Most of the areas remained cut off from the district headquarters and in large areas there was disruption of surface communications which made movement of relief materials and rescue parties extremely difficult. People had to take recourse to boat communication only which again was neither adequate nor locally available. Thousands of people had to be shifted to relief camps located in educational institutions, buildings of worship and also thousands of people had to take shelter on the national highways. More than 23 lakhs of people and more than 4 lakhs of families had been badly affected. Not only that, the National Highway running through the districts of Nowgong, Karbi Along remained closed for regular traffic for days together. Road communication with Upper Assam remained closed for more than a week. Even the road and railway

communication with Karimganj and Cachar districts remained closed for more than 10 days.

It is unprecedented because it caused huge amages to the economy of the State. The State Government, after making a thorough assessment, submitted a memorandum requesting the Union Government to extend financial help to the tune of Rs. 400 crores. Assam being a poor State, the State Government would not be able to cope with the grave situation and would not be able to restore the State to the pre-flood position and to re-build its economy unless financial assistance is extended by the Union Government. Therefore, through you Sir, I request the Finance Ministry to make funds available to the State so as to enable the State Government to cope with this grave situation.

The people of Assam wanted some permanent measures to protect themselves against floods and droughts. In this connection I may refer to two multipurpose projects prepared by Brahmaputra Board which are yet to be implemented. I request the Union Government to provide financial assistance for early implementation of these multipurpose projects on Subhansiri river and Dhing river.

Excess of water and drought create havoc and cause extensive damage to our economy every year. Due to the increased incidence of drought and flood and the raising demand for more water for industry and agriculture as well as for domestic purpose, it has become necessary to formulate a national water policy. I would suggest the Union Government to prepare some national water policy so that the people in general throughout the country may be prevented from droughts and floods. I urge upon the Union Government to make available funds for execution and implementation of such national projects.

We are very much concerned about the regional imbalances in respect of economic development of the country. One of

[Shri M. R. Saikia]

the main causes of this is chaos and disorder that take place in different parts of the country. Therefore, we must do away with this.

In the Assam Accord made between the Union Government and the leaders of ASSU and Ganā Parishad, it was declared that one more refinery would be established in Assam. It was also declared that steps would be taken for construction of roads and fencing along the border of Assam to check infiltration from across the border. But nothing has been done so far. A suspicion arises in the mind of the people of Assam about the sincerity of the Union Government with regard to the implementation of the Assam Accord. Therefore, I urge the Union Government to make the fund available for the construction of these projects and the refinery in Assam.

Sir, in the last Budget Session the Petroleum Minister declared on the Floor of the House that steps would be taken for expansion and modernisation of Digboi oil refinery which is one of the oldest refinery in Asia and also for expansion and modernisation of Bongaigaon complex. Nothing has happened so far. I urge upon the Union Government to take positive measures for the implementation of these promises made on the Floor of the House so as to remove suspicions from the minds of the people of Assam. With these words I thank you and conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV (Morena) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the demands for grants presented by the hon. Minister of Finance. Out of these, grants will be provided to the State Governments and Union territories.

I would like to raise a few points regarding my constituency. There are 9 to 10 rivers in my constituency, Morena. There are no means of transportation between these river and it causes great inconvenience to the farmers. I want that

the area should be surveyed and the hon. Minister of Finance should see as to where the bridges or culverts are needed. In addition, I would like to say that in Morena area, in spite of 9 to 10 rivers, the irrigation facility is quite inadequate. Therefore, lift irrigation should be provided there from these rivers so that the farmers get full irrigation facility.

With these words, I support the Budget.

15.56 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*].

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants. I appreciate the work of the hon. Minister of Finance who has acted courageously and wisely. I also appreciate the officers and employees of the Central Board of Direct taxes and the Central Board of Excise and Customs for establishing a record in mobilising additional resources in their own way.

Sir, as per the target of Seventh Five Year Plan, we had to collect Rs. 13,000 crores by additional resource mobilisation and till now our hon. Minister of Finance has collected Rs. 10,000 crores by mobilising additional resources. The Seventh Five Year Plan is a very ambitious plan and the hon. Members of the Opposition, press and people outside the House had expressed doubts about the availability of resources for the Plan. Our Hon. Prime Minister had emphatically said that Government would achieve the targets fixed in the Seventh Five Year Plan without making any reduction therein. I thank the Hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Finance that they have collected an additional amount of Rs. 10,000 crores in first two years of the Plan by mobilising additional resources and now there is every possibility that the remaining amount of the plan will also be collected by additional resource mobilisation. In addition, Rs. 4,500 crores have been collected till September through MODVAT Scheme which is a new taxation system for industrial centres. It is

also another source of resource mobilisation. In addition to it, the hon. Minister of Finance has unearthed black money about which hon. Members of the Opposition used to say that black money had increased considerably and it was one of the factors which had aggravated the economic condition of our country. The hon. Minister of Finance and our Central Government deserve appreciation for their tireless efforts in this direction.

The results of the raids conducted on millionaires and other rich houses are before us. Now every citizen of our country has realised that not only the common man but even the biggest guns would not be spared if they indulge in tax-evasion. Today, the common man has confidence and this belief that the hidden money or money saved by tax evasion will be recovered from them. It is admirable achievement in itself for which I thank the Hon. Prime Minister, hon. Finance Minister and the Central Government.

Moreover, I would like to submit that apart from resource mobilisation, we have set a development target of Five per cent to be achieved during the Seventh Five Year Plan. Our Reserve Bank has stated that our economic policies and the development we are making in our country is itself a good augury, and I hope that in the near future, we would definitely achieve the target of our economic progress.

Moreover, I would also add that during the Sixth Five Year Plan, we had adopted poverty alleviation programmes under which there was a target to benefit one crore fifty lakh families. But I am happy that under the said programme one crore and sixty one lakh families have been benefited. Similarly, our Hon. Prime Minister has given self-employment programme for the upliftment of the urban poor living below poverty line. Under this programme, they can take loan of Rs. 5,000 from the Banks without security. Now the urban poor are also getting benefits under the self-employment scheme hitherto available only to the rural poor

under I.R.D.P. It is also an admirable step in itself.

Sir, you know that the opposition Members criticise the loan *melas*. But I would submit that this year such *melas* were organised in Rajasthan and in my district Alwar, such camps were organised in every Panchayat on October 14 and the target of the whole year was achieved. In these *melas*, the loans were distributed to the poor people. The poor people are benefited under I.R.D.P. and TRYSEM Programmes in the presence of Bank Officials, development officers and other officers engaged in development programmes. It is, therefore, obvious that it will greatly benefit the poor living below poverty line.

In the end, I once again thank the Hon. Finance Minister and the Central Government for taking up programmes which are extremely useful to improve the economic condition of the poor and we shall succeed in our efforts. I once again thank the hon. Minister of Finance and the Government for such programmes.

16.03 hrs.

STATEMENT *RE* : SECOND  
 CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTH  
 ASIAN ASSOCIATION FOR  
 REGIONAL COOPERATION  
 HELD AT BANGALORE

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : Sir, The Second Summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation held in Bangalore, on the 16th and 17th November, 1986, marked an important stage in the evolution of the world's largest and most recent regional association. Inaugurated on the auspicious occasion of Kartik Purnima and of the birth anniversary of the Prophet Mohammad and Guru Nanak Devji, the Summit reaffirmed our faith in promoting the common