

[Sh. Parag Chaliha]

rich and colourful culture, it is distressing to note that only once—or, at the most twice in course of decades—a cultural troupe from Assam has been selected for any exhibition and/or demonstration in foreign countries. In course of the series of the Festivals of India in UK, USA, France, Sweden, Japan and USSR, only once a cultural party from Assam was included for a programme under the Festival. Although many well-known experts in painting and graphic arts as also artisans with proved excellence in weaving, designing and handicraft are available in Assam, yet not one of them has ever been sponsored by the Government of India to visit or demonstrate abroad. While internationally famous maestros in the arts must necessarily be invited for displaying their artistry in other countries, it is also imperative that the inherent skill and acumen of the people of the rural and backward regions should be patronised for wider and fuller exposition of their talents, so that they feel inspired for furtherance of their artistic and professional skills.

The Department of Culture, is therefore urged to take urgent effective steps so as to allay the misgivings in this regard persisting in the minds of the people of Assam.

[Translation]

- (vi) **Need to set up thermal plants at Kapurdi and Jalepa for meeting the shortage of electricity in desert areas of Rajasthan**

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): A lignite based thermal plant of 2x210 MW capacity is being set up by the Neyvelli lignite corporation at Barsingsar area of Bikaner district in the State of Rajasthan. The power to be generated from that plant will be allotted to Rajasthan.

Arrangements should be made to ensure that the above thermal plant starts generation of power at the earliest possible and the State Electricity Board receives

electricity from that plant at the earliest.

Apart from this lignite deposits of about 10 crore tonnes have been found at Jalepa in Barmer district. Thermal plants of 1000 MW capacity each could be set up Kapurdi and Jalepa on the basis of these deposits.

There is acute shortage of power in the State as compared to the requirements of the people. It should, therefore, be ensured that the State of Rajasthan receives power from these thermal plants as it has been receiving from the plant at Barasingsar. The above work should be started within one year and the problem of power in the desert area should be solved accordingly.

[English]

- (vii) **Need to set up paper mills in Phulbani district of Orissa**

SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL (Phulbani): Phulbani is one of the backward districts in Orissa. It was identified as a 'No Industry district' in 1982. After that, Government have taken steps to set up some industries in that district. But most of industries set up in that district were small units. It is regretted that those units have fallen sick. Phulbani is ideally located for setting up of forest-based units like pulp and paper mill. If such units are set up in that district, it will go a long way in solving the unemployment problem of that district. I, therefore, request that efforts should be made immediately to set up some major and medium paper mills in Phulbani district, Orissa.

13.31 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (TAMIL NADU) 1988-89...Contd.

(English)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion and vot-

ing on the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget for the State of Tamil Nadu for 1988-89. Shri Thampam Thomas...

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Rs. 419 crores which have been provided for Tamil Nadu for the year 1988-89 are based on Gadgil formula and taking into account the population of Tamil Nadu? I would also like to know from him whether sufficient provision has been made on the basis of that because it is felt that certain States are getting their entitlement on the basis of Gadgil formula and certain States are not getting on the basis of that formula. (*Interruptions*)

I would like to know the basis on which it has been worked out. What is the approach that the Government has adopted? Sir, the main problem being faced by people in Tamil Nadu is the drinking water problem. This problem is still very acute. Although in certain other States there were good rains yet in Tamil Nadu there were not sufficient rains. Efforts to solve this problem of drinking water especially in rural areas have to be made by Government because it is poorman's need. The traditional industries in Tamil Nadu are suffering. The handloom, silk-weaving and such other industries are not being encouraged. Therefore, some encouragement has to be provided for these traditional industries. Tamil Nadu comes above the national average so far as per capita income is concerned. But I would like to bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister that in fact, a large population is suffering from poverty in this State. This is the State where minimum wages are not being paid to the workers. In the agricultural sector, even now there are people who work for Rs. 3-4 per day. It is lamenting to note that with such low wages, the people are working in the paddy fields and even in the industries. The Government of India has prohibited the child labour. In Tamil Nadu, even now the child labour is in practice. Especially in Sivakashi and in areas where people are working in match-making industry, small children at the age of

7-9 years are being employed on wages of Rs. 1.50. When there is an Act, which prohibits the child labour, earnest steps have to be taken to prohibit this sort of inhuman practice which is going on in Tamil Nadu.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that because of low wages in Tamil Nadu areas, industries from other States are going over there for the purpose of exploiting the manpower. Recently, the cashewnut industries, which are there on the borderline of Kerala, have now gone to Tamil Nadu. But what is happening in Tamil Nadu? The people in that area are given very low wages. These industries are going especially to Tirunelveli district and adjoining areas. Even the industrialists from Kerala go and start their industries there and bring back the products back to Kerala. They are involved in the export business. This is because of absence of reasonable minimum wages. For the purpose of such industries, there should be a programme of the Government to provide for a minimum wage which is necessary for the people to live.

Recently, one of the cashew industrialists in Quilon showed me an order. I don't know why it had happened. According to that, if he starts an industry in Tamil Nadu, he will be given the bank loan. An industrialist in Kerala will be given a bank loan provided he starts his industry in Tamil Nadu! This is given by the nationalised bank. Of course, I have no objection in helping Tamil Nadu in bringing up industries. But there should be a policy. It means that the workers should not be exploited to that extent. So, why should the nationalised banks, which are owned by the Government of India, issue such directions: Go from there; start industry there; exploit the manpower to the maximum possible extent? This is not at all a good practice.

I would like to know another important thing from the hon. Minister. you have constituted a Committee. What is the purpose of that Committee? You formed a Consultative Committee for Tamil Nadu. I saw my name also. One day, I got an invitation from Delhi: Come on; we will have a meeting. Subse-

[Sh. Thampan Thomas]
 quently, I received a telegram saying that everything is cancelled. Such a Consultative Committee is not constituted seriously. Before bringing such proposals before this House, you could have called a meeting of the Consultative Committee and placed things before them. You could have given the opportunity for the Parliamentarians who are involved in the matter of Tamil Nadu. That is not happening. The Consultative Committee, which was constituted, goes without any purpose. It can go on record

I hope that elections will be there within short period. It appears that after Pongal or before Pongal the elections will be held there. It is well taken that the Consultative Committee was constituted only for the paper purposes. It was not meant seriously. It is just to satisfy some formality that the Committee was constituted.

Now, of course, I would like to tell about the Prime Minister's visits to Tamil Nadu. I don't know why he has gone there seven times. How much expenditure has been incurred by the State exchequer for that purpose? When somebody goes to the State, whether he is the Prime Minister or anybody holding a position at the Centre, and it is for party purposes, for election purposes, the exchequer should not be taxed. Arrangement for these seven visits of the Prime Minister to Tamil Nadu would have cost at least Rs.10 crores. This money could have been usefully spent for the welfare of the people. If he goes for election propaganda, or for party work, his party should have financed it; not that the money of the people should be spent for this purpose.

Shri Alexander, who is from my constituency, is reigning there in Tamil Nadu as Governor and I know that he is involving himself in political activities. They want a demarcation for Dravidian rule. False promises are being given. Somebody claimed that Kamraj rule can come through Congress only. It is absurd. Kamraj was never in the Congress. He was in the Congress (C). How can Shri Rajiv Gandhi claim that

Congress(I) can claim Kamraj traditions. If anybody can claim, it can only be Janta party, now Janta Dal. They are the real followers of Kamraj. Why all this propaganda? They say that they are going to bring back that rule in Tamil Nadu.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: They are only supporting you. Why do you bother? You should be rather happy.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: I am happy, but they should not claim like that. It is not Congress(I); Congress(I) has its own programme, but it was Kamraj who had done something for the Tamil Nadu people and people remember him. To oppose the Dravidian movement and campaign in the name of Kamraj is not correct. Kamraj supported the Dravidian movement also. What he preached is part of the Dravidian movement. Kamraj is a part and parcel of the Dravidian movement. He wanted upliftment of the poor people. Shri Rajiv Gandhi goes there and claims all those things; that is not correct and he goes there at the expense of the public exchequer. That is not proper. While speaking on the Demand for Grant of Tamil Nadu, I wanted to specially stress this point.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we are today discussing the Budget for Tamil Nadu. Though I am far away from Tamil Nadu, yet culturally the country is one. Particularly Tamil Nadu and my State of Manipur have been in cultural exchange programmes. I like Tamil Nadu and the way it has nurtured various aspects of Indian culture over thousands of year. It is one thing which is very very important for the whole country. Today, it is the most important seat of our ancient culture, traditions or whatever we may call it. The southern culture, or the Indian culture that is there in Tamil Nadu region is supported by the neighbouring States like Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh etc.

Today, that culture is almost extinct in other parts of the country like north-eastern, eastern or northern parts, because those parts have underdone a lot of changes, and

annihilation by frequent and a constant foreign attacks. Today, the Home Department in Tamil Nadu is facing a very serious problem because the Sri Lanka problem is deeply rooted in Tamil Nadu and in order to solve the situation in Sri Lanka, the Government had to work through the Government of Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu has, therefore, to play its role for controlling the situation in Sri Lanka and even in other friendly countries like Maldives and other places.

In this context, I would like to make a few observations. Often we go there as pilgrims or in connection with our officials programmes. When we see the general condition and the law and order situation in Tamil Nadu, we find that today Tamil Nadu is in the grip of an exaggerated regionalism. Of course, one can understand some dose of regionalism because India is a vast country and a variegated culture is our wealth. But when a developed, highly civilised and deeply cultural State and its people are engrossed in exaggerated kind of regionalism and when a particular aspect of culture is too much emphasised and if some political colour is given to it, then it becomes a danger.

Particularly, in the context of Tamil Nadu, a lot of things have happened after the fall of the last Congress Ministry. After that, what followed was the successive rule by regional parties. We are not opposed to regional parties coming up. But then, regional parties with exaggerated regionalism may lead to unseen growth of insurgency among the disgruntled youth of that region. This has happened in my State. So, today when we discuss Tamil Nadu, we are not merely discussing the passing of some lakhs or crores of rupees for the maintenance of its various departments. Of course, the list is also there giving all these details.

I would like to observe in this context that the Government of India has to make — as it has been making earlier also — a special survey of the situation in the Tamil Nadu region not merely from a political angle. I am very surprised to find that Shri Thampan

Thomas is not happy over the Prime Minister's visits to Tamil Nadu. Sir, every State likes that the President, the Prime Minister and important ministers should visit their State. I do not understand why a very senior member of the House and also his friend who spoke the other day, should grudge the visit of the Prime Minister to Tamil Nadu. Of course, when a Prime Minister or the President visit a State, there is expenditure allotted for it. There are blue books for this purpose, and this is an authorised and common practice and it is not to be resented. Moreover, every State likes such visits and particularly a State like Tamil Nadu which is suffering for various instabilities for some time now, should welcome it. The State is now under the President's rule and nobody likes it to continue for a long time. Howsoever good a rule may be, a good administration is not substitute to a democratic government. This is the democratic principle. Why should we grudge if the Prime Minister goes there very often to see the condition of the people in the rural areas in different parts of that region? This will only contribute to the well-being of the people and to the fast development of the economy of that region. I just express my surprise over what Shri Thampan Thomas said with regard to the Prime Minister's visits. We do not like this kind of an attitude. The Prime Minister should visit and see that a State like Tamil Nadu grows properly not only economically but in all respects. Tamil Nadu is one of the very developed States. I cannot say that Tamil Nadu is a backward State, though there are some undeveloped regions in the State. What is most important in the case of Tamil Nadu is that it should be put on a healthy footing which will be conducive to healthy competition among different region. The aspect of regionalism should not be over-emphasised and exaggerated by regional parties so that the younger generations would be controlled.

Many discussions have been held about the anti-Hindi agitation in the State of Tamil Nadu. I do not belong to Hindi region. But, for a country of the size and nature of India, there should be a language which is

[Sh. N. Tombi Singh]

spoken by all, understood by all and used by all for convenience and Hindi happens to be that language. Why should we grudge it? If at all there is political colour added to this policy of official language by interested people who work just for meeting some political ends and for some selfish reasons and not for national ends and not even for the development of that particular region, it should be opposed. As I said in my earlier part of the speech today, Tamil Nadu is the seat of the growth of every important classical Indian Dance, say for example Bharatnatyam, etc. As I see from my own angle, how difficult it is to preserve a classical form of dance. How much commitment, how much dedication, the whole society has to give for the preservation of classical dances. The Government have to adhere to the firm policy as far as the maintenance of schools and the maintenance of the standards of various agencies are concerned in regard to classical dances and other things. How difficult it is for the Government to adhere to all these things. It is very difficult for the Government in spreading out all these things throughout the country.

It should see that not only in the case of Bharatnatyam but also in all other cases it should preserve the standard. It should be seen that the standard is well maintained. Misrepresentation should not be allowed.

With these few words, I support the supplementary demands for grants for the State of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI N. SUNDARARAJ (Pudukkottai):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak in support of the Supplementary Demands presented by the Minister of State for Finance. Tamil Nadu was in the forefront in regard to industry, employment and other things during the regime of Shri Kamaraj. He was our Chief Minister. But now, it has deteriorated. It has gone down to 13th place, if you take India as a whole. No industry is coming there. No pioneers of industry are prepared to come over to Tamil Nadu for starting a industry. It is mainly because of the

policies of the Government of Tamil Nadu. But after the imposition of President's rule, the Governor and the State Government took new steps towards starting new industries. We are very thankful to the Government of India particularly for inaugurating the Kudankulam Atomic Energy Project in Tamil Nadu. It was signed by our respected Soviet Leader Gorbachev and our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. It is a 2000 MW atomic energy plant. By means of this, electricity can also be distributed to the States of Kerala, Andhra, Karnataka and others in the national grid. But I understand there are some agitations which are politically motivated are going on in some parts of Tamil Nadu where this Kudankulam project is to be located. This is because they fear that this will be a health hazard and they also say so many other things.

Even in Paris, I was told, Atomic Energy Station had been built within the city limits. But there is no health hazard. This is a politically-motivated action of some people who want that poverty in Tamil Nadu should not be alleviated. They don't want progress. By having this project, Tamil Nadu could be self-sufficient as far as electricity is concerned. Rather I would say, not only Tamil Nadu but all the Southern States would be self-sufficient if a number of new industries—big, small or medium—could be brought into Tamil Nadu and various other States. By doing so, you can employ lot of labourers and also the economy of Tamil Nadu could be improved. Another new industry which is to be commissioned is the Aromatic Plant in Madras. In that Rs. 850 crores will be incurred and thousands of people will get employment.

Another new industry which has been inaugurated by our hon. Prime Minister is the Graphite industry at Sivaganga. It will cost about Rs. 27 crores. This amount is a very small one.

But if ancillary units are started in that area by investing nearly a thousand crores of rupees, then some 10,000 to 20,000 unemployed labour could get employment in that

area.

At the same time, I would like to thank the Government of India for giving new licences for sugarcane industry. I understand that 7 new licences have been issued which could boost agricultural production in Tamilnadu as well as provide employment opportunities to the agricultural labourers. At the same time, the income of the agriculturists will also improve in Tamil Nadu.

After the imposition of the President's Rule in Tamilnadu the Governor of Tamilnadu, with earnest desire to help the new entrepreneur, small scale industries, has given concessions nearly worth Rs. 50 crores, which are welcome by the small scale industries as well as medium scale industries. At the same time, I would like to thank the Government of India for sending a telex message to the Governor of Karnataka for releasing water from Cauvery. But, I doubt, whether they will release it. They are not prepared to release water to help the farmers of Tamilnadu. Even after the Prime Minister has appealed to the Government of Karnataka to release water and the Governor of Tamilnadu has also sent a telex to them to release water, still, they are not in a mood to release water. I request the House to persuade the Government of Karnataka to release water for Tamilnadu farmers to save crops in Tanjore District, in Trichy and various other districts in Tamilnadu. Those agriculturists who have planted rice seedlings and they are about to ripen, will not be able to get good crops this year, if the water is not released.

In order to find a permanent solution for this problem, Cauvery water dispute should go to a tribunal. They are simply meeting Tamilnadu officials or Karnataka officials or ministerial officials. So far, these meetings have not borne fruits; they are just meeting; nothing has happened. So, I request the government to send the Cauvery water dispute to a tribunal so that some permanent solution could be found out whereby the farmers of Tamilnadu could be saved by drought and other natural calamities. With-

out water, nothing could be grown in Tamilnadu.

At the same time, after the President's Rule in Tamilnadu, the Governor's Rule was able to put an end to political corruption; but just by putting an end to the political corruption does not mean that there is no corruption at all. We have found that a lot of corruption is going in certain parts. In my district, one Chief Education Officer was given a clearance to recruit 300 teachers. He got Rs. 5000-10,000 from each candidate with the result that he was able to amass a huge amount of money because there was no political interference. This Chief Education Officer felt that there was no one to check him. He could do whatever he liked; he was all in all in that matter. He recruited only those candidates who were able to pay him money. In that way, political corruption should be stopped. But there is some official corruption which should be checked immediately.

14.00 hrs.

At the same time, I would like to thank the Government of Tamil Nadu for clearing so many projects. I would also like to the Government of Tamil Nadu through you to clear one major project as far as my district is concerned, that is, Pudukkottai, for supplying drinking water to Pudukkottai town, the capital town of the district. The proposal has been sent to the Government of Tamil Nadu, and it costs Rs. 19.5 crores. I request the Government to clear it immediately so that people of Pudukkottai district which is a drought-prone area for the past so many years, would be able to get drinking water from Cauvery. At the same time, I would like to thank the Government of Tamil Nadu for taking drastic action as far as certain other projects are concerned. I would like to thank the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi for coming to Tamil Nadu so many times to see the reality of Tamil Nadu, to see, on the spot, the State of Tamil Nadu and the living conditions of the people there, the industrial development there and various other factors. He was able to personally understand what is

[Sh. N. Sundararaj]

Tamil Nadu and he was impressed what happened during the period of Kamaraj whom he was the Chief Minister. There are so many demands for reservations on communal basis and so many other things, which he was able to put an end to, and also to communal disputes in those States, by giving reservation to the needy. But later on when some people took over as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu they wanted to specify certain candidates to get some posts, so that they were prepared to vote for him. Some people were included in the list of backward classes. As a result of it some hundreds of people were included in the so-called backward classes, thereby some needy backward classes were deprived of the reservation quotas and those facilities. Now it has taken a new turn whereby we in Tamil Nadu find that all the communities, nearly every community is agitating, and they are holding rallies, seminars and they are demanding reservations up to 20 per cent, 10 per cent, 25 per cent, 30 per cent and so on, which will go up to 100 per cent, and so on. If that is agreed to, some thousands of people will get reservations, or it may go up to 500 per cent, 800 per cent or even 900 per cent. Hon. Minister Shri Narasimha Rao is having talks with those leaders. I hope that a solution will be found to those problems of the backward classes and the so-called backward classes who have been included later on, years after Kamaraj's time will be excluded.

At the same time, I would like to express my thanks to the Prime Minister and the Government of India for taking as many steps as far as foodgrains are concerned. Foodgrain were given to Tamil Nadu, in huge quantities but the public distribution system is not properly maintained. In the earlier days to the President's Rule there used to be some fearlessness among the people manning the public distribution system but later on it is found that there is no fearlessness.

Secondly, people belonging to the lower strata of society are not able to get

foodgrains in the fairprice shop in Tamil Nadu. Rice is not available. Grains and other foodgrains are also not available. As a result, there is some kind of animosity towards the Government there among the lower strata of society.

I request the Government to take necessary steps on those who are hoarding the rice allotted to the fair price shops and selling it to other businessmen in the town, whereby proper distribution will be ensured in Tamil Nadu.

With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Tamil Nadu).

[Translation]

*SHRI P. SELVENDRAN (Periyakulam): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Sir, I would like to say a few words on the supplementary Demands for Grants relating to the budget for Tamil Nadu for the year 1988-89. It is a tragedy of the times that this budget which should have been discussed by the Legislature of the State is being discussed here because a duly elected State Government was toppled for political reasons. I honestly wish that this should be the last occasion for this Lok Sabha to discuss the budget of the State. This budget demands relate to Rs. 419,35,58,000, out of which Rs. 30,000/- is being demanded for the purpose of police. The people of Tamil Nadu are really aware how the police is being misused and how the police actively aided and abetted the Congress rule under the Governor. A rally was organised and the Prime Minister led the rally which was organised to commemorate the Nehru Birth Centenary celebrations. Newspapers in Tamil Nadu report that a Khadi Dhoties and a Khadi scarves were given to policemen who attended the Congress Rally wearing the Khadi Dhoti and Khadi scarf. Thus the police actively cooperated in providing people for the Rally. Perhaps this Rs. 30,000/- demand by the Minister is an action of gratitude towards the police. It is for the Minister to clarify, It may be

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

a small gift to the police for the thankful job they have done on the day of Rally, but even then the allocation is, I feel, less than what it should have been. An allocation of more than 26 crores have been made for education. A few months back the teachers all over the State in cooperation with the JACTEA agitated for redressal of certain genuine grievances. The agitation lasted for one month. That agitation was also cited as an alibi for postponing the elections in the State. When the agitation was on, the statements made by the Governor and the justification he made for refusing the demands of teachers still remain in my memory as bitter events. The Governor held out a bar threat to the teachers and the other Government servants, who participated in the agitation that if they did not give up their strike they would have had to face a different Governor. That I am unable to forget. He also asked the agitating teachers and Government servants whether he was *Kuberto* to show munificence on the teachers and Government servants and give them whatever they wanted. This also is still afresh in my memory. However certain assurances were given to the JACTEA. Since the Governor has failed to fulfil the assurances given by him to the JACTEA, two days back, the JACTEA, took out a rally in support of the demands. The Government is keen to exploit this fertile situation for the purpose of postponing elections once again. The JACTEA is sought to be used as trump card by the Central Government for postponing the election. Perhaps this may be their idea. Perhaps with this in view the Governor has failed to fulfil the assurances he had given to the JACTEA. Though more than 26 crores of rupees has been sought by the Minister for education still many of the schools in Tamil Nadu are in a pathetic condition. Many of the schools are running on rented premises. Many of the schools do not have even rooves. There are no pucca buildings. Particularly the Piramalai Kallar community which is a most backward community is the worst affected by these conditions of the schools in the state. This community was the most neglected community in the State. Conscious of the plight of the community the British Govt.

brought a scheme called Kallar Reclamation Scheme for rehabilitating the Kallar community in the State. The Kallar community were required in those days to sign the register kept in the nearby police station every day. They were required to inform the police before they cross the bounds of the village or the city of which they were residents. Numerous other indignities and acts of dishonour were committed on the Kallar community. The British Govt. therefore brought this Kallar Reclamation Scheme simply to uplift the Kallar community which was the most neglected community of the State. Under that scheme, it was the utmost duty of the Govt. to provide education to the Kallar community. In my district alone, there are more than 100 schools and 40 hostels for the Kallar students but 50% of these schools and hostels run on rented premises. Certain schools do not have rooves and children have to sit in sun and wet in rain because there are no pucca buildings. Most of the time, because of the dislocation and discomfort caused by these natural factors, the schools remain closed for days together. I therefore appeal to the Minister to apportion a sizeable amount of the allocation made for education in this Bill for the purpose of development of Kallar community under the Kallar Reclamation Scheme.

Hon. Member who just spoke before me while refuting the arguments made by Hon. Member Shri Thampan Thomas pleaded that the people should be happy with the visit of the Prime Minister to the State. Let us confirm that we are ready to welcome the Prime Minister at any time; let him come any number of time to the State; we would welcome him but every such visit of the Prime Minister must bring some benefit to the poor folk of the State. If he visits the State for the purpose of announcing some development programmes, we would sing hymns in praise of him. If his visit brings prosperity to the State and heralds a new era for the State, then the people of the State would welcome him with folded hands. But if the Prime Minister visits with a begging bowl for votes, then the people are not gullible to fall in the trap. How can the people except him if his

[Sh. P. Selvendran]

visit is not fruitful in terms of benefits to the people of the State? I am asking an open question to all the members assembled in this august House. Let them search their hearts and tell whether any of the five visits the Prime Minister has made to the State has brought any prosperity to the State? The fact is that he visited the State five times. The fact is also that on every such visit more than 10 crores has been spent. The fact then again is that more than 50 crores from the Public Exchequer that is people's money has been spent. Public money has been frittered away on fruitless missions to the State. Has he announced any new developmental programme for the development of the State? Was he able to provide any developmental scheme as a gift to the State on his visit? For a long time the implementation of the Sedu Samudra Project was a demand made by all sections of the people in Tamil Nadu. Hon. Member Shri Sundar Raj is here very much sitting. The Congressmen do not possess even that much simple prudence to urge upon the Prime Minister to give an assurance that the long pending demand in regard to the Project would be acceded. This Sedu Samudra Project was approved as early as in 1968 by the Cabinet. Even the Hon. President of today, Shri R. Venkataraman, when he was the Defence Minister gave an assurance in this very august House that the Sedu Samudra Project would be taken up as a defence project and completed expeditiously. Shri R. Venkataraman is an able administrator and an experienced politician. He is an elder Statesman and he had given an assurance keeping in view the security demands of the region. This Government has not given respect to the assurance given by its own Minister. This is the regard and respect this Government has for the able defence Minister and the present President of India for his commitment he had made to this august House. The Prime Minister who visited Tamil Nadu did not even bother to refer to this Project.

The Prime Minister visited my Constituency. He came to Theni. He came to Bodi also. He inaugurated the water purification

project in Chinamarathupatti in Bodi. This was an official function. I was not even invited and my name was not printed in the invitation cards printed for the purpose of official function. Will it not be courteous to include the name of the Member of Parliament who is concerned with the Constituency in the invitation card. This is the condition of the administration under the Governor in the State and this is being praised by the Prime Minister sky-high. All sorts of eulogies are being sung in praise of the Governor's rule by the Prime Minister and his men. If this is the way public dignitaries like Members of Parliament are disrespected, ignored and dishonoured, do not think it lies in the mouths of the Congressmen to praise the Governor's rule any more. The Prime Minister came to Koodalur which is my birth place two years ago. The Kannagi Koil jurisdiction problem is a burning problem. That is a problem between two States. It is a problem between Tamil Nadu and Kerala. It is the question of territorial jurisdiction over the temple as to whether it belongs to Tamil Nadu or Kerala. This problem is a long pending problem. When he visited Koodalur two years ago, I personally presented a petition in this regard. I personally appealed to him that he must intervene and settle the problem. Now since then he has visited the State several times, but the problem remains. The records pertaining to the dispute have already been sent to the Central Govt. The records relate to the history of the temple including the details regarding who owned the temple in olden times. Now all these records are available with the Central Govt. Despite the possession of these records and other resources at their command, the Central Govt. and the Prime Minister, particularly, have not found it as their duty to resolve this problem. He has failed to clarify the Govt's stand on the dispute. Then how the people of the State would be pleased to welcome the Prime Minister who always comes with a begging bowl for votes.

When Hon. Members from the other side spoke on the demands, they were making certain political statements. Many

members vowed that they would restore the glorious rule of Kamraj in Tamil Nadu. They glorified Kamraj rule as the Golden rule of the Congress. Hon. Shri Sunder Raj also affirmed that the rule of Kamraj was the Golden rule of the Congress. I would like to ask them a question. If you glorify the Kamraj rule as the golden rule of Congress, then would you prefer to describe the rule of Rajaji and Bhaktavatchalam as the stone age of Congress? It amounts to that. It would be in the interests of the Congress party itself to come out with a clarification whether they would call the Rajaji's rule as Stone age of Congress and that of Shri Bhaktavatchlam as the dark age of Congress, while they jubilantly call the Kamaraj rule as the golden rule of Congress.

Hon. Member Shri Thampan Thomas when he spoke restrained the Congressmen not to use the name of Kamraj as he never belonged to the Congress(I). He rightly pointed out that Shri Kamraj belonged to Janata Party as he originally belonged to Congress (O). Congress (O) is the mother of Janata party. He categorically asserted that the Congress (I) has no right to use the name of Kamraj for petty electoral interests. We accept that idea as a right idea. It is this Congress (I) which expedited the last days of Kamraj. When emergency was clamped on the whole of India, history would stand testimony to the fact that it was Kamraj who steadfastly stood by democratic ideals and openly and fearlessly pronounced that the imposition of emergency had given a body blow to these democratic ideals. Now the same Congressmen who betrayed democratic ideals and thereby Kamraj are invoking the name of Kamraj who they have politically murdered. In villages there is a saying: To hide the wounds on the necks of cows and bullocks, ring their necks with silver beads. Likewise, the Congressmen who have suffered deep injuries in the electoral battle in Tamil Nadu for the past 20 years are now covering them up with the velvet banner of Kamraj. The Prime Minister comes to the State several times and says that he would restore Kamraj rule. Why? Why should not they tell the people that they

would instal the Rajiv Gandhi Govt. in the State? Why should not they tell the people that they would instal Indira Gandhi's rule in Tamil Nadu? Today the Congress party is destined to take shelter behind the grave-stone of Kamraj. This is the stark truth of which the people of Tamil Nadu are very well aware.

Let me quickly look at the price situation. What is the price of rice in the State. When Dr. MGR was the Chief Minister of the State, rice was sold at Rs. 3.50 per KG. There was no increase for the 10 years he was the Chief Minister. This was the biggest economic achievement of Dr. MGR. Now the rice which was selling at Rs. 3.50 Kg. is selling at Rs. 5.00 to 7.00 per kg. Who is responsible for that? Now a Kg. of dried chillies, only one Kilo, sell at Rs. 45.00. Today one may live, tomorrow he may not, is the Vedanta. Today's price of a commodity will not be tomorrow's price but that will be an higher one. This is your sidhanta. But you are praising the Governor's administration as the most efficient one and enlightened one. This is nothing but a cheap attempt to cheat the public. I can only appeal to you to discontinue your efforts to dupe people in this manner for the people are going to be ultimate victors over you, Congressmen.

With these words, I conclude.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whenever there is President rule in a state, it provides an opportunity to the Members of this House to discuss the matter and to get detailed information about that state alongwith the details of their Budget and understand the circumstances prevailing in that state. I have been very attentively listening to the entire debate and have also carefully gone through the supplementary demands.

I have not been able to understand why people criticise the Prime Minister' going round the state. I saw it on the television that the Hon. Prime Minister was warmly greeted by large gatherings everywhere. Is it believable that there was a large number of police-

[Dr. G.S. Rajhans]

men in plain clothes who had gathered there as a crowd. It is unbelievable that lakhs of policemen in plain clothes were deployed there to increase the number. In fact Shri Rajiv Gandhi is very popular in that area. Everything would be clear in the next two months there. There is a famous saying that the obvious truths need no proof. It is very ridiculous to say that it was wrong on the part of the Hon. Prime Minister to go there because the general public was not with the Congress. During the President rule in the state, a number of cases of corruption have been detected and the Governor Shri Alexander has also geared up the whole administration.

A demand of Rs. 419/- crores has been included in the Supplementary Demands which is meant for various welfare schemes introduced by the Governor. Nowhere else have such schemes been implemented. I wanted them for my State Bihar too.

There is also a provision for the Supply of learning-material to the students of primary and secondary schools in the demands of this state. In other states, at least in my state, there is no such provision. Besides this, a provision, for two teachers instead of one teacher in a school has been made. In Bihar, there is innumerable number of schools where only one teacher has been appointed and he also remains absent from the school for long intervals. I am of the opinion that people of every state should be given an opportunity to visit other states to see with their own eyes the conditions of living in that particular state and to realise their achievements and the adversities of others. The Central Government should not hesitate even to provide transportation facilities at subsidised rates for such people. If the people of our State Tamil Nadu happen to visit Bihar, they would find themselves to be quite well off.

Supplementary Demands include the provisions for improvement in the pay scales of teachers and for increasing the production of foodgrains. The entire state of Tamilnadu

which includes the city of Madras and many other cities, is facing acute shortage of water. The Government have paid full attention to solve this problem. The thing I liked most is that the Government have prepared several schemes of general welfare and have provided sufficient aid to the Municipalities and other local bodies. As regards the provision for civic amenities, Govt. have proposed to sanction 50 percent of the amount as loan and 50 percent of it as subsidy. I would like to urge upon the Government to give hundred percent of the amount in the form of grant for this purpose. The Central Government should rather provide subsidy to the states willing to provide sanitary facilities and also ensure the utilisation of funds on the execution of the work for which it was given. Hundred percent subsidy should be given for such purposes. What happened in trans-Yamuna areas. In want of sanitary facilities, the epidemic of cholera broke out. Now the Central Government propose to provide some amount in form grant and some as loan to Tamil Nadu. But no state Government would be interested to get loan for such purposes. I would like to urge upon the government to provide grant or subsidy in place of loan for executing the work of civic amenities

Govt. has also taken a welcome step as they have made a provision in the demands for free note-books to the students belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Many other states do not have that provision. For employment also, provision has been made under the National Rural Employment Scheme. I would like to point out that the Members of the House entertain controversial views regarding the setting up of Atomic Energy Plant in Tamil Nadu. I would request the Government to set up the proposed plant in the state of Bihar in case the Government of Tamil Nadu is not interested in this project as there is perennial crisis of energy in Bihar and most of its parts remain without power supply. So I would urge upon the Government to set up the nuclear power plant in Bihar, in case Tamil Nadu Government is not interested in it. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Are you speaking for Bihar or Tamil Nadu?

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: I am speaking for Tamil Nadu. A few Members from Tamil Nadu have just said that they don't approve of the idea that an atomic energy plant should be set up there. My request is, if you don't want that atomic energy plant there, let that be set up in Bihar.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister will consider it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: So I would like to say that in fact it is for the first time after the imposition of president rule in Tamil Nadu that a major welfare scheme has been introduced there and all the people should give their utmost co-operation to make it a success. The entire country stands by Tamil Nadu. Culture of this state is the richest amidst all the states, though the culture of Bengal is also in no way inferior to any other culture. We have appreciation for the culture of Tamil Nadu and feel proud of it. We don't want to involve ourselves in any controversy over the issue of language. We want that Tamil and Hindi should be given equal opportunities to progress as both of them belong to this very country. Tamil Nadu is not a separate entity.

In the end, I would like to say that very good proposals have been given here, and the work performance of the state during the Presidents Rule has been very appreciable. We extend our whole hearted support for the demands and wish all prosperity for the people of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to give some suggestions regarding the demands of grants for Tamil Nadu,

which are being discussed here in the House. All the states under President Rule have been suffering a great back. Contrary to the rule of a democratically elected Government we find that in a state under the President rule, bureaucrats have their dominance and the backward and downtrodden sections of society are all the more affected. Affluent ones reap the maximum gains. Besides, corruption also has its undaunted sway. So I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that further extension of the President Rule would not be in the interest of the nation. It encourages the creation of regional parties in the country. After all who is responsible for the formation of regional parties and whether these parties serve any national interest or they work against it. Infact they concentrate on their regional interests and isolate the individuals from the wider interests of the nation as a whole. The Government itself is totally responsible for this. Since you have been in power for quite a long period, how is it so that regional parties have sprung up. It is all due to the regional attitude and wrong policies of the Central Government and weaknesses of the national parties, that the regional parties have been formed. I would like to urge upon the Government to modify their policies in the interest of the nation particularly for the downtrodden and the weaker sections of the society who have been drifting apart with a violent gesture. So many people are being killed in Bihar either by the Zamindars or by the police. But I would like to know whether any of the victims belongs to the rich. He is always from amongst the downtrodden because he is up in arms against them. If at all the Government want to save the country, they should change their wrong economic policies and provide the actual benefits of the schemes to the poor people. The Hon. Prime Minister has himself admitted that only 1/6 of the amount spent on them reached down to them in the villages. There may be several region in the country but regionalism has confined the thinking of the individuals to the interests of their own states. Be it Punjab or Tamilnadu, they think alike. But a country is not the parts but one organic whole and a federal state. If the

[Sh. Ramashray Prasad Singh]

Central Government is to preserve the national integrity, they should change their policies as it have been causing all the problems. That is they only way out and bullets are no solution to our present problems. With these words conclude.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (Shri B.K. Gadhvi): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion.

Sir, it is a very small supplementary demand, which I am planing before this House on behalf of the State of Tamil Nadu. The gross amount is Rs. 41936 crores. But, Sir, out of this Rs. 58.67 crores is towards the adjustment items and there is no cash impact of this on the Budget. Rs. 262.71 crores is the repayment of ways and means advance to RBI and there is no Budget impact for this. so, the net supplementary demands which have got an impact on the Budget is about Rs. 97.98 crores.

It would be appreciated that out of Rs. 97.98 crores, there would be two major demands. One is for Rs. 15.92 crores pertaining to the revision of scale of pay the teaching staff of Government and private colleges, as per the recommendations of the University Grants commission. I am very happy that this demand of the revision of pay scales has been met by the Government It was a long pending demand and the Government of Tamil Nadu has fulfilled that demand by making the revision.

The other area of major demand is the National Rural Employment Scheme, for Rs. 20.90 crores. You will be happy to know that in the area of NREP, IRLEGP and RDP, the progress of the State of Tamil Nadu is quite satisfactory, and , therefore , more allocations are being made because they are meeting the target. In seven months, the achievement of IRDP is 72% NREP 83%

and RLEGP 70%, Therefore, people have started appreciating that under the President's rule, governor is implementing the schemes in proper way and people have just started comparing the past regimes and the present one and thereby they are going to make their course for future also. Shri N.V.N. Somu who initiated the discussion appeared to me to be a very scared member, politically. I thought that his speech would be relevant to the financial and economic aspects of the Supplementary Demand and the situation obtaining in the State but it was more or less of political nature. I do not intend and wish to reply in political terminology but I would certainly like to emphasise that it is unbecoming of any of the hon. Member in this House to criticise as to why the Prime Minister of the country is visiting a particular State. Prime Minister of India is shouldering the responsibility of the country and if he visits a particular State , either twice, thrice or as the occasion arises, then there is absolutely no point in objecting to it. If people have started rallying round the Prime Minister, if people applaud him and appreciate him and if the opposition feels that the carpet under their feet is slipping away, then they find themselves criticising the other party. They create storm in a tea cup. It is not an ideal approach in the State of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :(Adilabad) : Kindly refer to the Member concerned, not to the Opposition.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI : I am speaking only with regard to the Members who have participated. Most of the Members have taken part from the opposition side. That is the point. They say Prime Minister is going round . Why is he visiting? When Prime Minister goes round the country, his security is involved. The expenditure on the security of the Prime Minister is of no consequence.

The industrial growth of Tamil Nadu is good. I am happy to say that in power generation, the plant load factor has considerably improved. The transport system has improved and under the PDS, more than 21,000 fair price shops are being operated

and they are adequately stocked with rice and other essential commodities. But, even then one Member has made a complaint that sometimes there might be leakages or blackmarketing. I would certainly assure him that government would tighten up investigative machinery so that the pilferage or leakage or blackmarketing do not take place at the PDS level and that enough supply is maintained to the PDS shops. Of course, of late the rains are not coming. We were hoping that the monsoon will be very good. It came for four days. Later on, it is very bad. Again the rain comes. but there are difficulties and we wish that the neighbouring States which were requested to release the Cauvery water for irrigation purposes may prove to be good Samaritans. In regard to supply of drinking water, of course, we are trying to provide drinking water through lorries and through other systems to Madras city.

The permanent solution is the Telugu-Ganga Project. I wish and hope that Government of Karnataka may show a positive gesture in agreeing to this Project and may not put an obstacle so that it could have early clearance both for the purpose of drinking water as well as for the purpose of irrigation facilities.

With regard to nuclear power project, there is no need for any scare. It has been decided that in all our nuclear power stations, enough care and caution must be observed technologically as well as organisationally so that there is no room for atomic hazards outside. I would like to say that enough precautions are being taken. The House is already aware that we have got only 3 percent of the nuclear power generation in this country. Even, with our plants for 2000 A.D., it may go up to 10 percent. In the Europe and other countries, where nuclear power generation is 30 percent and more, there also these hazards have not come up. With regard to all our nuclear power, plants, we are taking enough precautions so that it may not have any adverse effects on the population by way of radio-activity or radia-

tion or any other type. Therefore, the apprehensions are misplaced.

With regard to the Automatic Project, Government has cleared it. I think some formalities about collaboration or something are wanting and it may also come up.

Sir, Mr. Somu is not present. But, for his information, I may say that even in his Constituency there was need to have a protection wall. He should be happy to note that this protection wall sea wall to protect has been sanctioned at the cost of Rs. 65,68 lakhs. Other Members have also raised certain points. Most of the points were political points like Dravidian rule and other rule. But the point is that the people of Tamil Nadu have to elect their own representatives. To approach elections with a narrow and parochial approach was never the creed and culture of Tamil Nadu. Kamaraj was a great man and so were the other leaders like Rajaji and others who fought valiantly during the independence struggle and made their mark in the history of India. Tamil Nadu has always produced patriots. It has always given great Parliamentarians, administrators, visionaries to this country. Of course, the political parties may, for their selfish end, say that Kamaraj did not belong to us and Kamaraj belong to them, this and that. I would say that Kamaraj belong to the entire country and the entire country has a reverence and more so, he is with us: he is more revered by the Congress people. Than any other people who were against him in the past. He was our Congress President. He was a builder of new ideas and new approaches to the Congress Party. History is there. I do not want to repeat that History. They were all great men who had dedicated and contributed to the building up of this nation.

Some of the Members raised the language point I think Dr. Rajhans and others. It is, our accepted policy that we do not want to impose Hindi on any State which do not want it voluntarily. That policy is very clear. So long as the people themselves do not accept a particular national language, there is no question of imposition of that language

[Sh. B.K. Gadhi]

on such a State. That should be clear. We want that Hindi should develop and foster. So also, we want that all the regional languages of our country should develop and foster. We also feel that imposition of any language by compulsory method is unwarranted in this country. It is the accepted policy ever since the time of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. It was accepted by Indiraji and it is accepted by Rajivji also. Therefore, there should not be any misapprehension about it. As I initially stated, this is a small supplementary and all the while to speak on the outer areas of this proposal, may be, is time consuming for the House which I do not wish to take. One point was made by Shri Kupuswamy and he gave a letter to me mentioning about some malpractice in the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. I assure that we will get it investigated and if it is found correct, then we will certainly take action.

One Member Mr. Sundarraj right now spoke about the corruption in recruitment of certain teachers. Although as per the practice prevalent, there is a Board now under the leadership or chairmanship of an IAS officer and, therefore, the Education Officer himself has a very little role to play, we will certainly look into it. If anything irregular is found, then we will take corrective measures. Not many financial and economic aspects were raised in this debate I think, I have answered most of the points raised by the Hon. Members. Perhaps, Mr. Thomas raised a point that industries from Kerala are going out to Tamil Nadu. That is, of course, for the industrialists. I cannot help it. Any

industrialist is entitled to establish industry anywhere in the country where he finds it congenial to do so.

So far as child labour exploitation is concerned, we would certainly look into it. If children of the age of two or three years so he was suggesting, are exploited and are engaged in some work and if there is flouting or violation of law then we will certainly look into it. I will ask the officers to investigate and find out what is the truth about it.

With these words, I have tried to satisfy the points raised by Members during the discussion. I wish that now the august House would be pleased to approve the Supplementary Demands for which I have come before the House.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Tamil Nadu), 11988-89 to vote.

The question is : "That the Supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Tamil Nadu to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the financial year ending the 31st day of March, 1989 in respect of heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against:

Demand Nos. 4,9,11,13,15,17, to 21,23,26,28, to 31, 35, to 39, 41 to 43, 47 to 49, 51 to 53, 55, 56, 58 and 59."

The motion was adopted

Supplementary Demands for Grants (Tamil Nadu), 1988-89 Voted by Lok Sabha

No. of	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	
4.	General Sales Tax and Other Taxes and Duties-Administration.	23,74,000	—

1	2	3	
9.	Head of State, Ministers and Headquarters staff	7,24,000	—
11.	District Administration	10,91,000	—
13.	Administration of Justice	2,92,000	—
15.	Police	30,000	—
17.	Education	26,54,46,000	—
18.	Medical	47,74,000	—
19.	Public Health	27,70,000	—
20.	Agriculture	6,81,70,000	—
21.	Fisheries	45,00,000	—
23.	Co-operation	45,19,000	—
26.	Handlooms and Textiles	1,66,92,000	—
28.	Community Development Projects and Municipal Administration	27,17,37,000	—
29.	Labour including Factories	5,80,000	—
30.	Social Welfare	27,84,000	—
31.	Welfare of the Scheduled Tribes and castes, etc.	2,08,59,000	—
35.	Civil Supplies	10,00,00,000	—
36.	Irrigation	1,44,00,000	—
37.	Public Works-Buildings	7,06,000	—
38.	Public Works-Establishment and Tools and Plant	1,85,000	—
39.	Roads and Bridges	75,58,000	—
41.	Relief on account of Natural Calamities	1,50,57,000	—
42.	Pensions and Other Retirement Benefits	40,69,000	—
43.	Miscellaneous	45,99,97,000	—

1	2	3	
47.	Information, Tourism and Film Technology	10,35,000	—
48.	Rural Industries	78,34,000	—
49.	Water Supply	6,21,76,000	—
51.	Capital Outlay on Industrial Development	—	4,15,83,000
52.	Capital Outlay on Irrigation	—	3,83,00,000
53.	Capital Outlay on Public Works-Buildings	—	31,95,000
55.	Capital Outlay on Road Transport Services and Shipping	—	75,00,000
56.	Capital Outlay on Forests	—	11,00,000
58.	Miscellaneous Capital Outlay	—	3,17,60,000
59.	Loans and Advances by the Government	—	10,25,07,000

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister may now move for leave to introduce the Appropriation Bill.

14.47 hrs

[English]

TAMIL NADU APPROPRIATION (NO.3)
BILL*, 1988-89

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Tamil Nadu for the services of the financial year 1988-89.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is: "That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Tamil Nadu for the services of the financial year 1988-89."

The motion was adopted

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

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be taken into consideration.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I beg to move†:

"That the bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from

*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary. Part II section 2 dated 5-12-1988.

**Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

† Moved with the recommendation of the President.