

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL) 1985-86 CONTD.

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is already 6 O'Clock. There are six Members to speak. They can speak for five minutes each. The time of the House is extended by half-an-hour. We have already extended four hours for this discussion alone. We cannot go on extending because that means there are lot of speakers we have to allow. Therefore, we have to allow half-an-hour.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : There is no quorum in the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There is quorum. Now Shri V. S. Krishna Iyer will speak.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : Sir, since we discussed the original Budget there have been lot of changes in the political field in our country, thanks to Punjab and Assam accords.

It is the duty of every one to see (*Interruptions*) that these accords are implemented in the spirit in which they have been arrived at. Similarly, there are a number of inter-State border disputes and river disputes.

Just now, the hon. Member Shri Datta Samant was mentioning about the Karnataka-Maharashtra boundary. So far as that piece is concerned, as you are aware, that has been decided long ago, about 20 years back. The Mahajan Commission award was submitted during the year, 1965-66. It is unfortunate that the Central Government which was duty bound to implement it, has not so far implemented the Mahajan Commission award. It has created lot of discontent in the minds of the people of Karnataka State. So, I strongly urge that the Mahajan Commission report must be implemented by the Central Government in toto.

If we reopen the decisions of the tribunals or commissions appointed, then there will be no end to it. It will be a bad

precedent. It may happen so in case of Mathew award. When once a commission or tribunal has been appointed and receives the concurrence of the State, the Central Government must see to it that it is implemented in toto.

Another matter in which about 4 crores of Kannadigas are involved is the way in which the Central Government has laid it down with regard to several major projects. Vijayanagar Steel, for which the foundation was laid by the late Prime Minister 15 years ago, it is still a dream. We do not know what its fate will be. Similarly, only during the Budget Session, we were assured that the Mangalore Oil Refinery will be set up in Mangalore. But yesterday we have seen in the newspapers that the Chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation has mentioned that only Karnal Project will be taken up and there is not a word about the Mangalore Refinery.

Similarly, first they said that the Electronic Digital Exchange Factory will come up in Bangalore. But that was shifted to Uttar Pradesh. A second unit will be set up in Bangalore but that will be a truncated factory but not fullfledged factory. The people of Karnataka are very much agitated over all these matters.

One suggestion which I would like to make to the hon. Finance Minister is we have got plenty of food production. We are surplus in food production. We are just thinking what to do with our surplus food. At the same time, we have got poverty. 50% of the population of our country are not getting a single square meal, that is 2,000 calories minimum required. Cereal consumption which was 350 before independence, now it has risen by another 50 grammes. So, the purchasing power of the people is very much [reduced]. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to extend the supply of subsidised food articles which was given to the tribal people to all rural people just as it is done by the Government of Karnataka.

Thank you.

[Translations]

SHRI GANGA RAM (Ferozabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you for giving me the time to speak. I support the Supplementary Demands for grants presented in the House today. I appreciate the steps taken by the Ministry of Finance to curb price rise and congratulate the Ministry for launching a campaign against corruption, black marketing and hoarding. It also deserves kudos for the commotion it has caused among the anti-social elements. I would request that this campaign should be made more intense and more effective action should be taken to eradicate this evil from the country.

It is a matter of pleasure that sufficient funds have been made available under IRDP, NREP, RLEGP and self employment scheme for the educated unemployed, but I would request the Finance Ministry and the concerned Ministries and Departments to keep a strict vigil on the implementation of these schemes, because the intended beneficiaries, the poor are not being benefited fully. It has been repeatedly stated in the House that the Finance Ministry and other concerned Ministries must formulate some scheme to abolish the system of middlemen. There is a great need to do away with this system.

In the last Budget the Finance Minister had made an allocation of Rs. 165 crores for the Special Component Plan for the development of the poor, but no appreciable amount has so far been asked for from this allocation. I was thinking about the situation when the grant lapses at the end of the financial year. I would request the Finance Ministry to direct the State Governments to utilise these funds to the maximum extent.

I would also like to submit some problems of my constituency also. The Chambal valley is a dacoit-infested area. The Central Government and the Agriculture Ministry have prepared a dacoit affected area development plan for that and I am aware that Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent a scheme worth about Rs. 297 crores to the Finance Ministry. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to give approval to this scheme at the earliest so

that the dacoit problem is solved at the earliest. The dacoits in that area are not actually dacoits. The society has made them dacoits. I am of the view that the men harassed by the society become dacoits and the women exploited by the society become prostitutes. With this scheme, these people of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh whose borders touch Chambal area will be given a chance to become good citizens so that they could make their contributions in the welfare schemes of the country.

Kautilya has stated in the 'Arth Shastra' that a State where education, medical care and justice are costly, that State is not considered to be a good State. I have not seen any additional provision for education, medical care and justice in these demands. I would request the hon. Finance Minister that he should take effective steps to make education, medical care and justice cheap which are at present the costliest in the country.

I support the different measures proposed to bring down the prices and lastly, once again I express my gratitude to you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all I would like to thank you for giving me time. I would like to submit certain important things. I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister that while replying to the points raised in connection with the Supplementary Demands, he should clarify the position regarding the report submitted by a Government institute—the national institute of Public Finance Policy. The institute has submitted its latest report to you. It has been stated in it that the 20.81 per cent of the total production escapes the taxation net. So much is being produced without taxation. I want to know as to how you will control so much black money, being generated. What will be your plan to bring out this one fifth of the country's production so as to cover under taxation because so long black money exists, no programme and scheme of yours can succeed. Shri D.R. Pendse; a renowned economist has stated that black money to the tune of Rs. 4.6

[Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh]

crores is being generated every minute. Unless you improve this situation, you will not be able to implement any of your schemes, howsoever good it may be, because a strong parallel economy is existing in the country which has paralysed the economy of our country.

Secondly, unemployment is increasing and along with it is increasing the concern and anxiety of the administration. The proof of this is that in Bihar whereas earlier there was one police station at a place and now for the same area 6 police stations have been opened during the last one and a half year. There is one police station in two circles each. It should be deemed that administration in Bihar has become almost non-existent because police stations are being opened for every two or four villages. The main reason for this is that our youths are unemployed and the extremist elements are misleading the farmers and labourers. On the other hand the remaining feudal elements are organising themselves on the caste basis and are organising armies like Bhumi Sena, Patel Sena etc. You have seen how much chaos prevailed there for two days. The poor people are being massacred in village after village. To rectify this situation I suggest, and I have suggested this in my letter also, that if in the entire area proper arrangement for irrigation is made, the farmers and labourers will get work continuously and the youths will also start taking interest in the work and then no one will be able to mislead them. There are two schemes for this—one relates to Mohana dam project and the second is Punpun Digha irrigation project. These two projects have been under consideration for the last twenty and seven years respectively. You should sanction them immediately and provide funds for them. These projects have been lying with the Central Water Commission. You should get them cleared from there immediately and allot money for them. With the implementation of these schemes the anti-social elements who mislead people will take to their heels. That is why I am urging you for this.

I have been writing to you constantly about the irregularities in the banks. You

have got them investigated and I am happy that the allegations are proving true and the guilty are being punished. You have taken the reformatory measures which are very good. You had promised to take reformatory steps and you are fulfilling your promise in the real sense. My being in the Opposition does not mean that I should only criticise. I must appreciate the good steps. It is true that improvement in the banks seems possible now. I hope you will improve them further so that the poor to whom you want to give money get it in proper way. This will help them becoming economically sound and consequently, self-reliant. But the agitations going on in Bihar at present show that there is no administration worth the name. With a view to improve this situation, it is very necessary that the attention is paid to the two schemes which I have mentioned above, i.e., Mohana dam and Punpun Digha irrigation projects, because these projects will prove to be a boon to the people of the area.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, presenting the Supplementary Demands in the House is not a new tradition. I, rather consider it a sign of dynamic economy and also indicative of the thing that the Finance Ministry and the hon. Finance Minister and the Government are vigilant about the new situations arising in the country. Through this, the Members get an opportunity to express their views on different economic activities of the Government.

The hon. Finance Minister has come before the House for getting approval of the funds required for items like drought, floods, relief to the flood affected people, programmes like NREP, RLEGP etc. I think no hon. Member of the House would like to criticise provision of funds for these items. I would rather submit to the hon. Finance Minister that he has not provided for that much amount for these items as we had expected; specially under the programme meant for assisting the educated unemployed youths. For this item less amount has been provided for. You should have demanded more money for that programme from the House.

One of my friends was criticising the provision of subsidy and was saying that subsidy is misused. It is known to everyone and we have been demanding time and again that this situation should be rectified, but there is a limit to provide for the subsidy, specially in such an economy where a large chunk of the population is even now living below the poverty line. If we do not provide subsidy, do not assist the poor, then poverty will become burden for them. I would, therefore, request the hon. Finance Minister to take such criticism in the positive sense and not in the negative sense.

During the last Session, the hon. Finance Minister had said to this extent that the Government would control the prices. I am happy that he has not only controlled the prices, but he has brought stabilisation to the prices also. Good crop is also responsible for this. It would have been better if we would have benefited from our industrial production also, because we have given many concessions to the industrial sector. We had estimated industrial growth of 8 per cent per annum, but that target has not been achieved. Along with this, our projection of economic development of 6 per cent will also remain below the target. I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister that there is need to keep a strict vigil on the concessions and relaxations given to the Industrial Houses in the shape of Licences or funds. It needs to be looked into that these concessions help in the development of the country. Strictness followed in the matter of recovery of direct taxes has yielded good results. The recovery is good, but there is need to maintain pressure on it because if there is any hinderance in the realisation of revenue, the situation may undergo change. It has been observed earlier also that in case of hinderance, the situation becomes stagnating on a certain point. I would, therefore, request that there is need to gear up the enforcing agencies to maintain pressure.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has brought down the rate of inflation, which is a welcome step. I would like to draw your attention towards the gap in the foreign trade. Our Imports are increasing and the exports are not increasing to the desired extent. If we do not reduce

this gap of Rs. 2000 crores, then in the long run it will adversely affect our economy. Your expectations will also not be fulfilled. I, therefore request you to make efforts to increase exports. I am sorry to state that for a large state like Uttar Pradesh no special provision has been made for its development this year nor any special efforts has been made to make a provision in our plan outlay. As per the Gadgil formula, the plan outlay is more tilted towards those States which are already developed. In a large State like Uttar Pradesh even today lakhs of people are reeling under poverty. The Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bundelkhand region and the hill areas of the State are far behind the other parts of the country in so far as development is concerned. Therefore, I would urge upon you that the way a Developmental Agency has separately been established for the development of the hill areas and separate amount is allocated by the Planning Commission to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, a Development Agency should be formed for the development of Bundelkhand and Eastern part of U.P. and funds should be made available to it on the line of funds being provided for the development of hill areas and deserts.

I am also to request that the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent many schemes to the World Bank through you which include river valley projects, integrated soyabean development project, project relating to development of Panchayat forests and horticulture. You should discuss all these projects with the World Bank authorities at the earliest because these are the projects which can contribute meaningfully to the development of Uttar Pradesh.

The economy of the hill areas depend on the production of fruits and vegetables and in our hill areas the production of fruits etc. is immense, but the farmers there do not get fair prices for their products. Fruits and vegetables are the most perishable commodities, but these have not been covered under the crop insurance scheme. I hope that in near future you will cover them under the crop insurance scheme.

[Shri Harish Rawat

You have extended the benefit of social security scheme to certain districts, but border areas, tribal areas and hill areas have been excluded from this scheme which is not a good thing. You should bring the above areas under the social security scheme. I would urge upon you to ask the officers of the Ministry to discuss the matter with the State authorities and bring the above mentioned areas also under social security scheme.

With these words I support the supplementary demands.

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY (Gopalganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands for the year 1985-86 presented by the hon. Minister of State for Finance. Many of our colleagues have said that you wanted to improve the lot of the poor by spreading a network of banks in the rural areas. Regarding subsidy, Shri Harish Rawat has expressed his views. I say with authority that in Gopalganj, which is in North Bihar, and in the nearby areas of that region Gandhiji had started 'Satyagrah', and I come from the nearby area, but not even a single poor person has got the subsidy there. I do not talk of the entire country, but the bank managers in North Bihar who earlier used to come on bicycle and who used to make both ends meet with great difficulty, are now the owners of property worth Rs. 50 to 60 lakhs. If you investigate these allegations and if you find them incorrect I will resign my membership of the House. In our Gopalganj area there is a bank in Bathana Kuti where one Shrikant Singh is the manager. His father used to earn his livelihood in 1982 by selling land, but today he is the owner of the property worth Rs. 40 lakhs in Kuchai Kot and Pahadpur in Gopalganj. He has a cinema House and has elephants and horses at home and truck, rifle, houses as well as land. When I told this thing to the Collector, then he informed me that he has been provided loan on the basis of certificate issued by the B.D.O. He gets 5 to 10 papers signed by poor persons, who come there for getting loans. Later on he gives them an amount of Rs. 100 and makes entries in those papers showing an amount of Rs. 5000 to 7000 in their names. Therefore, the question of giving subsidy does not arise. I have written

not one but hundreds of letters in respect of several banks, but the enquiry officers sent there by you to conduct inquiry come back having V.C.Rs. with them. Unless you get the inquiry conducted by C. B. I. team, you will not be able to know anything. Today, the situation is that the Bank Managers are making easy money in the entire area. Unless you meet the persons on the spot and enquire whether they have got loan or not, you will not be able to know anything. The local Bank Manager and the B.D.O. are in connivance with each other. The persons sent by you for conducting inquiry submit their report that no case has been established.

Inquiries may be made from the local collector who got Shri Singh suspended. A board was set up. It had come to the notice that an amount of Rs. 50 to 60 lakhs was embezzled in a bank at Bathana Kuti in Gopalganj District. You did not come to know about it,

Secondly, your wards and our wards study in schools. We are not able to know about their performance during the year. When their results come, only then we come to know about their progress.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : About the allegation that has been made by the hon. Member, I assure him that immediate action will be taken.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Has he mentioned about any case ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Yes, he has given some particulars.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Many many thanks. Sir, I wanted to say that their performance is known only after the result is announced.

I am very much impressed by the performance of Shri Janardhana Poojary. I am an Independent Member and express my independent views in the House. My views are above party politics.

Sir, a mention has been made about the Chambal area. A similar mini Chambal exists in Bihar also which is known as Champaran. Government gave grant worth crores of rupees, but no action has been taken to implement any project with that grant. It is not known as to what happened to that grant. Similarly, Government had invested lakhs of rupees in Amva card board factory in my parliamentary constituency-Gopalganj. No action has so far been taken there also. That factory is also lying closed. Similarly, although crores of rupees have been spent in other districts also, yet all the schemes remain on the on papers only.

The most painful part of this all is that nothing has been done so that Shrimati Indira Gandhi's soul may rest in peace. Shrimati Indira Gandhi had laid the foundation stone of Chhitauni Railway Bridge in North Bihar in 1974. This railway bridge links Chhitauni with the whole of India and Nepal. People were expecting that this bridge would be completed within a period of one year. This bridge could not be constructed due to paucity of funds. We formulate schemes, but they are not implemented. The marble foundation stone laid by Shrimati Indira Gandhi has also worn out. The entire population of the area had made a demand for this bridge. People of Nepal were also anxiously waiting for its completion because it serves as a link between India and Nepal border. This bridge has not so far been completed.

Gopalganj from where I come, is a very backward area. You talk about the adivasis. But all the Governments after Independence have failed to do justice to them.

Mr. Rajhans had made a reference about floods. Flood problem in North Bihar should be solved on permanent basis so that people there may feel a sigh of relief. When floods occur there, the Bihar engineers take it as a boon for themselves. The engineers, Executive Engineers, other engineers and officers make crores of rupees at that time. You should find out some such solution which may provide relief to the people.

With these words I welcome the Supplementary Demands.

SHRI M. L. JHIKRAM (Mandla) :
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome the Supplementary Demands presented by the hon. Minister. In fact these demands reflect the wisdom of hon. Minister. Through these demands he has been able to control inflation and curb black money.

In addition, he has also stated that wheat and rice would be sold @ Rs. 1.50 and Rs. 1.85 respectively in Harijan and Adivasi areas. It is very good thing. We as well as the poor people of the entire country are very grateful to him.

He has also announced the support price for agricultural products of farmers. It would have been much better if this price would have been kept a little higher. The support price announced is not adequate keeping in view the hard labour put in by the farmers. I feel that tax on luxury goods may be increased, but support price for the farmers should be increased, so that they could get encouragement.

I would also like to submit one thing more. Foodgrains are procured from farmers at the support price, but when the farmers purchase foodgrains for seeds, they have to pay a higher price. This matter may be looked into by the Government. It would be better if they get seeds at the lower price.

Now I come to other matters. So far as the question of research in the field of atomic energy is concerned, the Hon. Prime Minister has said that special attention would be paid in this regard. A scheme was formulated to set up an atomic power station near Bargi Dam in my constituency. The experts and scientists had opined that Chutakapatha would be most suitable place for this, because it is located near Bargi Dam and water is available there in abundance. Moreover, there is also not much population and transport facilities also exist there. Due to the influence of certain persons this power station is now proposed to be set up somewhere else. It is a hilly and undeveloped area, which needs industrialisation. Some industries must be set up there. Government is also of this view. If this power station is set up at

[Shri M.L. Jhikram]

some other place despite availability of so many facilities, then it will be termed as exploitation of people of this hilly area. I humbly submit to the hon. Minister to please look into this matter seriously so that people are not deprived of their due.

In addition, I would also like to tell you that it is a hill district and many facilities are provided by the Government for promotion of industries in such areas, but the industrialist get money in the name of setting up of industries there, and after getting all the facilities, they set up industries on the border of Mandla near Jabalpur whereas the industries should be set up in Mandla District, which results in exploitation of Mandla District and nothing else. A rule should be framed that the loan obtained to set up industries in a particular district should not be utilised for setting up of industries in other districts. Mandla is a hill district. All the facilities are obtained in its name, but all the industries are being set up near Jabalpur. I request the Government to see that the people of hill district are benefited.

The second thing that I would like to say is that the air strip at Mahakoshal in Jabalpur is not in good condition. An air crash took place on 12th or 13th September there. Therefore, landing facilities at the airport should be improved. In this context, I would like to say one thing more. Vayudoot service exists from Delhi to Jabalpur, but there is no direct service from Jabalpur, to Delhi. At present one has to come from Jabalpur to Delhi via Bhopal. This matter should also be looked into and this facility should be provided to people there.

Adequate funds have been allocated for public works, still I would like to submit that since it is a hilly area, more funds should be allocated for it in order to provide better transport facilities. I had stated earlier also that due to non-availability of transport facilities, development of this area is not taking place. If this hilly areas is to be developed in real sense, then adequate transport facilities should be provided there. Another important thing is that this hilly area is infested with a large number of forests. Under the rules of the land, forests cannot be cleared without the permission of the

Central Government even if the construction work is connected with development. Therefore, unless the Central Government gives permission, neither roads can be constructed there nor electric wires can be installed nor railway lines can be constructed. This causes a lot of delay in the implementation of development works. The entire development work is held up. Keeping in view the development of hilly areas the Centre should make some relaxation in this rule in order to execute development works.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The minister will reply tomorrow.

18.34 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, December 4, 1985 Agrahayana 13, 1907 (Saka)