

15.47 hrs.

Motion moved:

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS* FOR GRANTS (TAMIL NADU), 1976-77

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up discussion and voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget for the State of Tamil Nadu for the year 1976-77. The time allotted is only one hour.

"That the respective Supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of Tamil Nadu to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against:—

Demand Nos. 9, 12, 15, 17 to 24, 29 to 31, 39, 41, 43, 50 to 52, 56 and 57."

List of Supplementary Demands for Grants (Tamil Nadu) for 1976-77

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs..
1	2	3	
9	Head of State, Ministers and Headquarters staff	12,97,000	
12	Administration of the Tamil Nadu Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act 1959	1,50,000	..
15	Police	9,09,000	..
17	Education	4,80,000	
18	Medical	11,27,000	
19	Public Health	5,07,25,000	
20	Agriculture	1,12,37,000	
21	Fisheries	5,00,000	
22	Animal Husbandry	2,05,000	
23	Co-operation	5,45,000	
24	Industries	44,16,000	
29	Labour including Factories	11,96,000	
30	Social Welfare	12,00,000	
31	Welfare of the Scheduled Tribes and Castes etc.	4,40,000	
39	Roads and Bridges	1,00,00,000	..

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

1	2	3
41	Relief on Account of Natural Calamities	8,46,000
43	Miscellaneous	6,02,000 ..
50	Capital Outlay on Industrial Development	1,44,75,000
51	Capital Outlay on Irrigation	1,000
52	Capital Outlay on Public Works—Buildings	30,70,000
56	Miscellaneous Capital Outlay	22,79,000
57	Loans and Advances by the State Government	1,95,93,000

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA (Serampore): Just now we have dealt with the Resolution for the extension of President's rule in Tamil Nadu and from our side, we opposed it. The reason for my opposition also holds good to this set of Supplementary Demands brought in by the hon. lady Minister. I cannot give my approval to it....

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): What a pity!

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA .. because this should have been done in the Tamil Nadu Assembly after a proper election. Why has it been necessary to bring these Supplementary Demands here for the approval of this House?

So my first point is that I strongly oppose these. Regarding the Demands elaborated here, I want to say that the Home Minister did not deal with the points made out not only by myself but by many others regarding drought conditions. Ten districts have been affected. A large number of people are facing a destitute condition. A large number of the rural population are not getting jobs for days together

and months together. So what positive steps have Government taken under President's rule in this regard? I do not find any. So my suggestion to the hon. Minister is that enough attention should be given to drought prone areas and relief measures for persons who were facing starvation because of unemployment and also failure of crops should be taken up with due seriousness.

In the demands for grants, there is reference to labour matters Shri Brahmananda Reddy while replying to the debate earlier did not mention anything in regard to labour or the industrial situation there.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN (Tiruttani): It is all in the book supplied to you.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA : I have got it and I know how to read it and make some meaning out of it but I do not find what I want. After the amendment of the Industrial Disputes Act to the effect that for any lay off or closure or retrenchment prior sanction has to be given by the government, I wanted to know from the hon. Minister the number of cases in which the companies asked for permission that for certain financial or other reasons, they had to lay off or retrench workers. That fact must be

made clear. In the booklet about which Mr. Alagesan is so much enamoured—I am not at all convinced by it—it is stated that an apex body had been formed. I belong to the Central Trade Union Organisation CITU which is a major force in Tamil Nadu. Whatever apex body might be there either in the textile or engineering or sugar or other industry, CITU people have not been included or even asked to represent their point of view regarding industrial matters and industrial relations. I should say emphatically that the situation has deteriorated. You cannot prove it by giving certain figures that there had been less lay off and less strike and less mandays lost. I have already stated that because of the fear psychosis and compulsion and some other factors the workers may not resort to strike which is their last weapon. It is not fun for the worker to strike work. It is only when they find that there is no other way that they resort to strike. Here the situation has been aggravated further by creating a situation in which the workers are afraid of raising their voice against any attack on their wages or other aspects of their working conditions; they will not only be not heard but they will also have to face other consequences like being arrested under MISA. So, they do not dare sometimes, but if this situation continues, the reaction will be dangerous and the government must be responsible for that.

About the State Electricity Board employees, two statements were made, one by the Finance Minister, Shri Subramaniam, that 24,000 employees were surplus and another by the Home Minister that 30,000 were surplus. After verification throughout the State, the figure comes to just 3,000 employees who can be easily absorbed. But so far as I know, a large number of employees are still being treated as casual workers and are not getting the benefits enjoyed by permanent employees. The Minister must clarify this position specifically.

I read in this booklet that because of some difficulty in getting drinking water, the municipalities are getting matching grants from the government. The municipality has to bear 50 per cent of the cost and the government would bear 50 per cent. I think in this difficult period the full money should be contributed by the government at least for drinking water supply, as you are doing in the case of rural areas.

The Home Minister referred to boring of tubewells. You may sink tubewells but what is the guarantee that there will be water in them? Where is the maintenance apparatus? In every State, we find that so many tubewells are dug, but nobody cares to repair them after some time and they go dry. This is happening in Tamilnadu also. This should be looked into by the Minister.

With these words, I oppose the supplementary demands.

16 hrs.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN (Tirutani): Mr. Chairman, here under one of the Demands they want to start 100 non-formal education centres in Coimbatore district at State cost and in Trichinopoly district at the cost of the Government of India. I do not understand what this non-formal education means. I hope they will do something useful and not allow the money to go waste. Perhaps, it might have been the brain-wave of somebody. I do not understand what is the content of this non-formal education and what is proposed to be done.

There is an Act called Tamil Nadu Recognition of Private Schools (Regulation) Act. When this Act was passed, certain minorities who manage educational institutions went to the High Court and the High Court ruled that certain provisions of this Act will not apply to the minority-managed institutions. Then, when the non-minorities who manage educational institutions went to the High Court, the High Court ruled that these provisions will apply to them. So, a situa-

[Shri O. V. Alagesan]

tion has arisen where a discrimination is being made. The Government propose to apply the provisions to one set of schools and not to another set of schools. We generally hear of minorities being discriminated against. Here it is a question of non-minorities being discriminated against, which is a very strange situation. I hope this would be looked into. When we are starting new schemes like this, there should not be any discrimination. I am told the Madras Government have gone in appeal to the Supreme Court against the verdict of the High Court with respect to minority managed institutions. Pending the decision of the Supreme Court, they can keep the provisions pending.

Under Demand No. 51 there is a proposal to shift the Police Training College at Vellore to Madras and start it as the Tamil Nadu Police Academy at Madras, from 1976-77, that is, the current year. This Police Training College is a very ancient institution of Vellore, which is the district headquarter of a very important district called North Arcot. In fact, this is the only State Government institution in that State. I would like to know whether it is wise to concentrate everything in the city of Madras. On the other hand, you should disperse institutions which are already existing in the city of Madras to other district centres, because concentration in one place creates so many problems. On the face of it, it looks to me that it is very unfair to deprive this district headquarter of its only one State institution by shifting it to Madras. Also, it is not going to be done without any extra expenditure. They are going to incur an expenditure of Rs. 19.97 lakhs, nearly Rs. 20 lakhs. I am told that the present building in which the Training College is housed in Vellore is not a very congenial one. In that case, this amount can very well be spent to improve the buildings of this institution in Vellore. Also, since the Government want to upgrade it into the Tamil Nadu Police Academy, the people of Vellore will be happier that this institution, which is

already functioning there, is upgraded and not shifted.

Coming to Demand No. 56, there is a very strange proposal to re-acquire or re-purchase land, which has already been acquired by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation. The Neyveli Lignite Corporation has acquired a large area of land for its own purposes. Now it is proposed to acquire very nearly 2,000 acres from that Corporation and the expenditure sanctioned is Rs. 17.78 lakhs. This is rather strange because we want the Neyveli Corporation to develop. You know that there have been demands on the floor of the House to have a second mine cut, which means that more area will be required. One does not know whether the area which is now proposed to be re-transferred to the Tamil Nadu Government will itself be required for the purpose of a second mine cut. A second mine cut means more employees, and more employees means more quarters for them. So, in all probability this land of 2,000 acres will be required for the purpose of the Corporation itself. I do not know at what cost the Corporation acquired the land from the State Government. Is the same price being paid to them by the Government now or more? So, this is rather intriguing. I would like Government to consider this matter and not spend money on a proposal which may hurt the larger interests of the State, because all of us want that the Corporation should have a second mine cut and produce more power, should have a super thermal power station and satisfy the growing needs of electricity of the Southern Region as a whole. So, I am afraid this will go against those interests. This hasty step should not be taken.

Coming to Demand No. 57, a loan of Rs. 45 lakhs to the Pandyan Roadways Corporation for the purchases of buses and another of Rs. 10 lakhs to the Pallavan Transport Corporation for the purchase of mini buses have been sanctioned. Half the number of routes in the State have been nationalised. They started originally with

three corporations, the Pallavan, the Chola and the Pandyan. Pallava is the name of the dynasty which ruled Tamil Nadu and elsewhere from Kancheepuram. The Cholas were once very great imperialists and held sway over a very large part of India and even outside India. The Pandyas were another ruling house. These are the three traditional Kings of Tamil Nadu and so, the DMK Government, in their solicitude for these ancient Tamil Kings, named the corporations after them, and so there were three. But now there are as many as seven or eight, I lose count. There is a corporation for Tandai Periyar. Tandai means father, and Periyar is Mr. E. V. Ramaswamy Naicker, who is considered to be the father of the secessionist movement in Tamil Nadu. These corporations are proliferating, they are being divided and subdivided. I do not know whether there is a Kongu Corporation, because Salem and Coimbatore Districts together are called Kongu Desam.

Now, I want to know whether all these road transport corporations which are having the cream of the routes, the long routes and other routes as well, are making a profit or not. It is my information that these road transport corporations are incurring huge losses. I want to know whether incurring of losses is partially due to the fact that all these road transport corporations have been divided into so many corporations with overheads going up. This is something that should be relevant while considering the huge investments of this nature into the road transport corporations—Rs. 45 lakhs into the Pondian Transport Corporation and Rs. 10 lakhs into the Pallavan Transport Corporation.

It should be the attempt of the State Government and the concerned Departments to plug all the loopholes and see that these road transport corporations earn profit and make them

more serviceable to the people. Otherwise, these huge investments, I am afraid, will go waste because already many new vehicles are not properly used—even brand new vehicles are not properly used. Under these circumstances, if we are going to make further investments into these road transport corporations without actually going into the profit and loss, whether these corporations work efficiently or not, it will not be a wise step to take.

*SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU (Nagapattinam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Tamil Nadu), I would like to bring to your kind notice one or two points.

If you take up six Demands—Agriculture, Public Health, Roads and Bridges, Relief on account of Natural Calamities, Capital Outlay on Irrigation and Loans and Advances by the State Government—you will find that under these six demands funds have been allocated for drought relief works and for drinking water supply. 27 lakh man-days have been created in drought-hit areas for the agricultural labour. I mention this to bring to the attention of this House the seriousness of the situation in Tamil Nadu.

10 districts out of 15 districts in Tamil Nadu are afflicted by drought. In the very near future, one more District, Tanjore, may also become a drought-hit area. To meet such a staggering situation, the allocation of money in these Supplementary Demands is insufficient; it is just like giving sugar-candy to a hungry elephant. Another regrettable feature is that all the drought relief works are implemented in a conventional manner and a sort of ad hoc approach prevails here. They should in fact become permanent programmes if we want to find a lasting solution to the recurring drought in Tamil Nadu.

Demand No. 50—Capital Outlay on Industrial Development—under this it is proposed that the Coimbatore Co.

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

[Shri M. Kathamuthu]

operative Sugar Mills may be converted as a Public Sector Unit under Tamil Nadu Sugar Corporation Ltd. It has also been decided to convert the value of assets of Rs. 35.75 lakhs transferred to Tamil Nadu Public Works Engineering Corporation as share capital of the Corporation. I have to point out that sums have been provided only for these two units. Many Textile Mills are on the verge of closure. There is persistent demand that they must be taken over by the Government. It is also stated that this proposal is under examination. Yet, not even a token provision has been made for this purpose in these Supplementary Demands.

Demand No. 21—Fisheries—Provision has been made for mechanised speed boats for fishermen. But it is strange that no provision has been made for constructing jettys anywhere for landing these mechanised boats. Arukottaithorai near Thopputhorai when 40 fishing boats are there. Some money must be provided for the construction of jettys also.

Demand No. 17—Education—under this there is reference to non-formal education centres. I think this must be adult literacy centres. I wonder why two districts, Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli, alone should have been covered by the non-formal education centres. I suggest that this should be extended to all the districts in Tamil Nadu.

Recently a code of conduct has been formulated for the University and College teachers under which it has been stipulated that they should not indulge in political activities. Even if they form themselves into an Association or a Union for protecting their interests, it will be considered as a political activity. I submit that this Code of Conduct for the University and College teachers must be repeated. Another regrettable point is that the students of the All India Students Federation have not got admission in the Colleges. Sir, is this not rank

political discrimination? It is wrong to deny admission to these students in the colleges.

Demand No. 52—Capital Outlay on Public Works—Buildings—this Demand relates to so many payments of excess compensation ordered by the Courts. After a particular rate is agreed to, the party goes to a Court seeking enhanced compensation. I would like to recollect the Constitution Amendment that we passed here in the matter of making compensation to properties acquired for public utility purposes. The word 'compensation' was substituted by the word 'amount.' This 'amount' is fixed by the Government when a property is acquired for public utility purpose. I think that this Act is not being implemented effectively; otherwise so many enhanced compensation payments would not have come here. I would like the hon. Minister to refer to this particular point in her reply to the Debate. There are so many Engineering Colleges under this Demand—Government Engineering College, Salem, Regional Engineering College, Tiruchirappalli, Government Press Workers' Colony, Madras. The land acquired for these would naturally be for public utility. There is no question of making enhanced compensation especially when the Constitution provides for only 'amount' to be fixed by the Government.

I would like to know how this particular Constitutional Amendment is being implemented.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN (Madurai): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while speaking on the Supplementary Budget in respect of Tamil Nadu, I have to say a few words about the allotment made in this Supplementary Budget. Many points have been touched by the previous speakers. I want to mention only about the allotment made for Drought Relief Works.

The drinking water position is very acute in many districts, particularly, as I have mentioned on the previous occasion, in Madurai, Ramnad, Tinneveli and Kanya Kumari; the wells are completely dried up; even the borewells, private borewells as well as public borewells are dried up, even 100 ft. borewells are dried up. There is no water. In many villages, people have to walk four or five miles to get drinking water. Poor ladies go with their pots three or four miles to get some good water. This is the position. Are we not ashamed of this? After 30 years of independence, if there are no proper arrangements for drinking water, should we not be ashamed of this position?

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN (Kangra): It was Tamil Nadu Government's fault, not our fault.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Now it is under the Central Government. I want that proper and sufficient allotment should be made according to the magnitude of the problem.

My friend, Mr. Alagesan, mentioned about the various Transport Corporations—Pandian Corporation, Pallavan Corporation, Kattabomban Corporation, Anna Corporation, Periar Corporation and so on. Although the names are there, the corporations are working on a loss and that too, a heavy loss. It is high time the Government should come forward to inquire into the working of all these corporations as to why they are sustaining losses. For instance, the Pandiyan Transport Corporation in Madurai. I know it because it is located in my constituency. There the relationship between the management and the workers is not cordial and always the labour come and complain that the attitude of the management is arbitrary. They are not doing any profitable work and also harm others.

Now, there are small operators left here and there. But these small operators are competing. They operate on a 50 mile or 30 mile or 20 mile route. What they do is that they just

put one vehicle to start five minutes before the Corporation vehicle starts and then another one to start five minutes after the Corporation bus. This way all the traffic goes to the small operators and the corporation sustains the loss. This is the case not only in one place but it is there almost in all the places. These are the things which should be looked into.

Now, regarding taxation, take Sales Tax. Every State has got its own way and its own rate with regard to Sales Tax. Now, we are talking of integration of the country, that India is one country, but we have got different systems. So far as income tax is concerned, we are having only one rate. Even a man in Orissa or in Madras, though his total income may be less than that of a man in Bombay, pays the same rate of income-tax based on income. But the sales tax is not the same everywhere. Recently, West Bengal reduced the sales tax on motor cars from 13 to 7 per cent and similarly, in your State, Mr. Chairman, I read in the Press that my friend, Shri Ranga Reddy, your Finance Minister recently introduced a Bill reducing the sales tax to 6 per cent. He gave the argument—I read it in the papers—that in Andhra Pradesh most of the vehicles registered in other States are plying because in other States they are cheaper as they pay a lower rate of sales tax. You know the Tamil Nadu people go to Andhra Pradesh—it is only a few miles from our border to go to Nellore—and purchase the vehicle paying only 6 per cent. In Pondicherry also the sales tax is less. It is only 7 per cent. Therefore, Sir, so far as sales tax is concerned, there must be a uniform rate for the whole country.

DR. HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam): Tamil Nadu has also reduced the sales tax and as a result, all industries are migrating to Tamil Nadu from Kerala.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: They have reduced the sales tax. I agree even our sales tax is lower than

[Shri R. V. Swaminathan]

Kerala rate, I know it very well. I have got the figures. But I think some wrong information has been given to you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Therefore, the sales tax rate should be uniform all over the country as also the Motor Vehicles tax. Why should the rate of motor vehicles tax be different in different States? The rate is the highest in Tamil Nadu.

Therefore, these points should be considered by the Government and they should take note of all these things and take necessary remedial steps.

With these words I support the Demands.

SHRI ARAVINDA BALA PAJANOR (Pondicherry): On these Supplementary Demands I have only to supplement a few cases. I first thought of raising the question of quorum here but I found that it was not necessary when the Members of the Consultative Committee for Tamil Nadu and even from Tamil Nadu are not present here. Perhaps they thought that the amount the Minister is demanding is after all a small amount. So it can be given a go by.

When my friends referred to certain items, I felt it is my duty also to say how it functioned. Some Members said that there is drought. Of course, there is drought practically in the entire Tamil Nadu. I am afraid we will not have water even for this year's cultivation. Last year it was said that we were having surplus rice and we could export. But this year we may not have enough rice upto the end of this year. Every time I see in the newspapers that ministers, advisers, secretaries to Government, etc. visit these drought areas. Every one who is available in the Government is touring the State. My humble submission is this. By giving speeches here and there you can't solve the

problem of drought. I feel, drought is an internal problem for Tamil Nadu. Therefore a long range programme is necessary for tackling this problem.

Last time when the hon. Prime Minister visited my neighbouring State, Tamil Nadu, she promised Krishna waters for Madras. I say that a serious and sincere effort must be taken by the other neighbouring States.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sincere efforts are being made by Andhra Pradesh Government.

SHRI ARAVINDA BALA PAJANOR: You come from that State and we are thankful to your State. I would make a suggestion that National Water Board must be set up. Some friends suggested about the name of the corporations etc. It does not matter which name you give, Babuji or Anna or Periyar. It is not the name that counts. It is a question of the people who execute these. Minister of Finance will agree with me that nowadays it is not possible to know who is an honest man and who is not an honest man. In my three years' experience in this House, I saw lot of agitations here but now those members are not present here. I think they will be present only if they are allowed to rule a State. Since that is not the case and they are not in power in any State. I don't find any of them here, to make their valuable suggestions in these matters.

So far as the medical colleges admissions and the engineering college admissions are concerned I don't know how far this is true but there is a talk in the air which is also very vibrant that there is no difference between the past and the present. In the past people with long towels with two colours influenced these admissions but now in different guise the same thing is being done. I don't know who is at fault.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: This is absolutely untrue.

SHRI ARAVINDA BALA PAJANOR: Thank you very much. Let me wish Tamilnadu well.

SHRI ARAVINDA BALA PAJANOR: My learned friend may deny it. I don't blame the Government. But they come in different guise. We need not unnecessarily be disturbed over this. Let us root out this evil of corruption. It is a *fait accompli*. Let us all take interest in it. Let us root out corruption once and for all. That is the wish of our Prime Minister also.

I am very much interested in this—I know Mr. Bhattacharyya that he cannot do anything because we have seen what they have done in West Bengal during their regime—because all these things are taking place there and so why should we not touch the root of the problem and solve it. I am just posing this question. To-day Tamilnadu is under President's Rule and so this can be done by the Central Government because the Governor is now administering the State. Unless you mend it at this moment, it is impossible for you to mend it later on.

Why the people of Tamilnadu are not showing their enthusiasm now which they did some time ago? That is because some people are supporting the rotten officers in certain places. I still see in certain places, Shri Karunanidhi's henchmen occupying many top posts. I know this because I live in Madras and so I know what is really taking place. I know pretty well that there are young, honest and energetic and good officers in Tamilnadu with zeal and initiative doing their work well. But, still, there must be some vigilance committee constituted here to look into these things. But, in that process, innocent officers should not be punished. You may abolish one particular department in that process but let us not punish innocent people. I wish there is more time allowed to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. Your fifteen minutes time is already over. Your questions will be answered by the Minister.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) : सभापति जी, तमिलनाडु के सम्बन्ध में जो पूरक माँगें हैं उनके सम्बन्ध में मैं एक दो बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। वैसे मैं वहाँ का रहने वाला नहीं हूँ लेकिन इस देश का रहने वाला हूँ जिसमें तमिलनाडु भी है। वहाँ की पूरी समस्याओं की जानकारी जैसे अन्य सदस्यों को है वैसे मुझे नहीं है। फिर भी मैं एक दो बातें कहना चाहूँगा कि यहाँ पर अकाल की चर्चा की गई। यह बात गद्दी है कि तमिलनाडु के 10-11 जिले भीषण अकाल के चुंगल में गिरफ्त है। वहाँ की जनता के सामने भुखमरी की स्थिति है और पीने के पानी का संकट है। अभी वहाँ पर जनता की कोई चुनौती हुई सरकार नहीं है। यहाँ पर चुनौती हुई केन्द्रीय सरकार के अन्तर्गत वहाँ के अफसर और सलाहकार लोग काम कर रहे हैं। लोक सभा ने उनकी मदद के लिए एक कमेटी ज़रूर बना दी है जोकि बहुतन फव्वलन बैठती है और वहाँ की समस्याओं पर विचार करती है। ऐसी स्थिति में भारत सरकार का अधिक कर्तव्य हो जाता है कि वहाँ अकाल की स्थिति को सम्हालने के लिए अधिक से अधिक प्रयास करे क्योंकि अगर अफसरों पर छाड़ दिया जायेगा तो हर जगह जिस तरह से अफसर काम करते हैं उसी तरह वहाँ के अफसर भी काम करेंगे। अकाल की स्थिति में क्या भीषण तकलीफ होती है जनता को उसका मुझे अनुभव है क्योंकि बिहार कई दफा अकाल के दौर से गुज़र चुका है और लगता है इस दार भी उसे उस दौर से गुज़रना पड़ेगा क्योंकि वहाँ भी 10-15 जिलों में अकाल जैसी स्थिति है। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ उस तरह सरकार का सबसे ज्यादा ध्यान जाना चाहिये।

[श्री रामावतार शास्त्री]

दूसरी बात यह है कि वहाँ पर लाखों की तादाद में बुनकर हैं जिनकी समस्याएँ भी बहुत भव्य हैं। उनकी समस्याओं को सरकार जानती है इसलिए बोरू मंत्री आर्थिक कार्यक्रम में भी उनका उल्लेख किया गया है और उनकी मदद करने की बात कही गई है। सौभाग्य से हमारी वित्त मंत्री का बैंकों से कर्जा दिलवाने का भी काम है उनको देखना चाहिए कि अकाल की स्थिति की पृष्ठभूमि में बुनकरों को ज्यादा से ज्यादा मदद दी जाये ताकि उनके करषे चल सकें, उनको अधिक से अधिक सूत मिल सके और उनका बनाया हुआ कपड़ा ठीक से बिक सके ताकि उनकी आर्थिक स्थिति गड़बड़ न हो और वे अपने बाल बच्चों का पालन पोषण कर सकें।

आखिरी बात यह है कि विश्वविद्यालय शिक्षकों की चर्चा तो यहाँ पर हुई, लेकिन विश्वविद्यालयों एवं कालेजों में जो कर्मचारी काम करते हैं, जिन्हें शिक्षकोत्तर-कर्मचारी कहा जाता है, जो पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में हैं और वहाँ भी हैं, उन की समस्याओं की तरफ आप का ध्यान जाना चाहिये। वे समान वेतन मांग करते हैं, उन की यह मांग भी चल रही है कि उन्हें बर्कमैन माना जाय, ताकि औद्योगिक विवाद कानून के मुताबिक उन्हें वे तमाम सुविधायें मिले जो अन्य श्रम-जीवी मजदूरों को मिलती है। उन का फेडरेशन भी बन चुका है जो आल इण्डिया फेडरेशन से सम्बद्ध है जिसके चेयरमैन सरदार दरबारा सिंह है। इस लिये मेरा अनुरोध है कि विश्वविद्यालय के इन शिक्षकोत्तर कर्मचारियों की मांगों की तरफ भी आप का ध्यान जाना चाहिये।

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): At the very outset, I would like to thank all the hon. members, who have participated in this debate here. But I fail to

understand how a senior and eminent colleague like Shri Dinen Bhattacharya should choose to oppose everything whether it is good or bad. In this particular case, he was really not inclined to oppose it. So he reiterated and very emphatically said that he strongly opposed it.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Madam, wait for some time. Let Shri Maurya move his Bills. I will give my full support to them.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I am not very patient by nature.

The only thing he said was that the actions taken by Government, the steps taken by Government, have not been very positive under President's rule, that no concrete steps have been taken for drought relief and other things, that the people are starving, that there is destitution, that people are without job and so on. I am happy that for once Shri Bhattacharya has come back to the House when the reply is being given. I would only say that the factual position is not what he has stated. We are sorry that there is a drought. We are very sorry that people are suffering. I think each and every hon. member of the House shares their suffering. But I would like to assure him that every possible action is being taken. I would like to substantiate it. If something is wanting, we are always open to the sincere suggestions of hon. members.

I think the young, ADMK member, Shri Pajanor, though young in years, made some very good and valid points. I would like to assure him that they will be conveyed to proper authorities. There is always a soul of goodness even in things evil in every phase of life. I think there are good people and bad people. We have to find out and sift the good from the bad and see that normalcy is restored and things are improved and there is a better future for everyone.

Before I go into all the details, I would only say that the play outlay for 1976-77 was increased under President's rule from Rs. 177 crores to Rs. 201 crores. This represents a significant increase of 40 per cent; in per capita terms, the outlay has been raised from Rs. 32.3 to Rs. 43 in the current year. This shows the Government's determination and sincerity in trying to accelerate the rate of development in such a historic State like Tamil Nadu.

Special emphasis has been given to the Twenty-Point programme. You will find that about 56 per cent of the total plan outlay for 1976-77 is really going to the twenty-point programme. That shows that the twenty-point programme which is primarily aimed at improvement of the conditions of the lower strata of society is receiving a substantial portion of the plan outlay.

Prices, of course, have fluctuated, but along with the general pattern, they have come down and are under control. Under President's rule, it should be noted, a record quantity of 4.78 lakh tonnes of rice has been procured till date. This is an all-time record in Tamil Nadu. Since we are going through the achievements under the President's rule, because some members did not see any silver lining, I thought I would place the facts before the House and put the record straight.

Because of these comfortable stocks, we find that the situation has greatly improved and the distribution system has improved. I can give all the facts and figures, but I do not think it will be necessary. The position, I can say, has improved and there are nearly 10,000 retail points throughout the state providing a widespread network for the supply of essential commodities for the common man. Apart from that the Debt Relief Act of 1976 was passed on 29th July 1976 and it has been a major reform in the economic field, especially of benefit to the small farmers, landless agricultural labour and rural artisans. There has also been

significant progress in the release and rehabilitation of bonded labour in various districts of Tamilnadu; so far 2417 bonded labour had been released and relief measures are being implemented for them. About 59,505 house sites had been assigned since the President's rule was imposed and legislation had also been passed conferring ownership rights to house sites occupied by rural artisans also. The provision for acquisition of house sites for Harijans has been increased from Rs. 25 lakhs in 1975-76 to Rs. 52 lakhs in the current year. Various steps have also been taken to detect evasion of sales tax, entertainment tax and motor vehicles tax. The yields are expected to be substantially higher this year. Expenditure has been curbed to some extent and there has been improvement in administrative efficiency. One example that could be cited is that the impounded additional D.A. of the state government employees had been fully released in record time.

Shri Alagesan raised the point about the road transport corporations running at a loss; he expressed his concern. I can only say that there has been some improvement in that direction and out of seven, except one or two which have a large number of uneconomic routes, others are now making profits. We hope that even those corporations would be looked into and wherever necessary action would be taken.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: May I know the accumulated loss? Is it making a profit for the first time? We should know the whole picture. Painting a rosy picture will not do.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: We shall certainly look into what you have stated. About non-formal education some doubts were raised; that is about children dropping out from school and about evening classes. Evening classes are held and informal education is given to them. The scheme is implemented as an All India scheme, centrally sponsored scheme. 100 centres have been opened in each

[Smt. Sushila Rohatgi]

district of Tiruchirapally and Coimbatore and five panchayat unions of each district will be covered. This is a programme of national importance.

Shri Alagesan also mentioned about the Neyveli Lignite Corporation and about rehabilitation. That land is not required for the project nor is it required by the corporation for any other purpose. About the police academy being shifted from one place to another, from Vellore to Madras, I should say that the accommodation available at Vellore was totally inadequate and semi-permanent accommodation was available at Madras which could be improved and utilised.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: You are spending 20 lakhs.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya waxed eloquent as usual about the labour matters and industrial relations and so on. I find that as on 1st January 1976, there were 18 stoppages, that is, 15 strikes and three lock outs involving about 7000 workers. The position deteriorated to some extent during the month and on 24th January 1976 there were 21 stoppages involving about 25000 workmen. As on 1st February 1976, there were 17 stoppages of work involving 24,000 workmen. As on 15th February 1976, the position was that 15 of those disputes had been settled covering about 22,000 workers and as on 5th April 1976, there was no strike or lock out unresolved. The position as on 31st July, 76 was that only three establishments in the entire State were involved in strikes. The number of workers affected is 226. There has been no case of lock out as on 31st July, 76. The credit for this really goes to the workers and the people cooperating with each other. So, all the allegations of fear psychosis amongst the workers etc. are not true and these figures speak for themselves. It is the policy of the Government that the workers should be looked after well

and they have cooperated in maintaining peace in industry.

The main topic is drought and naturally every member was worried about it. In Tamilnadu, drought conditions prevail in 11 districts. 90 lakhs of people in 4189 villages have been affected by drought. The south-west monsoon's behaviour also has been quite disappointing. We do hope it has been better recently. As a result a massive programme of drought relief was called for. A sum of Rs. 7.54 crores has been included in the supplementary demands for drought relief works. This is in addition to the existing allocation of Rs. 8.94 crores in the budget. These provisions have enabled the Tamilnadu Government to undertake a massive programme for the provision of drinking water supply and also to create adequate employment opportunities in the drought affected areas at the same time ensuring that durable assets are created.

To relieve the acute water scarcity in the drought stricken areas, the Tamilnadu Government have under taken a massive programme of sinking 6300 deep bore wells before the end of September 76. This programme is proceeding according to schedule and more than 4000 bore wells have been put up so far. In addition, assistance has been provided to 35 municipalities in the drought affected areas to augment their water supply. Assistance has also been given to Panchayat Unions for deepening drinking water wells. Employment-oriented works under medium and minor irrigation, soil conservation, afforestation and link roads have also been taken up in a widespread manner in the drought affected areas. These programmes will result in the creation of lasting assets. These are some of the things which will be beneficial and in the larger interests of the State.

In order to maintain drinking water wells with hand pumps and electric pumps in good working order, the Tamil Nadu Government has sanctioned a new maintenance scheme for Rs. 48 lakhs. One mechanic-cum-fitter has been sanctioned for every 100 pumps and there will also be mobile engineering teams. —

Sir, I have tried to clear some of the doubts which were really there in the minds of hon. members. Regarding doubts which cannot be cleared for reasons where are obvious, I will not be in a position to clear them. I do hope that members will agree that the Tamil Nadu Government is doing well and the State is progressing towards prosperity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the respective Supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of Tamil Nadu to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against:—

Demands Nos. 9, 12, 15, 17 to 24, 29 to 31, 39, 41, 43, 50 to 52, 56 and 57."

The motion was adopted.

16.50 hrs.

TAMIL NADU APPROPRIATION
(NO. 3) BILL,* 1976

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-
MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): I beg

to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Tamil Nadu for the services of the financial year 1976-77.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Tamil Nadu for the services of the financial year 1976-77."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI:
I introduce† the Bill.

I beg to move.†

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Tamil Nadu for the services of the financial year 1976-77, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Tamil Nadu for the services of the financial year 1976-77, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will now take up clause by clause consideration.

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, section 2, dated 23-8-76.

†Introduced|Moved with the recommendation of the President.