

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

CYCLONE IN ORISSA

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Jadavpur) I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon

'the reported death of 150 persons and injury to several hundred others as a result of the freak cyclone which swept five villages in Keonjhar District in Orissa on 16 April 1978

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA) Sir with a sense of great sorrow I have to inform the House that there have been considerable losses to human lives and properties due to a tornado which struck for a few minutes parts of Cuttack and Keonjhar Districts in Orissa. According to the information received from the State Government the devastating tornado lashed parts of these districts at 16-30 hours on the 16th April 1978 with wind speed of 70 kms per hour. We are advised by the India Meteorological Department that it was a localised tornado and not a freak cyclone. Two blocks—namely, Dingadi and Korai of Jajpur Sub-Division in Cuttack district were affected. As per the latest report 9 persons have died, 100 persons injured and 150 houses totally collapsed in Cuttack district. Ghasipura block of Anandapur Sub-Division in Keonjhar District was worse hit where as per the State Government's latest report, 151 persons died and 250 persons injured, 500 houses were wiped off and 1000 houses collapsed. The figure of partly damaged houses is under collection. A large number of cattle, goat, sheep have died. More dead bodies are expected to be salvaged from the debris which is being cleared. It is expected by the State Government that the exact number of deaths would be known by this evening.

Relief operations have been started by the State Government. Special Medical Team has reached the affected areas and the temporary hospital has been opened. Injured persons have been hospitalised and serious cases are being removed to Cuttack Medical College Hospital. Besides normal diet, special nutritive diet like fruits and Horlicks for affected patients have been sanctioned. Gratuitous relief for 7 days has already been started. Water tinkers have been engaged for supply of drinking water. Disinfection of wells and tanks is being done. Tents, tarpauline, bamboo mats are being supplied for temporary shelters. Clothes, medicines and emergent relief in shape of dry food is being distributed. Four companies of Orissa Police have been sent to assist the local authorities in relief and rescue operations. The State Chief Minister, Minister of Revenue, Minister of Irrigation, Minister of State (Tribal Welfare) have already visited the affected tribal area. The Special Relief Commissioner along with the Revenue Divisional Commissioner are camping in the areas for directing relief operations. The concerned collectors are on the spot for personally looking after the working of the relief operations.

Instructions have been issued from the Ministry of Health to the Central Government Medical Store Depot, Calcutta, for meeting the immediate requirements of essential medicines and equipments for relief operations. The Indian Red Cross Society is arranging to send two Medical Units, 200 family tents, 2 tonnes of milk powder, 20 hales of assorted clothes, 500 kgs of biscuits, 500 kgs of baby food, 100 utensil sets and 250 pieces each of Dhotis and Sarees to the affected areas.

Local voluntary organisations are supplying cooked food. A team of veterinary services is also operating in the affected area. Special Control Room has been opened at Ramachandrapur.

The State Government has reported that a number of badly affected vil-

[Shri Surjit Singh Barnala]

lagers are to be shifted to safer sites for rehabilitation and Central assistance for construction of new houses, purchase of bullocks and assistance for agricultural operations is necessary. The requirements of Central assistance are being worked out by the State Government. We are in constant touch with the State Government and I may assure the House that all necessary action is being and will be taken to assist the State Government, in mitigating the distress of the affected population.

The Government of India has decided to provide an interim Advance Plan assistance of Rs 2 crores to assist the State Government to meet their immediate commitments. This will be in addition to the margin money of Rs 358 crores already available with the State Government for relief operations.

An amount of Rs 3 lakhs has been provided to the State Government from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund also. I may also add that the Government of Orissa is doing commendable work and it has taken up relief operations in very quick time.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:
Mr Deputy-Speaker, because of this natural calamity a large number of poor people of our country in the State of Orissa have been affected. We find that what has happened in that State is devastating. It appears from the newspaper reports that hundreds of dwellings, mostly mud huts, collapsed like a house of cards. The report says

"According to an eye-witness, hundreds of trees were uprooted and many cattle lost. Corrugated tin sheets, bamboo poles, doors and windows were seen flying in the air. The impact of the whirlwind was so severe that cattle were lifted high in the air and a building in which 100 people had taken shelter collapsed, trapping almost all of them.

Another eye-witness said that hardly 25 per cent of the inhabitants

of seven villages under Ramachandrapura police station were believed to be alive. Those who have survived are still dazed and unable to give a graphic description of what had happened."

The *Times of India* has given the grim details of the tragedy. It says

"That impact of the cyclone was so great that in one case the head was severed from the body. Some people lost their ears or eyes. A ten year old child was seen crying for his parents who were believed dead."

This is the magnitude or severity of the problem. According to unofficial reports the death toll has almost reached 500. Though the statement says 9 persons in Cuttack district and 151 in the Keonjhar district", according to other reports, the figures are much more. This magnitude of the devastation should be fully appreciated. A large number of persons have been injured. So far as Purnabandhaguda village is concerned, it appears that all the houses have been destroyed and the entire village has been razed to the ground. The difficulty is that most of the houses are mud houses or huts and they could not possibly withstand the violent tornado which hit them. It has very seriously affected the cattle population also of that area.

I am happy to note that the State of Orissa, with its limited economic resources, is trying its best, and the Minister has been good enough to appreciate the commendable effort that has been made. But we want that the Central Government should also play its role. We notice that the assistance which has been given is the very minimum. Only gratuitous relief for seven days has been started. When faced with a calamity of this magnitude, relief for seven days will be hardly adequate. Apart from providing free medical treatment, we think that immediate arrangements should be made for gratuitous relief and supply of food for at least a month, in

view of the situation that has been created.

It is also essential that these poor people in the villages who had only mud huts should be given full rehabilitation grants. Otherwise it is impossible for them to rebuild their houses. It may be necessary to see if they can be shifted to other sites, in which case the land necessary should be provided to them. Otherwise they cannot rehabilitate themselves. For rebuilding their houses and dwellings, full financial assistance should be given

What is indicated in the statement is that the Orissa Government is being given interim advance Plan assistance of Rs. 2 crores. I do not know whether the Central Government should give outright relief or not because it will affect the State of Orissa which is a backward State if Plan expenditure is to be diverted. In the circumstances, we request the hon. Minister to tell us whether the Central Government will undertake to bear—and we demand that it should bear—all expenses that have to be incurred not only for giving them temporary relief, but also for the relief of the affected people in full. For no fault of theirs, they are victims of this calamity, and it is not fair to require that the State Government, which is under financial constraint like all other States, should bear all the expenses or the major part of the expenses for this. Therefore, we want an assurance, and I request the hon. Minister to tell us what the policy of the Central Government is with regard to providing assistance.

Secondly, for the purpose of proper co-ordination, a team should go from the Centre and be there to see that proper co-ordinated relief operation as well as rehabilitation operation is carried on and all necessary facilities are given by the Central Government to the State Government in this connection.

Thirdly, we would like to know whether the Central Government will set up some sort of a permanent

relief body. We find that whenever these calamities take place, non-official bodies go there to help, but their resources are inadequate. To meet calamities like this where the State Government's resources are limited, where the resources of the non-official bodies are limited, there should be, apart from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund, a permanent machinery for giving relief to the people as soon as possible. May I know whether such a proposal is being mooted?

Lastly, as the Plan resources of the State Government are going to be affected by reason of the advance that is being made by the Central Government, we would like to know whether there would be an outright grant.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA:
The hon. Member has mentioned that gratuitous relief is initially provided for only seven days and that it is not sufficient. This is just the beginning. Gratuitous relief is being provided for the time being for seven days. It will probably be extended according to the needs of the people there and if any assistance is required from the Central Government in the form of food, we will be very glad to provide it as we have done in the case of other calamities also.

So far as the advance Plan assistance is concerned, as my hon. friend already knows, after the Sixth Finance Commission's recommendations, the earlier method of providing *ad hoc* Central assistance has been stopped. Since 1st April, 1974, the method of providing relief has been through advance plan assistance and some marginal money is provided to various States. As I had mentioned, Rs. 3.58 crores had been provided as marginal money to Orissa Government also. So, that money is available for purposes of relief in these cases. Whenever a calamity like this is faced by a State, the State Government normally asks for relief and the relief is advanced from the advance

[Shri Surjit Singh Barnala]

plan assistance. Previously, during 1977-78 floods also, the Orissa Government had asked for some relief and Rs. 8.52 crores were advanced as advance plan assistance to Orissa Government.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Science today has enabled many countries to tackle the fury of the nature. In India although we are independent for 30 good years, we become victims of nature's fury so frequently. We have cyclone, tornado, we have flood, we have drought and we are helpless victims of these furies. I have said it more than once on the floor of this House that certain super powers are experimenting with weather warfare. I am again requesting the Government to enquire into the matter because this is happening much too frequently.

In China, recently they had repeated earthquakes but the suffering compared to the fury of the nature that came on China was negligible. The Government tackled the situation in such a manner that people's suffering was reduced to nothing practically and they refused help from outside countries also.

Here I read a telex from the Chief Secretary of Orissa Government. I talked to him because the Chief Minister was out of Bhubaneswar; he had gone to the affected areas. Here he says: "All houses in these two villages with 900 population have collapsed." This is a very important point. The point is that 900 houses had collapsed at 4.30 p.m. If we take half a person per house as dead because it was total collapse, uprooting, it comes to 450. The news item of the *Times of India* of this morning cannot be scoffed of. Although the Government have said in telexes that the death comes to about 158 or 159, I am afraid, I am not quite able to accept that because, as they say, all the houses in these two villages of 900 population collapsed. This is the most important point. Therefore,

this is a matter where I would like a clarification from the hon. Agriculture Minister.

This is one of the worst tragedies that Orissa has faced. Besides this severe loss of human lives, I am told, property worth about Rs. 2 crores is totally written off. It cannot be used; it cannot be salvaged. Nothing will happen. But the only trouble is—I do not understand—as seen in this case, most of the deaths are due to house collapse. Most of the dead bodies are being pulled out of the debris. This is what the Chief Secretary told me on telephone. The only remedy one can do in that sort of situation is go to the open field, if you had the earlier warning, and lie flat on the ground. That is the only remedy that you can possibly think of. But what is happening to the warning system. Mr. Barnala on 6th December had said about Andhra Pradesh cyclone:

"So, a definite information, a positive information was received by about the mid-night on the 18th and the warnings had been given. But, unfortunately, it appears specific warning regarding evacuation was not given. I do not know why the authorities did not think it proper to give that warning also because that was one of the essential warnings that should have been given at that time. I do not blame anybody for that. There might be a lapse on the part of somebody. But the only thing is that it was not done. Otherwise, possibly some more number of people could have been evacuated from that place and could have been saved. Without entering into any political controversy—etc. etc."

The question, here, that I would like to ask is as to whether any kind of prior warning was given to the people of the affected area.

Only the other day, we had in Delhi a tornado, exactly of this type

and almost of the same duration. How severe was the tornado in Delhi can be gauged from the fact that a double-decker bus, full of passengers, was lifted up and dropped in a ditch. I am again asking, in the context of weather warfare, or weather modification techniques, whether anybody is experimenting on that. Is it an outcome of our own human, economic and scientific activities? Is it due to climatic instability owing to our expelling every day huge quantities of fossil fuel burning and synthetic chemicals into the biosphere? This is what we have to find out. This is not a matter which can be just ruled out like that. The satellites can predict cyclones, etc. It is an expensive method. We may not be able to afford it. But there is the modern Doppler Radar which the Bharat Electronics, a public sector undertaking, can easily undertake to manufacture. That should be tried. The modern Doppler Radar with a real time processor and colour display will do.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what this Government is doing? Are they all the time behind the quacks and generalists of the Indian Administrative Service or do they consider these people as scientists adopting scientific methods? The world is moving ahead fast with weather warfare techniques, change in weather technology and all that. This is a very serious question. I have been saying it repeatedly—it is throwing pearls before swine. This Doppler Radar is an outcome of the study done by Dr. Harold W Bayton of National Centre for Atmospheric Research Boulder.

I am making a concrete suggestion. I would like to have a categorical reply and an assurance from the hon. Minister that they are going to look into the matter. Every time, we cannot sacrifice hundreds of people and end up with a debate in the Lok

Sabha. We cannot do that. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether, as it was indicated earlier, a National Calamity Insurance Fund has been created and, if not, what is the reason for the same. We have repeatedly said, let there be a National Calamity Insurance Fund. Whenever something happens, let the money be taken out from that fund.

No need to beg. I know, my hon. friend from Orissa will say that he needs Rs. 10 crores, and rightly so. You must give a minimum of Rs. 5 crores grant, not less than that. I would like to have a clear and categorical assurance about having a proper "previous warning system" which science has already provided.

Secondly, adequate grant should be given, no loan, no assistance. The whole nation shares the sorrow of Orissa, the poorest State in the country with the richest natural resources exploited by other States which have become richer at the cost of Bihar and Orissa. We know all these things. Therefore, I want to have a clear and categorical assurance from the hon. Minister that at least Rs. 5 crores grant will be rushed to Orissa, You leave it to the State Government to do what they think best. We do not want subedars going from the Centre. I would like to know in concrete terms how much do they propose to give and in what shape and form.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: My hon. friend has correctly said that in some villages, there has been a colossal loss. I had also mentioned in my statement that about 500 houses have been wiped off, that they have lost their existence as such and, about 1000 houses have collapsed. I also stated that by this evening, probably, after salvaging from the debris, we will be able to know the exact number of the casualties that have taken place. And we are in constant touch with Orissa Government to know the latest figures, so

[Shri Surjit Singh Barnala]

far as this is concerned. So far as warning is concerned, in case of tornado, the warning is not possible. It is not of cyclone that it can be seen or some advance information can be gathered about that.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Timing may not be possible, but the forecast is possible.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: As regards tornado, it is not possible, but we did have a warning in this case also. For example, the India Meteorological Department, issued a general bulletin also and issued a warning also on the 16th April, 1978, at 12.30 P.M. The station at Bhubaneswar issued a general bulletin as well as a special weather warning and a bulletin for fishermen. This special weather warning was as follows:

"Isolated thunder squall wind speed reaching 70 km. per hour in individual gusts likely in north Orissa during the next 48 hours."

This is the maximum they could do because it is under that thunder squall that the tornado forms and we do not know until we see actually that it has been formed; we cannot give any warning. In other countries, this is the only system. They keep a watch; they can only see; they can find out that in an area of 100 kms by 200 kms. there will be thunder squalls, etc. So, they give a warning and they keep a watch. Whenever a tornado is seen, a warning is issued that it has occurred at such and such place and now it is travelling in this direction, etc. That warning is issued. That is the only method. There is no other method. That is why in Delhi also, within three minutes, so much damage was caused and nobody knew what was happening.

In Orissa also, Mr. Biju Patnaik was there. He did not know what actually had happened unless he got

the news after a long time. My State Minister was also there. He said: I was about to board a State plane. He said: the pilot told me that Sir the wind velocity is increasing. Probably there might be a thunder storm or something like a cloud burst, so, we must start. So, they immediately started towards Calcutta and reached there safe in time. But on the way also, they found out that there was a formation of thunder storm. Probably there might be a squall, etc. This was what they could get. So, I was submitting that whatever possible could be done was done and information was given.

So far as assistance of Rs. 5 crores as suggested by my hon. friend is concerned, I have already submitted that now the Seventh Finance Commission is sitting. Probably, they may recommend such things. But, so far, we have to go, according to the recommendations of the Sixth Finance Commission and according to that, we have provided assistance that was required for the time being.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Seventh Finance Commission is not a tornado commission.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Don't try to create a tornado in the House.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I wanted an assurance that money will be rushed as grant and there will be no reference of this matter to the Finance Commission and all that. Let the Minister give an assurance. Other wise, it is very unfair on their part if they do not do it.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Direct grant cannot be given, according to the recommendations of the Finance Commission. We only advance from the plan assistance whatever amount is required.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: On a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no point of order. Mr. Naik.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: On a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no point of order. I have called Mr. Naik.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: On a point of order. In case of Andhra Pradesh, the State Government had been good enough to pay money as grant. I am a party to that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I know the facts, as far as Andhra is concerned

श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण नाथक (खजुराहो):
उपाध्यक्ष जी, श्रीमान्नीय कृषि मंत्री महोदय ने, उड़ीसा प्रान्त के कटक और ब्यांसर जिलो मे जो चक्रवाल आया उसके कारण जो मृत्यु हुई, उसके आंकडे दिए ? मैं ऐसा मानता हूँ कि जनता पार्टी की सरकार को मही आंकडे देने चाहिए थे। जैसा कि आखबारो मे छपा है, आप सभी ने पढ़ा होगा, पांच सौ के लगभग लोग मरे हैं लेकिन मंत्री महोदय ने बताया केवल 9 कटक जिले मे और 151 ब्यांसर जिले में मारे गये हैं। इस तरह से जो आंकडे दिये गये हैं—मैं ऐसा मानता हूँ कि ये बहुत कम हैं। कम आंकडे देने से जितनी सहायता वहां पहुंचनी चाहिए, उतनी नहीं पहुंच पा रही है।

श्रीमान्नीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि राज्य शासन से हमें जो सूचना प्राप्त हुई है, मैं वही बतला रहा हूँ। मैं ऐसा महसूस करता हूँ कि केन्द्रीय सरकार का यह फर्ज था कि यहां से तुरन्त एक सरकारी प्रतिनिधि मंडल बहाल जाना चाहिए था और उसकी देखरेख में यह जांच होनी चाहिए थी। तथा तत्काल सहायता पहुंचनी चाहिए थी। केवल प्रान्तीय सरकार ही इस काम को करे, मैं ऐसा नहीं मानता। केन्द्रीय सरकार की

भी यह जिम्मेदारी है कि तत्काल यहां मे प्रतिनिधि मंडल बहाल जाना चाहिए था और उसके आधार पर तत्काल सहायता दी जानी चाहिए थी।

श्रीमान्नीय कहा गया कि हम ने सात दिन के लिए उनको खाना दिया है। लेकिन मुझे जो सूचना मिली है—इन दोनों जिलों के जो गांव प्रभावित हुए हैं—वे सब हरिजन और आदिवासी गांव हैं, ये पिछड़े और गरीब व्यक्ति असहाय हो चुके हैं, इस लिये बहुत लम्बी सहायता मिलनी चाहिए तथा केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास जी भनाज रखा हुआ है, उस के द्वारा कई महो तक उन की सहायता की जानी चाहिए। उन के मकान कच्चे थे, जो ढह गये हैं, इस लिए तत्काल उनके लिये मकान बनाने चाहिये। यह नहीं होना चाहिए कि आप उन को लकड़ी या मिट्टी की मदद कर दे, बल्कि उनके परिवारों के लिए मकान बना कर देने चाहिये।

जब आन्ध्र में तूफान आया था, उस समय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने सारे देश से श्रीपाल की थी कि वहां पर सहायता पहुंचनी चाहिए। मैं चाहता हूँ कि प्रधान मंत्री जी और कृषि मंत्री जी तुरन्त सारे देश की जनता से श्रीपाल करें, बल्कि मैं तो यहां तक कहूंगा, कि हम संसद सदस्यों से भी श्रीपाल करें, ताकि वहां पर ज्यादा से ज्यादा सहायता पहुंचे और जो गरीब आदमी इस से प्रभावित हुए हैं, उन को कुछ राहत मिल सके।

श्रीमान्नीय कहा गया कि 250 साडियों दी गई हैं। मुझे दुख है कि किस तरह से ऐसी हल्की बात की जाती है। 250 साडियों से क्या हो सकता है ? एक बात यह भी गई कि जैसे-जैसे लार्ड निकलती जायेंगी, उन की सारी सूचनायें देते रहेंगे कि कितने आदमी मरे हैं। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो परिवार प्रभावित हुए हैं, उन के बच्चे हुए लोग वहां रह रहे होंगे, वे लोग कलैक्टर या दूसरे अधिकारियों से आ कर कहते होंगे कि हमारा

[श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण नायक]

भ्रादमी नहीं मिल रहा है। वे आकड़े भी इस में शामिल होने चाहिए वे धीर कहना चाहिए था कि इतने भ्रादमी नहीं मिले हैं। शायद नीचे दबे हुए है, ऐसा भ्रन्दाजा है कि वे भी मर चुके हैं। इसलिए मेरा कहना है कि पूरे आकड़े दिये जाने चाहिए वे ताकि उस के आधार पर लोगों को सहायता मिल सके। कपडों की ज्यादा से ज्यादा मदद उन को पहुँचानी चाहिए।

अभी मौसम विभाग के बारे में कहा गया कि उस ने 12 बजे सूचना दी और साढ़े-चार बजे चक्रवात आ गया। ऐसा कैसे हुआ ? मैं यह मानता हूँ कि मौसम विभाग के अधिकारी सोते रहते हैं एक तरह से सिर्फ खाना-पूरी की गई है। उनकी सूचना के आधार पर कृपि मंत्री जी ने यहाँ कह दिया कि 12 बजे सूचना दी गई, हमारे खान मंत्री जी भी वहाँ गये हुए थे, उन का हवाई जहाज नहीं आ सका। इस तरह की बातें कह कर उन की ड्यूटी खत्म नहीं हो जाती है। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय हमारे देश में देहात का एक साधारण किसान भी इस बात की जानकारी दे देता है कि इस तरह की हवा चल रही है इस से पानी आयेगा या नहीं आयेगा। किम तरह में बरमेगा। अगर पुरवैया हवा चलनी है तो कहते हैं कि पानी कम बरमेगा अगर पश्चिमी हवा चलेगी तो पानी ज्यादा बरमेगा—उस तरह का ज्ञान एक साधारण किसान को भी होता है। लेकिन हमारे मौसम विभाग के अधिकारी, जिन की ड्यूटी है कि इस तरह की सूचना दे, वे सही सूचना न दे कर हमारे देश के साथ खिलवाड़ करते हैं। उन्हें थोड़ा सचेत रहना चाहिए। अगर व समय पर सूचना दे देते तो लोगों की जानें बच सकती थी।

हमने इस सारे काम का प्रान्तीय सरकार पर छोड़ दिया है, प्रान्तीय सरकार के पास जितने माधन हैं, उननी सहायता तो वह करेगी ही, लेकिन केन्द्रीय सरकार की तरफ

से तुरन्त प्रतिनिधि भेजना कहा जाना चाहिये जो स्वयं इस काम को देखे। बिना आप के प्रतिनिधि भेजने के गये, यह काम नहीं होगा, उन को जा कर देखना चाहिये कि जो सहायता दी जा रही है, वह पूरी तरह से बहा पहुँच रही है या नहीं, उन को कितनी धीर ज्यादा सहायता की जरूरत है, उस की व्यवस्था भी आप को करनी चाहिये।

मैं चाहता हूँ कि कृपि मंत्री जी इन बातों के बारे में बतलायें।

श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला : भाननेबिल मेम्बर का गिला है इस बात का कि हम ने फौरन ही यहाँ से मेट्रोल टीम क्यों नहीं भेजी और इस बात का भी गिला है कि हम ने नम्बर बहुत ज्यादा नहीं बताया मरे हुए लोगों का और थाडा ही बताया है। अब जो वहाँ पर प्रान्तीय सरकार काम कर रही है, उस के द्वारा मैन्वेज का काम हो रहा है और मकानों से मिट्टी टटा कर, लकड़ी और मिट्टी के ढेर उठा कर लोगों का उमरे में निकाल रहे है। अब यहाँ में जा मेट्रोल टीम जाती तो वह भी देख ही सकती थी कि क्या हा रहा है और कितने भ्रादमी निकाले जा रहे है ? और कोई तरीका ता भ्रन्दाजा लगाने का नहीं था। अब इन्होंने यह कहा कि जा लाग बच गये हैं वे कन्कटर के पास जा कर कहते होंगे कि हमारे इतने भ्रादमी मर गये। जा मकान लोगों के ऊपर गिर गये, उनमें ता शायद हा कोई बचा होगा। इसलिए जब सब लाग निकल जायेंगे और सैल्वेज का काम पूरा हो जाएगा तभी बताया जा सकता है कि कितने भ्रादमी मारे गये। इसलिए सैन्टर से अगर कोई टीम जाती ना वह और कोई भ्रन्दाजा नहीं लगा कसती थी। जो आकड़े बताने का तरीका है वह यही है कि स्टेट गवर्नमेन्ट से जो आकड़े मिलते हैं, उन्ही को पार्लियामेन्ट को बताया जाता है और हमें अपनी तरफ से बड़ा कर नहीं बता सकते। उन्होंने 160 भ्रादमियों का आँकड़ा भेजा।

श्रम श्रमर हम इस को बढ़ा कर 1,000 बता देते तो शायद कुछ लोग खुश हो जाते लेकिन हम को बही बनाना पड़ता है, जो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से हमें मिलता है। लेटैस्ट फीगर्स जो वहां से आए हैं वे हाउस के सामने रख दिए हैं। मैंने श्रम किया था कि शाम तक ठीक भाँकड़े हमारे पास आयेंगे तो उस के बाद हम बता सकेंगे।

एक बात इन्होंने धोतियों के बारे में कही कि वे कम भेजे गईं। जितनी धोतियां जानी चाहिए थी, उतनी नहीं गई, यह इन्होंने कहा लेकिन मैं यह बना रहा था कि श्रमी तो यह काम शुरू हुआ है। एक रोज में 250 धोती और 250 साड़ी भेजी गई है और 20 वेल्स प्रसोर्टेड क्लोथ के भेजे गये हैं। यह काम खत्म नहीं हुआ है। यह श्रमी शुरू हो चुका है और बड़े स्केल पर मदद जाएगी। जितनी मदद की जरूरत होगी, उतनी मदद दी जाएगी।

श्रमाज के बारे में भी माननीय सदस्य ने कहा। उस के बारे में मैं पहले श्रम कर चुका हूँ कि जितने श्रमाज की जरूरत होगी और जितना बड़ा का सरकार चाहेगी, हम देने का तैयार हैं।

SHRI GOVINDA MUNDA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is very unfortunate that, on seeing the statement of the Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation we find that it is a totally incomplete report. Of course, the Government's intention is very good but in the figure mentioned in the report there is a difference of Hell and Heaven. I find from the paper Hindustan Times that the Chief Minister of Orissa has stated to the Press that 400 to 500 people have already died. I believe they are poor class people—Harijans and Adivasis. You know that Keonjhar is a District (this is my Constituency also) where there are very, very poor people—Harijans and Adivasis. They are very poor

people who have lost so many lives, along with their cattle and other things.

Any way I am very much grateful to our Hon. Prime Minister. I thank our Hon. Prime Minister who has kindly sanctioned a sum of Rs. 3 lakhs for the relief operations from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. But, so far as the loss caused to the area is concerned, the amount sanctioned is insufficient. I therefore urge the Prime Minister to kindly look into the matter more sympathetically and graciously, so that these distressed families could find a shelter again.

Again, I beg to draw the kind attention of the Hon. House to the disaster which has occurred due to tornado in the five villages of Keonjhar District of the Orissa State on April 16, 1978. The houses of about 700 families in the five villages have been razed to the ground and 1500 persons are feared to have been dead. Even now dead bodies and injured persons are being taken out of the debris.

Even though some relief work is being done by the District authorities, the Central Government may think very seriously, to give substantial financial help for the relief of those distressed people who have been affected by the tornado. Indian Red Cross may be asked to send the relief supplies immediately. I would request that the Central Government may send a Central team to assess the loss. The Meteorological Department has failed to warn the people of this impending tornado. It came upon them all of a sudden. I would request that the Central Government should strengthen the Meteorological Department to be an effective instrument for the good of the people. Since the area is very fertile and paddy grows in abundance, the Ministry of Agriculture may be asked to give financial help from their funds to the affected farmers in the shape of sheds, fertilizers and other instruments.

[Shri Govinda Munda]

The House may be well aware that all the houses in the villages of Keonjhar district are thatched ones. For the last thirty years after independence not even a single house in any of the villages has been made pucca. May I earnestly request the Government to kindly set apart certain funds from their Rural Upliftment Fund and create an organization which may select certain villages year after year and make them pucca? This will create a sense of confidence amongst the tribal people and Harijans.

May I know whether the Minister for Agriculture will agree to send a team of Members of Parliament to this area to assess the actual position there? Secondly, will he himself kindly agree to visit the area and have a complete picture of the situation there?

SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA: Sir, I have all the sympathies with the hon. Member in whose constituency the tornado has caused such a big loss. In fact, he should have been there by now and should have supplied more information to the House. That would have been very good. Whatever information he has got, has been collected by him from newspaper reports. As submitted earlier, we cannot take all these reports as correct. We are submitting only those reports which we are getting from the Government there.

So far as the relief and rehabilitation work is concerned, necessary measures are being taken and as I stated earlier, probably some of the villages will have to be shifted to some other safer places and then the construction of houses will also come in. If they are keen to have pucca houses, they can ask the Government that they want pucca houses. This is a good suggestion that has been made by the hon. Member. However, as the entire villages, as stated by the hon. Member have thatched houses, probably all houses cannot be

pucca also in that area. If one village is made up of pucca houses, it will cause a great heart-burning to the other villages, the neighbouring villages, and it would create difficulties for the hon. Member himself.

13.49 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1978-79—
Contd.

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS—contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will now resume further discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs.

Shri Mayathevar.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR (Dindigul): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs on behalf of All India Anna DMK. It was the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, who, in 1954, propounded the foreign policy of India, which was also styled as non-alignment policy. He taught this country and other countries of the world much about the policy of co-existence and panch sheel. We were able to propound so many non-violent policies and very good policies which are non-violent according to Mahatma Gandhi's principles and policies. In spite of our preachings of non-violence and peaceful co-existence and the Panch Sheel and in spite of the fact that in 1954 we stood shoulder to shoulder with China and declared to the world 'Hindi-Chini Bhai Bhai', the Chinese stabbed us on our back in spite of our sincerity, honesty and straightforwardness in our foreign policy towards the Chinese. Therefore, we must be very careful, very cautious and alert towards China.

We had great respect for Britain. The British Government was responsible for dividing our motherland. Mahatma Gandhi said India is like a cow. The cow is respected by us as it is considered a representative of