

to request the Home Minister to place before the House information, if any obtained by the CBI in regard to this matter. This is a clear case of character assassination and I would request you to kindly ask the Home Minister to make a full statement in the matter.

**SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA** (Delhi Sadar): This is a very important issue that he has raised. The Home Minister should make a statement.

**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER:** He has requested for a statement, and the matter will be sent to the Home Minister.

17.24 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

##### (i) HAVOC CAUSED BY CYCLONE IN LAKSHADWEEP

**SHRI P. M. SAYEED** (Lakshadweep): I am sure this House has, by this time, heard the harrowing reports of the plight of the cyclone victims from Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

My sympathies go out to them and when I say this, I know what a cyclone can do. I am now here to invite the attention of this House and the Government to the havoc that has been brought about in Lakshadweep.

At the very outset, let me tell the House the better side of the tragedy. In Lakshadweep not a life was lost. This was due to the timely warning and timely action—not from the meteorological department but from our village elders who have watched and learnt to interpret nature. They could and did warn the population of the impending calamity hours in advance, and the population took shelter under strong buildings at high locations.

But that is all about the brighter side. They have survived the cyclone,

but they are left with nothing to survive any more.

The worst hit is an island named Kalpeni—an island with an area of just 625 acres but a population of 4,000. It is an island more than 150 miles away from the mainland and even the nearest island in the group is about 35 miles away.

The entire island was under four feet of sea water. The fresh water wells have been salinated. All the standing crops are gone and nothing may grow for years. Out of 600 homes, 150 are completely destroyed and another 400 need repair. Not a single government office or quarters is without damage.

Out of the two lakh coconut trees, only 25,000 will bear any fruit any more. Nearly one-third of the cattle perished. Out of 1400 goats, only 200 survived. Out of 6,000, only 1,000 poultry are left.

Being an island, the only mode of travel is by boat. Most of the boats have been damaged.

This is the picture of Kalpeni. The 4,000 people are alive but are now captives in an island where nothing can grow. Very few roofs are available and even drinking water is a scarcity.

The other islands in the group also had their share of the fury. At many places, the losses are being assessed. They are not as big as these of Kalpeni, but they are not insignificant either.

Lakshadweep suffers from being small and being away. We are very small—the smallest constituency in this House and mine is a feeble voice. . . .

**SOME HON. MEMBER:** No, we all support you.

**SHRI P. M. SAYEED:** We are the farthest perhaps from this Capital. And now to those handicaps has been added the fact that our misery has

[Shri P. M. Sayeed]

been eclipsed by the colossal tragedy on the eastern coast.

We do not have an Assembly; we are directly under the Central rule. Our smallness and our location might have been the reasons for the fact that nobody in authority from the centre or the mainland visited us in this hour of our need.

I am not saying this as a complaint or in anger. I am only saying this out of a feeling of helplessness and loneliness.

Whatever that may be, I request the Government, Sir, to urgently take some steps to help those people in that island.

Firstly, let there be a medical team. Also let there be more supplies of food articles— not only grain. Let there be supply of building material— cement, timber, tiles, lime, asbestos etc.

Secondly, please send some soil scientists. Let them test the soil and suggest something to make it fit for cultivation. Then, rush coconut seedlings, other seeds and fertilizers

Thirdly, please give them fishing boats and also two big boats so that inter-island traffic could be re-established. Now, not only the mainland but even we in the other island are helpless to help our brethren.

Sir, I hope the Government will take these measures. Let it not be said that those people who had survived the cruelty of nature were doomed by the inaction of men. Just because we are small and away, let us not be forgotten.

17.29 hrs.

(ii) ACCUMULATION OF STOCKS IN SOME SICK TEXTILE MILLS

श्री हुकमचन्द कछवाय (उज्जैन) :  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस विषय को नियम 377 के अन्तर्गत उठाने जा रहा हूँ, अर्थात् होता कि सम्बन्धित मंत्री भी यहाँ पर उपस्थित होते—इस बात का मुझे बहुत दुःख है।

भारत सरकार ने देश की 103 कपड़ा मिलों को अपने हाथ में लिया है। ये मिलें प्रतिवर्ष 42 करोड़ रुपये का घाटा देती जा रही है और यह घाटा दिन-प्रति-दिन बढ़ता ही जा रहा है। इस का मूल कारण है कि इन मिलों के अन्दर टेक्निकल लोग ज्यादा नहीं है, अफसर ज्यादा भर गये हैं, जिन्हें वस्तुस्थिति का कोई ज्ञान नहीं है और कपड़ा बेचने की जाँ पोलिमी है, जो वितरण व्यवस्था है, उस में नानाप्रकार की त्रुटियाँ हैं। उसी का परिणाम है कि तमाम मिलों में बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में कपड़ा जमा होता जा रहा है, जिस से रूजी जाम होनी जा रही है। जब कि कोई भी कन्ट्रोल का कपड़ा मार्केट में मिलता नहीं है, आप दिल्ली शहर में ही देख लीजिए कन्ट्रोल की धोती पहनने को नहीं मिलती है। यह स्थिति आज साँरे देश में है। ऐसा क्यों है ?

व्यापारी एन० टी० सी० की मिलों से कपड़े का मोटा करता है, लेकिन अगर दो पैसा बढ़ जाए तो ज़िम से मोटा किया होता है, उस का मोटा एन० टी० सी० द्वारा रद्द कर दिया जाता है और दूसरे को माल दे दिया जाता है। अपनी बात के पक्के नहीं है, जिस से दलाल और व्यापारी दोनों उन में नाशुण है। कपड़ा बेचने में इस तरह की और भी अनेकों त्रुटियाँ हैं, जिन में मुग़ार होना बहुत जरूरी है।

मैं एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ—मध्य प्रदेश की कुछ मिलों ने कलकत्ता की एक पार्टी को कपड़ा बेचा—पार्टी का नाम है—राज लक्ष्मी एमोसियेट्स कलकत्ता—इन के साथ 50 लाख रुपये का मोटा हुआ, लेकिन इन से केवल 15 हजार रुपये डिपोजिट रखवाया। 50 लाख का कपड़ा बेच दिया और जब वह कलकत्ते पहुँच गया, तो उस व्यापारी ने उस कपड़े को लेने से इनकार कर दिया। महीनों हमारा कपड़ा वहाँ पड़ा रहा और इस में हमें काफी घाटा हुआ। उसने बिल्डी छुड़वाई नहीं और हमें डेमुरेज देना पड़ा और उस कपड़े को