

saints of 1200 A. D. A large number of Muslims from all over India and abroad visit these places and pay their homage every year. In this particular grave-yard, a good many Muslim Soffies, Muslim saints and freedom fighters have been laid to rest and people of all castes and creeds pay their respects.

Similar is the position in the rural areas of Panipat Tehsil. A perusal of revenue record will reveal that the graveyards and mosques are there in the paper but actually they are not in existence at all as the land stand allotted by the Punjab Waqf Board.

There is a net annual income of over two lakhs of rupees to the Punjab Waqf Board from Panipat only, but absolutely no facilities for the education of Muslim children are available there.

I demand that the Minister of Law and Justice may order a thorough probe and afford due protection to the sacred places which are being disfigured due to the negligence of the Punjab Waqf Board. The above-cited allotments may also be cancelled with immediate effect.

(viii) STEPS TO PROVIDE MORE IRRIGATIONAL FACILITIES TO DROUGHT AFFECTED DISTRICTS OF UTTAR PRADESH

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI (MEERUT) : The western districts of Uttar Pradesh, especially the Meerut Division, are in the grip of a sever drought. For want of proper irrigation sources, the standing crops of paddy and sugarcane are withering in the absence of rains since mid August. This will create serious problems for the poor farmers ultimately affecting the national agricultural targets, procurement etc. Other districts in the entire belt like Ghaziabad, Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar and Bulandshar also suffering enormously in the above context. Also 85 per cent of the 15.5 lakhs hectares of cultivable land is not

being assured of any irrigation facilities. The canal and tubewell network can provide irrigation to only 5 lakh hectares. The land at most of the places is sandy and it needs at least 4 to 5 waterings for a crop to mature.

I therefore, urge upon the central authorities to come to the rescue of these districts by providing more power for the tubewells so that the same can be used for longer time during the day. Power cuts should be avoided and priority should be given to agriculture for regular supply of power. More water should be released in the canals so that it is available for more lands to be irrigated. Diesel quota for the farmers may be increased throughout the drought-affected areas of U.P.

This area is the granary of Uttar Pradesh. So immediate and urgent steps should be taken to save the crops and bring relief to the agricultural community.

15.12 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL) 1981-82

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we take up further discussion on the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

Shri Satyasadhan Chakraborty. The Hon. Member has almost consumed his time.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY (CALCUTTA SOUTH) The Finance Minister stated yesterday in the other House as I find in the newspapers, that no condition which is derogatory to the self-respect of India would be acceptable to our country. Now here is what the Washington correspondent of *The Hindu* writes-August 7.