

constituency and into the interior areas and saw the condition myself. The Prime Minister also went to Orissa recently to see how agricultural production can be stepped up there. At this stage, because of the lack of rainfall, there are serious drought conditions. I am happy the minister concerned is present here. Reports of starvation deaths are appearing. I hope the minister will give due attention to the serious drought condition there. The Government of India should sympathetically consider what further assistance can be given to Orissa at this stage so that the present crisis could be overcome and the agricultural production in Orissa could be increased.

(ii) LARGE SCALE LANDSLIDES IN IDIKKI DISTRICT OF KERALA

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvattupuzha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise with a heart full of anguish and a voice cheked with pain, so to say, to report to you a case of complete disaster which has overtaken certain parts of Kerala, especially the district from where I have been elected to the House, namely, Idikki District. What has happened there is neither flood nor drought. What has happened there is landslide on a vast area. Hills after hills just exploded and huge mass of boulders, sand and dust came rushing in. Thousands of homes have been razed to the ground and thousands of people have been rendered homeless.

The Idikki District happens to be an area where we have got our hydro-electric project. Some of these areas also have been affected. Thousands of people have been affected. This district has come out of a forest area during the last twenty years. What has happened is a complete destruction of the whole district.

This is a challenge before the State Government and the Central Government. The challenge is not of extending relief to the people but of

reconstructing the whole district. This is a superhuman task, a stupendous task facing the Government. After visiting that area, our Pradesh Congress Committee President, Shri A. K. Antony, has sent a petition to the Prime Minister, a copy of which I have with me here. I would like to read one or two sentences from that. He says:

"Tens of thousands of acres have been laid waste by landslides and floods.... Never before has such a devastation occurred there. For miles on miles crops have been completely destroyed and sand and rocks cover the once very fertile lands. Thousands of homes have been razed to the ground or carried away by floods. 34 people are reported to have died in this district alone. Thousands of cattle also have succumbed to the landslides and floods... Roads have been disrupted and many parts of the district have become inaccessible... The farmlands that have been covered by rocks and sand cannot be made cultivable again very easily. In this district where agriculture is virtually the sole source of employment this will leave tens of thousands of able-bodied men and women unemployed for a long time to come... The total damage in Idikki District alone is estimated to be in the region of Rs. 6 crores. This has got to be tackled on a war footing. Food, clothing and other materials have got to be rushed, setting aside all other priorities.... The State Government is doing all within their power and resources to rush help and provide relief to the people affected. But the immensity of the problem is far beyond their power to tackle. Without larger scale and immediate help from the Centre they cannot tackle it. Words are not enough for me to convey the whole picture."

The Finance Commission has allotted only a meagre amount. It so happens that Kerala is given only Rs. 30 lakhs

per year the lowest amount for any State. This House has got to feel the agony of the people. Therefore, Sir, I am appealing to you to give us some time to discuss this matter so that the Finance Minister could also take account of the whole situation. Money will have to be rushed to this place. This is an area here we have got cash crops which fetch foreign exchange. We are producing power for the entire area. This is an area where human labour, labour power, invested in fertile land has built a new district, so to say. The whole thing has been destroyed. It has to be reconstructed. Sir, may I appeal to you to kindly allot some time so that the whole matter could be discussed, the question of relief, the question of assistance under the recommendations of the Finance Commission, everything could be discussed. So I again request that time may be allotted for a discussion on this matter.

SHRI S M BANERJEE (Kanpur)
Sir, I want to raise

MR SPEAKER He has written to me in the matter. Why should he not hand it over to the Minister himself? He wants me to hand it over to the Minister. Do not do it always in the way you like. You have to follow the procedure.

(111) **HANDCUFFING OF SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY, M P**

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी (शाजापुर)
मैं आपकी अनुमति में एक मामला सदन उठाना चाहता हूँ। अज्ञेय के पत्रकारिता टाइम्स में यह खबर छपी है कि हमी सदन के एक सम्माननीय सदस्य श्री ईश्वर जो चौधरी को जब पाच मारीख को कोर्ट में जेल में ले जाया गया तो श्री सत्याग्रहियों के साथ उनको भी हथकड़ी लगा कर लाया गया। स्वाधनता के इतने सालों के उपरान्त वास्तव में लोकतंत्र में अपना विरोध शान्तिपूर्ण प्रकट करने का तथा सत्याग्रही के रूप में जेल में जाने का जो तरीका है वह सर्वमान्य होना चाहिए। ऐसी

स्थिति में ससद् सदस्य के साथ इस प्रकार का अपमानजनक व्यवहार हो इस का माफ़ अर्थ यह है ससद् सदस्य का ही नहीं सदन का भी यह अपमान है। मुझे लगता है कि यह सबाल ससद् सदस्य का भी नहीं है बल्कि शान्तिपूर्ण तरीके से सत्याग्रह करके जेल में जाने का है और उन लोगों का हथकड़ी लगा कर उनके साथ व्यवहार करने का 'जा कि अपमानजनक और आपत्तिजनक है। मैं चाहता हूँ यह मंत्री इसका स्पष्टीकरण दे और आगे ऐसी घटनाएँ न घटे इस आर ध्यान दें।

MR SPEAKER Mr Banerjee, what do you say?

SHRI S M BANERJEE Sir, this is the bottle of milk supplied by DMS, given to me by one resident, Shri Manmohan, of Old Rajendra Nagar. This bottle of milk contains insects. He says that this is the regular thing happening in that area. In North Avenue and in South Avenue where we stay we never get such milk.

MR SPEAKER These are the complaints which should normally go to the administration. They should not be raised on the floor of the House.

SHRI S M BANERJEE You may ask the Minister to take note of it.

MR SPEAKER Even if you had gone to the Minister, he is bound to take note of it. Unnecessarily, the time of the House is taken on such matters. You can go directly to the Minister. There are many other remedies available.

श्री एस० एम० बनर्जी : मैं आपकी गाइडेंस चाहता था।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जो चीज डिपार्टमेंटल है के नोटिस में लाई जा सकती है उसको भी यहाँ ले आते हैं।