

to the rest of India and observe the life of the people. It is also true that more employment opportunities have to be created. There is no gainsaying that fact. Sir, you know the area much better than many of us. Several steps are being taken to improve the communications. In that area, communications is one of the most important developments or infrastructure for further development. Therefore, though communications has lower priority in the rest of India in the fifth Plan, thanks to the efforts of our Prime Minister, in the north-eastern region communications is a very high priority item for development of that area. I would request some hon. members to go and see that area now. It should present a different picture than what it was a decade ago. I am glad to see many people there going to the schools and colleges and the university in Shillong. I have no doubt that with more understanding and more cooperation and more development projects coming up there, they would become an integral part of the national mainstream.

You may have noticed during Question Hour or at some other time that a paper mill is being sought to be established, which is a big one, in Nagaland. That is not on behalf of the Nagaland Government, but on behalf of the central sector of the plan. I do not know at what stage it is, but it is being pushed through and it will provide large employment. There is also a sugar factory at Dimapur. We are trying to see that more employment opportunities are made available in the area.

I entirely agree with Shri Banerjee that the officers and others who go there must behave in such a manner as to make the Nagas feel that friends have come to help them. I think we are instilling that sense of responsibility in them.

So far as elections are concerned, certainly they will come in due time. But, at the present moment, as you are aware, it is not opportune to have the elections. We shall certainly bear your 1506 L.S.—7

observation in mind and try to see that Nagaland is not attempted to be perpetually under President's Rule.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation, dated the 22nd March, 1975, in respect of Nagaland, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from the 26th September, 1976."

*The motion was adopted.*

15.27 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE.  
CONTINUANCE IN FORCE OF  
THE PROCLAMATION IN RESPECT  
OF TAMIL NADU

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We now take up the next Resolution in respect of Presidential Proclamation on Tamil Nadu.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation dated the 21st January, 1976, in respect of Tamil Nadu, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from the 10th September, 1976."

Hon. Members would recall that the Proclamation under article 356 of the Constitution issued by the President in relation to Tamil Nadu was approved by this House on the 10th, March, 1976 and will continue to be in force up to the 9th September, 1976. A report on the performance and achievements of the Government during six months of President's Rules in Tamil Nadu has been circ-

[ Shri Brahma Mananda Raddy ]

ulated to the hon. Members in the House. In view of the legacy left by the previous Government, special emphasis has been laid on providing a clean and efficient administration in the State. Steps have been taken to compulsorily retire the corrupt and inefficient on the one hand, and adequate care has been taken in ensuring proper placement of the officers on the other. Instructions have been issued for speedy redressal of public grievances and for expeditious action in regard to complaints about misuse of power and misconduct on the part of the Government functionaries at lower levels.

There has been a noticeable improvement in the law and order situation in the State. The anti-social elements and the members of banned organisations have been appropriately dealt with under the law. Clandestine circulation of prejudicial literature, which was not earnestly tackled by the previous Government has been brought under control. The labour situation has shown a distinct improvement since the imposition of President's Rule and several labour disputes involving non-payment of wages, retrenchments, lay-offs and strikes etc. have been resolved.

Hon. Members would recall that there were complaints earlier that the 20-Point Economic Programme was not being effectively implemented in Tamil Nadu under the previous Government. There has been a vast change in this regard since the imposition of the President's Rule, and the State Government are attaching now the highest importance to the fulfilment of the new Economic programme. In the wake of regulatory and punitive measures undertaken by the Government to ensure more effective distribution of essential commodities, wholesale and retail prices of rice and other essential commodities have registered a noticeable decline. Legislative measures for liquidation of rural debts, socialisation of urban and urbanisable land have already been taken. Other legislative proposa-

to provide protection to cultivating tenants, conferment of rights of ownership of house sites on rural artisans have been processed. Legislation for amending the Tamil Nadu Ceiling law is also under the active consideration of the Government. Necessary legislative measures to improve the working of Co-operative Societies and Religious Institutions have also been taken. Effective steps are being taken to rehabilitate the bonded labourers by launching schemes with the assistance of nationalised banks. Several bonded labourers since released have already been rehabilitated by way of assignments of cultivable land.

While all efforts are thus being made for development of the State and welfare of the people, the administration is facing a difficult task on account of the failure of north-east monsoons for the second successive year, resulting in scarcity conditions in 10 out of 15 districts. The Central Government have already sanctioned Rs. 7.5 crores towards drought relief measures. Drought relief measures and relief operations are in full swing in these districts. To overcome the problem of scarcity of drinking water, 32,000 bore-wells have been sunk out of a total programme of 6,300 bore-wells. Soil conservation, afforestation, conventional programmes relating to medium and minor irrigation and roads have been undertaken to provide employment in the affected districts. In July, the employment created was 27 lakh man-days.

The present term of president's Rule in Tamil Nadu is due to expire on the 9th September, 1976. The administrative machinery in the State is now tied down to the urgent task of providing relief to the drought-affected people in the State. Holding of elections before the expiry of the present term of the President's Rule will thus not be possible. It would be desirable also to maintain the current drive in cleaning up the administration and for speedy development and welfare in the State for some time. Gov-

ernment, therefore, is of the view that President's Rule in Tamil Nadu should be continued for another period of six months with effect from 10th September, 1976. Rajya Sabha has already approved the requisite Resolution on the 17th August, 1976.

With these words, I commend the Resolution for the approval of this august House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Resolution moved:

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation, dated the 31st January, 1976, in respect of Tamil Nadu, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President for a further period of six months with effect from the 10th September 1976."

We take up the Private Members Business now.

15.31 hrs.

#### COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SHRI DHAMANKAR (Bhiwandi):  
I beg to move:

That this house do agree with the Sixty-sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 17th August, 1976."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Sixty-sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 17th August, 1976."

*The motion was adopted.*

15.31½ hrs.

#### RESOLUTION RE. NATIONAL FOREST POLICY—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We take up further consideration of the following Resolution moved by Mr. P. K. Deo:

"This House notes with concern the large scale denudation of forest in the country and urges upon the Government to have a more pragmatic national forest policy so that 33.3 per cent area of the country is covered by forest."

SHRI M. C. DAGA (Pali): I beg to move:

That in the resolution,—

after "in the country" insert—

“, indifference of the States and formulation of separate policy by them in this matter” (1)

\*SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA (Vishnupur): MR Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the resolution of Shri P. K. Deo. regarding national forest policy.

15.32 hrs.

[SHRI VASANT SATHE in the Chair]

The National Forest Policy of 1952 had suggested that steps should be taken to encourage and expand the area under forest in our country and they had also suggested various measures as a result of the implementation of which the country, could have forests extending over 33.3 per cent area of our country. Unfortunately the national forest policy remained a pious wish and we could not do much to increase our forest wealth. After 1952, the next concerted effort made the Government was in 1976 when the report of the National Commission on Agriculture was represented. This is no doubt a very comprehensive report which has made many