

(iii) **SETTLEMENT OF CAUVERY WATER
LISPUTE BETWEEN TAMIL NADU,
KARNATAKA AND KERALA**

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY (Krishnagiri): It will be no exaggeration to say that the soul of Tamilnadu is the water from the river Cauvery. If the water from Cauvery is stopped for one agricultural season, the entire Tamil Nadu will become arid zone. The granary of Tamil Nadu, that is to say the Cauvery Delta in Tamil Nadu, will become the graveyard for the people of Tamil Nadu.

It is unfortunate that the 1924 Cauvery Water Agreement between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu has become a matter of political dispute between these two States. The Government of India has also been repeatedly assuring the people of Tamil Nadu that Cauvery Valley authority would be set up. This assurance is yet to become a reality.

Many rounds of talks have been held between the Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Recently, it is understood that the Government of Karnataka is building a dam even without the express sanction of the Central Planning Commission, which would mean that there would be drastic decline in the supply of Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu.

Besides, this, the Government of Karnataka is also objecting to the construction of Hogenekal Thermal Power Project in Tamil Nadu. This causes avoidable problems for Tamil Nadu which is afflicted by recurring power cuts on account of which the wheels of industries have come to a grinding halt.

The Central Government should immediately call a meeting of the Chief Ministers of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala and the dispute of decades should be resolved forthwith in order to ensure that the lives of 4.5 crore people of Tamil Nadu are not jeopardised.

(iv) **PAY PARITY OF HOME GUARDS
WITH POLICE CONSTABLES**

SHRI MUKANDA MANDAL: (Mathurapur): Home guards throughout the country who are the most neglected lot in spite of the fact that this force was formed with a historical background. They are supposed to be the auxiliary to the police and generally help in maintaining internal security, but they have to work as much as the Constables do. Apart from this work, their role is to help the community in any kind of emergency, an air raid, a fire, a flood, an epidemic, an earthquake, a cyclone and so on. They are to participate in socio-economic and welfare activities such as adult education, health and hygiene, development schemes and such other tasks as are deemed to promote communal harmony and give assistance to the administration in protecting weaker sections of the society. There are about five lakhs of Home Guards throughout the country, but it is unfortunate that they are poorly paid and their service depends on the whims and fancies of some police officers. They are virtually treated like slaves by their superiors.

In view of the recent judgement of the Supreme Court that the right to "equal pay for equal work" is a fundamental right and enforceable as such, I urge upon the Hon. Home Minister to look into this matter seriously and release necessary funds and recommendation so that their pay and service conditions are brought on par with that of Constables.

(v) **INDISCRIMINATE SPENDING OF MONEY
BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS
DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH**

श्री० अजित कुमार मेहता (समस्तीपुर) : मार्च के अन्त में किये गये अनाप शनाप खर्च के बारे में प्रति वर्ष लेखा परीक्षा विभाग और अन्य प्रशासकीय विभाग गम्भीर आपत्तियाँ उठाकर अनियमितताओं की ओर शासन का ध्यान आकर्षित करते हैं। फिर भी अब तक कोई ठोस सुधार नजर नहीं आया है। लोक निर्माण, सिंचाई, गृह निर्माण, विद्युत प्रदाय, लोक स्वास्थ्य, चिकित्सा आदि बड़े विभागों में 31 मार्च को मेला लगा रहता है।