

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the deadline will expire at 3 p.m. today after that he will be killed according to the reports received. The whole country is worried about the life of Mr. Doraiswamy. I urge upon the hon. Home Minister to make a statement on this matter in the House (Interruptions).

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : This matter was raised in the House a number of times.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is for the Home Minister to make a statement or not. I cannot compel him. (Interruptions).

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : Normally the Government is not expected to react to the questions raised during the Zero Hour. . . . (Interruptions) Since both sides of the House are expressing their anxiety because of the news item which has appeared in a section of the press, I can merely say that I am expecting a positive response by this afternoon.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will you come and inform the House ?

SHRI A. ASHOKARAJ (Perambalur) : The reference made by the President of India under Article 143 of the Constitution of India to the Supreme Court does not automatically operate as stay of the order passed by the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal dated 25-6-1991 directing Karnataka (i) to release 205 TMC of water to Tamil Nadu's Mettur reservoir and (ii) not to extend its area under irrigation beyond the existing 11.2 lakh acres in Karnataka.

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL (Belgaum) : Since this matter has been referred to the Supreme Court it has become *sub judice*.

SHRI A. ASHOKARAJ : it is not *sub judice*. I am entitled to talk about my State, Tamil Nadu.

It is, therefore, clear that there is no legal impediment for the Central Government to notify the order passed by the Tribunal as contemplated under section 6 of the Inter-State Water Disputes Act,

1956. Hence I demand the implementation of the Tribunal's interim order.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention to the miserable plight of these Bhopal Gas victims. As you know, this accident occurred six years back in which 3828 people lost their lives, over 5 lakhs residing in 36 wards of Bhopal were exposed to toxic gases and over 1.5 lakhs are partially or wholly disabled.

The toxic gases affected the organs including skin, eyes, lungs, kidneys and gastro-intestinal tracts and damaging the immune, gastric and reproductive systems and leading further to impairment of ability to work, especially amongst children, 90% of whom were affected.

An arbitrary settlement denied the rights of some 6 lakhs victims entitling only one lakh to some compensation. Even the criminal proceedings against Carbide was quashed and all questions of environmental and punitive damages were dropped and even any prosecutions by future generation of gas victims were banned. At least articles 14, 19, 21, 39A, 41, 47 and 48A of Indian Constitution were violated.

The victims are suffering for six long years and are running from pillar to post for help. Recently, a large number of their houses near Hamidia Hospital have been demolished illegally and two thousand poor gas victims are homeless. No advancement is made in solving their problems.

They are demanding of the Central Government to set up a National Commission on Bhopal and to convene a medical committee to put together all data on the nature and extent of injury, its evaluation and evolving guidelines for proper treatment and rehabilitation of the victims. . . (Interruptions). They are also demanding for laying down adequate standards for protection from industrial hazards in this country and to push for the speedy establishment and implementation of an international code of conduct for transnational corporations.

I urge upon the Government to come forward and reaffirm its commitment to establishing the corporate and continuing