

[Smt. Sushika Rohatgi]

sent a statement showing Demand for Excess Grant in respect of the Budget (General), for 1973-74.

12.20 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. ACQUISITION OF REMAINING SHARES OF ESSO IN HINDUSTAN PETROLEUM CORPORATION, LTD.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): As the Hon'ble Members are aware, Government are considering restructuring of the oil industry with a view to making optimum utilisation of the existing assets and facilities and improving the standard of service to the public. In order to achieve this goal, we have been actively engaged in completing negotiations for the acquisition of foreign oil companies. The House is aware that negotiations are in progress with Caltex and Assam Oil Company for taking over their assets in India. Meanwhile, Government had approached Exxon for acquisition of their 26 per cent holding in Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited. In accordance with the Agreement signed in March, 1974 those shares would have been transferred to Government only in 1981. However, negotiations with Exxon have recently been completed and an understanding has been reached that these shares will be transferred to Government on the 1st October, 1976 on payment of an amount of \$ 3,096,600 net of taxes. The formal Agreement in this regard will be signed in September, 1976. This will not in any way disturb the existing arrangements for payment of principal and interest amounts relating to acquisition of 74 per cent share of Exxon in 1974. Exxon will continue to supply crude oil till 1980-81, as agreed earlier. I would like to take this opportunity for placing on record Government's appreciation of the cooperative spirit shown by Exxon during these negotiations.

12.22 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. KORBA FERTILISER PROJECT

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): Members of Parliament have been expressing from time to time their concern over the fate of the Korba Fertiliser project and several questions have been put in both Houses of Parliament on the subject. I am, therefore, making this statement to clarify the position.

The Korba Fertilizer project has not been abandoned. The project has only been slowed down and the expenditure thereon staggered due to resources constraint. The project was taken up for implementation in 1974 and an amount of Rs. 11.87 crores has already been spent upto March, 1976. I wish to assure this House that work on the project will be resumed with vigour shortly.

12.24 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: CONTINUANCE IN FORCE OF PROCLAMATION IN RESPECT OF TAMIL NADU—Contd.

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion of the following Resolution moved by Shri K. Brahmanada Reddy on the 20th August, 1976, namely:

"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."

Three hours were allotted and only five minutes were taken. So, we have 2 hours and 55 minutes. Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): Sir, I rise to oppose the motion moved by Shri Brahmananda Reddy to extend the President's rule in Tamil Nadu. At the time when the DMK government was removed illegally and most undemocratically, we emphatically opposed the move and we clearly stated our views that instead of adopting such undemocratic measures, the government could have arranged election which was due shortly. That would have been the best way of judging the opinion of the Tamil Nadu people as to which form of government they want. While I say this, I am not taking any brief for the DMK Government, we have our differences with that party also. The arguments that were advanced for the undemocratic step then taken were mere eyewash and there was no necessity for that step. Elections could have been held so that the people could say whether they were disgusted with the DMK because in that case they would have refused to vote for the DMK government and the I would not have had any objection for that at all. But what is this policy? Is it not a policy to perpetuate the undemocratic, most illegal and authoritarian rule not only at the centre but throughout the country including Tamil Nadu? Here is a blatant example as to how they behave with the people of State where they cannot form a government of their own choice. The difference between Gujarat and Tamil Nadu is whereas in Gujarat they thought they may get some defectors to be included in the party, thereby enabling the Congress Party to form a government. In Tamil Nadu, they knew that the DMK had such a big majority that it was not possible for them to form a government by defecting a few MLAs. Our party have emphatically protested against this sort of attitude action by the Congress Party.

No special reasons have been given by the minister today why President's rule should be extended in Tamil Nadu. Sir, mine is the lone voice against this resolution and he is not listening.

MR. SPEAKER: He wants that you should listen to him.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY): I have been listening, Sir. He said, this is an undemocratic act.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: This is just like his brief statement. He wanted to convince the House by a short statement. I have gone through this pamphlet circulated by him and I do not find any special reasons to be convinced that it is necessary to continue the President's rule there. What have you achieved within these six months? There is an accusation that DMK ministers were corrupt. I do not know about that there is no proof that they were corrupt as alleged. On what basis do you say that you are cleaning the administrative apparatus? You say, you are taking measures to stop corruption in the administration. But I have some personal knowledge and I know that corruption has increased in all the departments, including the police. I do not want to mention any name or incident here? if necessary, I will bring them to the notice of the minister. The other reasons you have elaborated here are drought conditions, etc. But these are common to all the States. What is the special reason for continuing the President's rule there? Nothing has been substantiated in your statement. My humble request to the minister and to the government is to reconsider the matter and see whether they can go back and take the direct opinion of the people of Tamil Nadu through election. If the people think that Congress is the best party to rule over Tamil Nadu, they will give their verdict.

I know the apprehension lurking in your mind, you know that people will reject you. The people may not vote for the DMK but they will not vote for the Congress either. What have you done for the people after removing the popularly elected Government?

[Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya]

You have appointed two Advisers to the Governor. But they are bureaucrats, like the old ICS officers, who have no living connection with the people. How can they do anything for the good of the people when they have no direct and living connection with the people?

In the report you have mentioned about the formation of certain committees in all the districts. What is their activity? How can the top man decide about a thing about which he has no personal knowledge? He has to be guided by the official of his department or the persons whom he has nominated or appointed to these committees in the districts and the talukas as per his whim.

That is why I say that this measure cannot be supported by anybody. I would say that the Central Government should abandon this method of bringing the whole of the country under one central authoritarian rule. You have to give up that policy and adopt democratic methods both in the Centre and in the States. Instead of centralising all the powers, you have to give more powers to the States.

Whatever you may say in your report, there has been no improvement in the situation after the removal of the DMK Ministry. In fact, the situation has deteriorated. In the report there is reference to the drought conditions. 40 per cent of the food production has been affected so far. According to the statement of the Government on the floor of the House, because of the failure of the monsoon, the reservoirs have no water for the cultivation of crops and, therefore, the crops have failed. As a result of it, the prices have gone up in most cases. In reply to the Calling Attention Notice of my CPI friends, the Government have admitted that the prices have gone up. In whatever way you may try to justify it, in reality the prices have gone up.

In the ten districts which are drought-affected, immediate steps must

be taken to provide at least drinking water. As rightly stated by one hon. Member during the Calling Attention Notice on that day, you may bore or sink a tube-well but what is the guarantee that there will be water in that well?

Where is the maintenance apparatus? On whom are you depending for the proper maintenance of these tubewells for drinking water? It is most unsatisfactory. The attitude of the persons who have been entrusted with this task is callous and have the least sympathy for the people. The same agriculturists who are selling their crop at a lower price to the middle men, have to pay a higher price when they have to purchase the same product. This is the situation. It is a fact that evictions from land of the small tenants are going on as before, and it has not in any way been checked. I can give you an example. Nowhere are the agricultural labourers getting the minimum wages that have been fixed for them. Wherever there is an organised movement of the agricultural labourers, there they are getting something near the minimum wages fixed, but in most other cases they are not getting.

He has stated that the labour situation and industrial relations have improved much, but I am not of the same opinion. I would say that by the application of coercive measures, the workers have been forced not to raise any protest and or any dispute. That the Government cannot deny. I will give only one example.

What about the sugar industry which has been closed for a long time, and for whose fault? The cane growers were not getting a remunerative price for their cane, and that is why they did not grow cane, and that is why the mills could not work. I know that previously there was a difference of Rs. 20 to 25 between the sugar that was manufactured in U.P. or Northern India and that in Tamil Nadu, but now the difference

and gap is more. So, both the cane growers and the sugar mill workers are suffering. So, I do not know how Mr. Brahmananda Reddy can say that the situation is better. Thousands of workers are retrenched, they are without work, and no arrangements have been made by the Government in the matter. Fifty per cent of the tanneries are not working, and the wages that the workers are getting there, I do not know whether Mr. Brahmananda Reddy knows it, are far below even the minimum wages fixed for the agricultural labourers. Thousands and thousands of handloom weavers are out of employment. It has been stated here that much has been done for them, but my question is actually what the Government has done for the real weavers. Twenty per cent of the total weavers are still under the master weaver who is exploiting the weavers in every possible way. He is getting loans from the banks, getting yarn at cheaper rates, and he is controlling the market. He is giving paltry sums to the weavers far below subsistence level. I know, large sections of Tamil Nadu handloom weavers are in no way better than the bonded labour. I do not know what will be the reply of the Government in this regard. There is no Factories Act, there is no labour law, there is no ESI, nothing of the sort, in the case of handloom weavers. This is the situation in the case of handloom weavers.

More than 75 engineering industries in and around Coimbatore have resorted to lay-offs, retrenchments and closures. Even after the amendment of the Industrial Disputes Act, prohibiting lay-offs, retrenchments and closures with out prior sanction from the Government, these are taking place. Some industries having more than 300 workers are also declaring lay-offs. The small engineering units employing less than 300 employees and above 50 employees are resorting to lay-offs and sometimes lockouts and closures. They are taking all the advantage from the Government in the name of rehabilitating their in-

dustries. But in the case of workers, the employees, the Government is callous and nothing is being done in their case.

I know, the Ramji Mills at Trichy and the Jawahar Rajendra Mills at Salem have declared a large-scale lay-off. About 20,000 workers in the categories of temporary and casual labour are not given employment for the last 18 months. The Kurumuthu Group of Mills in Madurai do not pay regular monthly wages in time. In the name of production and efficiency, even during lunch hours, the workers are required to do work without any overtime. The workers in the age group of 50 and above are being asked to undergo efficiency tests and after 25 years of service, they are found to go on voluntary retirement. This is the labour situation in Tamil Nadu.

Regarding the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board workers, I am amazed to find that the Finance Minister, Mr. C. Subramaniam, has said that there are 24,000 workers in the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board who are surplus whereas the Home Minister has given a statement that there are 35,000 employees who are surplus. But from the actual official report, on physical verification, it has been found that there are only 3,000 workers who may be surplus and who can be absorbed in the State Electricity Board under new projects that are coming up. They can easily be absorbed. The Tamil Nadu Electricity Board claims that in the other State Electricity Boards, the employees are not in such large number as in the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board. It may be true. But what is the fault of the workers? It is not their fault. I want to know whether any actual assessment has been made. Why is there a difference in the statement of the two Ministers, the Finance Minister and the Home Minister? The official figure gives us an entirely different picture.

I would say that this matter must be looked into by the Government specially in respect of the State Electricity Board workers. I would say about

[Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya]

the sugar mill workers, the handloom weavers and the tannery workers. These are the blatant examples where you will find that these workers have been repressed and, even after amending the Industrial Disputes Act, no change has been brought about. The lay-offs, the retrenchments and the closures are going on. There is no check.

Our representative in the Tamil Nadu Consultative Committee has pointed out, some time back, certain things about the law and order situation. Much has been said here by the Home Minister but here are the some facts which I want to cite. I may also state here with full responsibility that the law and order situation is not better at all. The person arrested are taken inside the lock-up of the police station and beaten. Why? The person does not know why he has been arrested, he is taken inside the police station and beaten severely. This is a regular feature. The treatment that is meted out in the jail to the persons who are arrested under MISA or under DIR because they are connected with some political party are deplorable. The treatment which should be given to political prisoners is not given to them. Even in British days, in the jail, the political prisoners were getting a fair treatment. That is not there now.

Also, I do not understand what is this system. Some of our friends, some of our party leaders who are also MLAs, were taken from Tripura to Tamil Nadu. Why? For what reason? Why should there be this system? Why does Mr. Brahmananda Reddy not come forward and say what is the reason for this sort of transfer? Their relatives cannot go and meet them, nor can they write letters very often, because, the letter will go to Tripura for censor, from there it will come again to the Madras jail and then it will be sent. You can imagine how long it will take for a letter to reach its destination. This is the condition there.

I will mention certain things. On 5-7-1976, two active workers of CITU, by name Sundararajan and Bapu, were taken under police custody by the Avadi Tank Factory Police Station, and they were kept in the Avadi Police Station for ten days and were tortured by the CID inspectors, with the help of a Head Constable by name Verghese. The allegation was that they distributed leaflets containing a demand for the release of the Tank Factory workers arrested under the MISA. Is it a fault? Is it a crime? I ask this of the House and of the Minister. If I ask that the MISA detenus should be released, is it a crime on my part? Persons have been arrested under the MISA and they have not been furnished with reasons for which they have been detained; they have no opportunity to go to the court and challenge the detention order. In such a situation, I cannot even say that such and such persons have been arrested and raise a demand for their release! I do so, it is a crime on my part! I will humbly ask the Home Minister: is it proper, is this the treatment that should be meted out to the political and trade union workers?

"The victims were forced to sit down...."

Further it is stated that they were beaten with lathis all over the bodies while two policemen were standing on their knees and giving severe blows on their backs.

"They were forced to keep their hands on the table and beaten by lathis. This torture was carried out daily for half an hour till they swooned. Two pairs of chap-pals, one spectacle worth Rs. 80, cash of Rs. 60 and pens were taken by the Policemen inside the Thana lock-up and in spite of their protest and request, these articles have not yet been returned."

This is the condition so far as the law and order situation is concerned. Other things I can narrate.

Even about what is professed here that special care will be taken of the weaker sections—may I know how many Scheduled Castes people have been provided with land? An assurance was given here that they will get land for building their huts. How many have been given? Is it not a fact that the vested interests in the villages are carrying on repressive measures against the Scheduled Castes people and when complaints are lodged with the Police, it is always found that the man who goes with the complaint is either kept in the Police lock-up or is being harassed in other ways?

So I will say that I cannot and I do not find any change. Only by creating some fear psychosis, only by creating terror in the minds of the people, you may, from housetops, say that much improvement has been done, but it is not so. Mr. Gopal, I will request you to consider it from the democratic point of view and consider whether this is the proper way or it is proper that they follow the democratic process of choosing their own government. People have been deprived of this right. Not only Tamil Nadu, I will say the whole of India has been denied of this benefit. They could have chosen, they could have rejected us or the other people or they could have elected only the Congressmen. Still we would have said that a democratic process has been adopted. In this matter I will say with full force, that the Government must consider about that, the attitude to the people of our country, not only the people of Tamil Nadu. It is no question of Tamil Nadu. It is a question of principle. There is no war. Nothing of that sort. Still the people of Tamil Nadu have been deprived of the right to have an elected Assembly.

So, once you submit, once you surrender to this undemocratic method, you will have to swallow all the undemocratic processes in respect of building up our economy or any other thing. So, I appeal to the Members of this House to see that the Govern-

ment stop somewhere,—you are giving them extension for another six months....

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member's time is up.

SHRI DINEN BHATACHARYYA: I am only asking where they will stop. I will stop just now, but where and when will the government stop? What is the guarantee that after another six months they will not come forward with another motion that you give us another six months' time so that in the meantime the situation will change? So, my request to the hon. Minister is this. I have nothing personal against him. But I would request him to think about his past traditions. What are you expecting? Please stop somewhere and end this wrong and illegal method and allow the people to select their own representatives and to govern themselves. With these words I conclude my speech and I thank you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI K. GOPAL (Karur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution moved by the hon. Home Minister for extending President's rule in Tamil Nadu.

First of all, I would like to refute whatever my honourable colleague, Mr. Dinen Bhattacharyya has said. He said that nothing is being done in Tamil Nadu. Sir, I have got better knowledge about the Tamil Nadu administration. I would request him to visit Tamil Nadu and see the position for himself.

On 31st January, 1976, the people of Tamil Nadu beaved a sigh of relief when the DMK Government was dismissed.

My friend Mr. Dinen Bhattacharyya has said something on the basis of the brief given to him by his party colleagues from Tamil Nadu. To say that nothing is being done would be incorrect. We will have to be fair to the administration. He referred to a book which has been circulated. Mr. Dinen

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Bhattacharyya said that they had claimed that everything is all right and everything is being done. That is not so. What they said is what is being done. Therefore, to say that they made a claim that everything is all right, is not correct.

I would like to bring to your notice another point. Our friend said that they have unleashed a reign of terror and that police raj is prevailing. I would emphatically say that this is not correct. There was discipline which was lacking in the previous administration which has been restored now. Corruption was a way of life at that time; now all these things have changed. Indiscipline has been brought to a halt. Certainly there is improvement now. With regard to developmental activities also, the efforts made by the present administration are much better than what they were before.

As was rightly pointed out, two of the present Advisers may not be able to cope with the work. So, I would request the hon. Minister to consider whether it is necessary to have three or more persons, to have one Adviser being a public man, another being a technical man, and so on. But, to say that the advisers do not know the people is not correct. I do not agree with him there. We have day to day connection with these people. We go and represent. They certainly do their best. The people certainly like the change which has been brought about by the present administration.

As far as the other activities are concerned, for example, the steps taken to increase the areas of cultivation, I wish to say something.

MR. SPEAKER: You may please continue after Lunch.

13 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at three minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]
**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE:
 CONTINUANCE IN FORCE OF PRO-
 CLAMATION IN RESPECT OF
 TAMIL NADU—Contd.**

SHRI K. GOPAL: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I was mentioning as to how the matter had improved in Tamil Nadu after the imposition of President's rule. I have also outlined a few steps taken by the present Administration which was certainly a change for the better.

Let us take the industrial area. As on 1st February, 1976 there were 17 stoppages of work involving about 25,000 workmen and fifteen disputes were settled by 15th February itself and, as on 31st July, there were no disputes at all. There were only three strikes involving hardly in all 226 workmen; and there was no lock-out at all. Why I am saying all this is that it is not because this was due to the imposition of the President's Rule and so they were terrorised. I say that the workers rose up to the occasion; it was not that the Emergency forced the workers to go to the factories because under that there is no right for them to go on strike. Certainly the State Government did not prevent them from doing their duty. My friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya was saying that the workers were not permitted to strike work. That is why there is no strike. You should not forget, Sir, about Simpson Company, two years ago, wherein there was no dispute at all as between the management and the workers but it was the State Government which was bent upon disturbing the industrial peace and they saw to it that thousands and thousands of workers were not allowed to go for work. This was an old story. This dispute went on for seven months.

I would like to congratulate certainly the workers also because they were given the full protection and they can do what they want to do. It is not the Administration which is standing in the way. With regard to the Central

Government undertaking I can give the example of the Clothing Factory in Avadi and the Tank factory at Avadi where the administration wanted to see that stoppages were there frequently. That is not there now. In this field, we have certainly found improvement.

Take, for example, the colleges. Now students are going to colleges. There is absolutely no cutting off of the classes or any such thing. Everything is all right.

Even with regard to the administration of professional colleges which was abode of corruption, where seats were virtually sold for Rs. 29,000 to Rs. 40,000 per head depending upon the capacity of the man to pay, this is the first year in the course of seven or eight years when admissions were strictly on merit. Now there is no complaint with regard to admissions to professional colleges. Therefore, to say that nothing is being done under President's rule is not fair.

He also said that labour laws are not there for the handloom workers. This is the position all over the country. This is not confined only to Tamil Nadu. If he says that labour laws should be brought for protection of handloom weavers, I am one with him, but to find fault with the present administration in Tamil Nadu on the ground that such labour laws are not there and that those people are not doing it is also not fair.

There is a lot of scope for improvement in regard to the handloom sector. Recently three projects were inaugurated. One is an export-oriented project which is going to benefit more than 10,000 weavers. According to the hon. Member, weavers are without jobs. This is not at all a fact now. They are fully occupied and now it is a seller's market in handloom goods. Take my own constituency. There are about 20,000 weavers. They are all fully engaged. That is why I say that to say that weavers are without job

is a baseless statement. As I mentioned earlier, these export-oriented projects and other development projects are certainly going to benefit nearly 10,000 weavers.

Then I come to the drought relief measures taken by the State Government. I would like to ask the Home Minister whether it is necessary at all to go on spending money on drought relief where it is possible to have permanent relief. For example, in my constituency, there is a project called the Noyal Reservoir Project. In 1957, when it was conceived, it was estimated to cost only Rs. 2-1/2 crores. But according to present estimates, it will cost Rs. 10 crores. It is going to benefit 20,000 acres. It is a drought-prone area. I am not saying that you dig canals and so on where there is no water. I am only saying that where it is possible to effect permanent relief money may be spent on that. As a matter of fact, if from 1957 onwards whatever money was spent on drought relief in this area had been utilised for building up this project, that would have ensured permanent relief. I would like the hon. Home Minister to consider this matter.

Then I come to the availability of essential commodities. I am very sorry to say that of late essential commodities are becoming scarce in the State. Of course, there is a fair price system operating. But that is relevant when the commodities are available. I may point out the case of groundnut oil. Recently, I read in the papers that Government are importing some groundnut oil. Why should not this commodity be supplied to Tamil Nadu? You will have to take immediate steps to see that essential commodities are made available to the people. So also the question of fair price to the growers, paddy growers, etc.

Now I come to the supply of Krishna water to Madras City. On 15th February, the Prime Minister announced at a public meeting at Madras that Krishna water would be brought to

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the City. But I am sorry to see that no effective steps have been taken by the present administration. The process has to be quickened—that is my suggestion. I understand official level talks are going on. They should be completed and the work should be speeded up.

Then I come to the question of collection of arrears. I am not one to say that arrears of revenue should not be collected at all. They should be collected because Government has to function. But some over-enthusiastic officials down below just harass the peasants. This should stop. Even in the case of medium farmers who have got electric pump sets and so on, what is happening? When there is no water in the well, they cannot irrigate and are not able to pay the dues. The lower officials just come and remove the sets and go away. This sort of attitude of the lower officials should be checked.

I should now like to refer to the dwindling area under sugarcane crop in the State. It is not because of the drought conditions that the area of cultivation has come down. It is because of the unremunerative price. It is all right in other States, even though the statutory minimum is fixed by the Central Government. The previous administration was telling the farmers: we have got nothing to do, the Centre fixes the price; whereas I understand that they wrote to the Central Government that there was no need to increase the price and so they need not be paid more. This situation should be rectified by the present administration.

As I said previously, the hon. Home Minister can certainly consider the proposal to have two more advisers. It is not that the present advisers are not good. They are doing their best. The work is heavy and two advisers

cannot cope with it and I therefore request him to consider having two more advisers, one public man and one technical person. With these words, I support the Resolution.

*SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU (Nagapattinam): Hon. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Communist Party of India, I rise to speak on the Resolution seeking to extend the President's rule in Tamil Nadu by another six months. All of us in this House are aware of the circumstances under which the President's rule was proclaimed in Tamil Nadu on 31st January, 1976. The then D.M.K. Government was flouting the Emergency declared by the Government of India. The D.M.K. was openly advocating secession if its demands were not conceded by the Central Government. The D.M.K. was not hesitant to undermine the national integrity by resorting even to extra-constitutional methods. It started harping on autonomy for the State and joint rule at the Centre. It made Tamil Nadu the heaven for all anti-social, anti-national reactionary elements and all those who wanted to overthrow by force the government at the Centre. The State Government did not care to implement the Twenty-Point Economic Programme adumbrated by our Prime Minister. There was no other alternative for the Central Government except to impose the President's rule in Tamil Nadu.

While we discuss the Resolution seeking to extend the President's rule in the State, it is but proper to examine the positive and negative aspects of President's rule in Tamil Nadu during the past six months. We have been supplied with a booklet entitled SIX MONTHS OF PRESIDENT'S RULE IN TAMIL NADU. This document gives a brief resume of such action taken and highlights the activities of individual departments of the State

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

Administration. The impact of the implementation of the Twenty Point Economic Programme has also been indicated. This documents enumerates the modest achievements during the President's rule; it does not claim that everything has been done in Tamil Nadu. It is heartening to note that efforts have been made to bring back the State into the national mainstream. Effective steps have been taken to implement the Urban Land Ceiling Act. Bonded labour has been declared illegal and abolished partly, though not in full. I am happy to say that a code of conduct has been evolved for the Police. The 22nd point in this Code of Conduct is very significant, in that it is mentioned that the Police will not act in any partisan manner in favour of land-lords where land disputes are not involved. Such an approach should be taken to industrial disputes also. It has also stated in this document that the draft Bill for conferment of ownership on rural artisans occupying Kudiyiruppus (Homesteads) pending with the Government of India has been considered and cleared at the second meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee on Tamil Nadu Legislation. The President's assent to the Bill is awaited. The Bill banning eviction of cultivating tenants has been cleared by the Consultative Committee.

Sir, the programme of liquidation of rural indebtedness has been implemented effectively. Measures have been taken to establish alternate sources of credit. But the rural people are suffering great hardships in getting credits for their agricultural needs. It has been declared that the Agricultural Credit Society can grant to its member consumption loans upto 10 per cent of the short-term loan taken by him. It has also been proposed to step up issue of jewellery loans by Cooperative Central Banks and Urban Banks from Rs. 22 crores to Rs. 30 crores during the current year. I have to say that this is not enough. When it was Rs. 22 crores last year besides cooperative societies banks and other financial institutions

which could sanction jewellery loans, there were other institutions also from whom loan could be had. Now such facilities have been curtailed. So it is very necessary that the credit facilities for the agriculturists must be increased forthwith.

The implementation of agricultural land ceiling and the speedier distribution of surplus land are an essential aspect of the Twenty Point Economic Programme. Unfortunately, that sense of urgency which the EMERGENCY demands is missing in this matter. It is regrettable that the Government have not yet finalised the necessary legislation for amending the Tamil Nadu Land Ceiling Law to be in conformity with the national guidelines. The Home Minister should look into this and expedite the process of completing the necessary legal framework in this matter. It was claimed that by the end of June, 1976 the land reforms process would be completed throughout the country. But, I wonder whether even by the end of December, 1976 land reforms would be completed in Tamil Nadu. It will not be out of place to mention here that unless something constructive is done in respect of 5 lakh acres of land belonging to the temples and religious organisations in Tamil Nadu, land reforms would remain incomplete in Tamil Nadu. Similarly, immediate steps must be taken to nullify and check the *binami* transactions that are going on in Tamil Nadu.

As was pointed out by Shri Gopal, immediately after the proclamation of President's rule in Tamil Nadu, some over-enthusiastic officers demolished thousands of huts without providing alternative accommodation to the poor people. These homeless people are even now undergoing manifold miseries. Similarly, in the matter of collection of arrears of land revenue and such other Government dues, the officers at the lower level took away the pump-sets, electric motors, bullocks, etc. from those

[Shri M. Kathamuthu]

unable to pay their dues. Sir, when the Emergency has been imposed for the sole purpose of upliftment of the downtrodden, it is ironical that the urban and the rural poor should be subjected to such harassment. The farmers are very bitter because of undue reduction in procurement prices of paddy. It is highly improper that hoarding of paddy and rice has not yet been eliminated. I have to point out that there are instances where even confiscated paddy has been returned to the hoarders.

Sir, as has been pointed out earlier, the area of cultivation under sugarcane has gone down primarily because of unremunerative prices being given to the cultivators. In consequence, many sugarcane mills have also been closed. In fact, the sugarcane industry has come to a standstill. Some concrete steps must be taken to set right this alarming situation in regard to sugar industry.

Immediately after the Proclamation of Emergency the prices of essential commodities fell. But of late, the prices of essential commodities have gone up. It can be claimed that further rise of essential commodities has been checked, but it is regrettable that the price level has not been brought down to the level that prevailed immediately after the imposition of the President's rule. For example, the price of ground-nut oil has gone up from Rs. 4.25 per kg. to Rs. 6.50 per kg. This has happened because of some arrangement with the producers permitting them to sell 50 per cent of their production at a particular price. Sir, all efforts must be made to bring down the prices of essential commodities.

Out of 15 districts in Tamil Nadu, 10 districts are afflicted by drought. You can imagine the extent of drought from the fact that Rs. 7 lakhs have been allocated to survey the wells in the districts of Madurai, Tirunelveli and Madurai just to find out water. When the Coimbatore District is getting parched, no effort is being made to

exploit the available underground water resources. It is feared that the Coimbatore district may become an arid zone if this trend continues.

I have to point out that the drought relief measures are being implemented in a conventional manner, because they are just temporary measures to tide over the present crisis. This spirit of *ad hoc* approach must go. They must become permanent measures in the interest of finding a permanent solution to the recurring drought in Tamil Nadu.

It is claimed that some talks are going on with the Andhra Pradesh Government to get Krishna water for the city of Madras. Negotiations should also be conducted with the States of Kerala and Karnataka for getting more water. All endeavours must be made to settle Cauvery Water Dispute during the President's rule. I am afraid that in the very near future one more district, Tanjavur, in Tamil Nadu may be declared drought-hit area. In the Delta area only 1.5 or 1.75 TMC water is given which is quite inadequate. It may not be a surprise if 12 lakh acres of fertile area here may be hit by drought if adequate water is not supplied immediately. I would like the Home Minister to exercise his good office in getting adequate supply of water for Tamil Nadu.

In the industrial sphere, some Textile Mills are on the verge of closure. I have to say that no steps have so far been taken either to take over the sick mills or to reopen the closed units. I am sure, Sir, that, if Tamil Nadu is afflicted by the malady of drought and the misery of sickness in industry, it will have a telling effect on the entire nation.

The Administration in Tamil Nadu has been toned up. Extensive transfers of officers and staff have taken place, besides voluntary retirements. It is unfortunate that the sins of D.M.K. Government are now to be borne by the Central Government and the people of Tamil Nadu. It is really

regrettable that there is still laxity in administration. Corruption has not yet been completely eliminated. In fact, it has gone up at the lower level. It looks as though that some elements in the administration are bent upon bringing the President's rule into disrepute. The D.M.K. Government recruited directly many high level officers and also low level officers. The Central Government must conduct a thorough probe into this and take steps to weed out the undesirable elements from the administration.

As has been pointed out by Shri Gopalan, two Advisors are not enough to implement the Twenty Point Programme throughout the State. In fact, implementation Committees should be set up at all levels. Bureaucracy alone will not make this a success. This was discussed in great detail at the last meeting of the Consultative Committee for Tamil Nadu Legislation. The administration in Tamil Nadu must be made more responsive to the needs of the people. The people's representatives must be associated with the Implementation Committees. The President's rule in Tamil Nadu must be utilised to make the people confident in their bright future.

With these words, I extend my support to the Resolution seeking to extend the President's rule in Tamil Nadu by another six months.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN (Madurai): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I rise to support the Resolution moved by the hon. Home Minister to extend the proclamation of President's Rule to Tamil Nadu for another six months. After the emergency the people of Tamil Nadu realised the necessity for a change of Government, because the emergency has given a sense of peace in the minds of the people. But it is only after the imposition of President's Rule that the benefits of the emergency were really felt by the people. Now the people feel that this kind of change of rule should have come about long ago.

The Governor and his advisers are doing their best to introduce a new system and change the administration to ensure that it is honest and efficient. I am not sure as to how far they have succeeded in their attempts. Even though they have weeded out some of the bad elements by compulsorily retiring them, some of the old bandicoots are still there, some at the higher level and a large number at the lower level. How to remove them is the first problem facing the administration.

Considering the magnitude of the problem, I join Shri Gopal in asking whether the two advisers would be able to deal with the problem and whether it would not be advisable to increase the number to four or five. Then, some advisory committees should be constituted of non-officials and experts to consider the problems that face Tamil Nadu.

Now, the 20-point programme is being implemented. Farm labourers in the villages are being given the benefit of the minimum wages fixed, Harijans are being given house sites, all these things are being done. Hence, people have begun to feel that this is their own programme and that they should participate in it.

However, unfortunately, for the last three years there has been continuous drought in the major portion of Tamil, in ten out of 15 districts. Ramnad, Madura, Tinnevely and Kanyakumari are the worst affected districts. Recently I had the opportunity of touring these districts and I was able to see the pitiable conditions there. Tanjore is known as the granary of Tamil Nadu. The first crop known as Kuruvai is generally harvested at this time of the year. I went on a tour of about 200 miles recently in that district and I found it to be barren. People from some parts of Ramnad District, where nothing ever grows, used to go to Tanjore for harvesting and come back with some grains as

[Shri R. V. Swaminathan]

their wages, but this time they are unable to get work, and they are also suffering.

The trustees or temple committees have been abolished and executive officers have been appointed for running these temples. Lakhs and lakhs of rupees are being collected by these temples, and so we should not leave their management only to the executive officers. After all, there are pious people, who have got belief in God. These temple committees should be reconstituted by appointing them.

The co-operative movement in Tamil Nadu used to be the best in the country. In 1946 Mr. Brahmananda Reddy was with us in the composite Madras State, and he knows this personally. Now this movement has become the laughing stock of the people, it has been reduced to ashes. Government has done the right thing in abolishing all these co-operative institutions, but agricultural loans have to be advanced to the people. We have liquidated rural debt, but the agriculturists are not able to get even small loans of Rs. 10 or Rs. 15. Hence, some anti-Government elements go and make propaganda about their pitiable plight. So, banks should come forward with even small loans to the farmers. The co-operative institutions should also be re-constituted. The hon. Minister can take Members of Tamil Nadu into confidence. We can make our suggestions, and he can reconstitute them and bring back the good name that Tamil Nadu once had with regard to the co-operative movement, being held out as an example even by foreign countries.

I support the Resolution.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN (Tiruttani): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, any assessment of the situation in Tamil Nadu can reveal that the Emergency

arrived several months too late in Tamil Nadu. That has made a big change. The claims that have been made by the Minister in his statement are largely borne out by facts. The booklet that has been placed before us, giving the achievements under the President's Rule in Tamil Nadu, is a very objective statement of facts. It does not make tall claims. It talks of very solid work that has been done in the State. All concerned should be congratulated on that performance. As one Adviser put it, "They may not be doing spectacular things. But they were moping fast at all levels." This is a very modest statement and they have lived true to what the statement means.

In respect of one item, namely, sinking of bore wells in the drought areas, Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya was saying that nothing has been done. Very commendable work has been done in this field. About 3,000 bore wells have been sunk in a very short time. When you recall similar drought conditions, when as much as a sum of Rs. 17 crores was given from the Centre, when the DMK was ruling in the State, it is common knowledge that most of it did not go into the pockets of the people. Whereas only a sum of Rs. 7½ crores has been granted this time most of it has gone into the pockets of the people. This is something about which we should really congratulate the Adviser's regime.

Then, abolition of debts for the poorer classes is not a small matter though we have to make alternative arrangements for providing credit for those people.

Several things that had been pointed out when the Motion for President's Rule in Tamil Nadu was taken up in the House have been remedied. About the cooperative movement, the top bodies have been rid of corruption. The abodes of gods

have been cleaned of defrauding and defiling. A decision to start the University of Science and Technology has been taken though, I find, even the supplementary estimates have not made any mention of it. I hope, action will be taken very soon in this regard.

A prominent newspaper of Madras has welcomed the extension of President's Rule in almost superlative terms. In fact, it foresees several extensions because it realises that the muddle that has been created, the dust that has been deposited by the erstwhile DMK Government is so huge that it requires a big broom to sweep it clean. And it takes time. Whatever it is, the people are happy that they have been out of the 9-year nightmare of the DMK rule and they are, once again, able to breathe the pure air in the corruption-free atmosphere.

Having said that, I would like to mention areas where action is called for or where more adequate action is called for. A mention was made about Krishna waters. A mention was made about the agreement between Tamil Nadu and Kerala with regard to rivers that flow into Kerala. But the most important, the most urgent and the most precarious situation that prevails in Tamil Nadu today is the dry barrenness of the entire Tanjore delta which feeds Tamil Nadu.

There have been less rains in the sources of Cauvery. That is admitted. Cauvery delta is the most ancient delta in the country. There has been irrigation there from the first Century—irrigation means, the river was trained and a dam was built. Such an area, about 1.5 million acres, is dry for want of water in the Cauvery. You would have seen the Piao, that is, the Water Shed, that is put up on the roadside of Delhi in summer months; the thirty pedestrian goes there and cups both his hands and the person inside the Piao pours some water into his hands and he quenches his thirst. Similarly, Karnataka is letting out water in dri-

plets, 5 TMC; again Tamil Nadu puts its begging hand and Karnataka allows another five TMC; that is not enough; again Tamil Nadu begs and another five TMC is allowed. Is that all? Are we going to beg and quench our thirst like this? Are there no lower riparian rights? Some arrangement should be made. The Ministry of Agriculture at the Centre should take it up more seriously. I am told that already one crop is out, about half a million acres on which a short crop would have been available to the State is already out; it may be too late for transplanting. Such a serious situation is facing Tamil Nadu; such an urgent and alarming situation is facing Tamil Nadu. It is high time that the Central Agriculture Ministry takes up the matter in its hands and effects some agreement between the two States and sees to it that enough water is allowed in the river Cauvery.

Mr. Dinen Bhattacharyya was saying that no proof had been placed before them about the misdeeds of the erstwhile rulers. I would like to point out that a P.A. of a former DMK Minister has been prosecuted. The court has ordered attachment of the moveable and immovable property totally valued at about Rs. 11 lakhs, believed to have been acquired by V. Krishnaswami, P.A. to the former DMK Health Minister. This is what a newspaper report says:

"An application for interim attachment was moved by the Vigilance Police under the Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance, which provides for such a step in regard to property in cases falling under scheduled offences, including corruption.

"Krishnaswami and his father Venkataswami have been charged with having amassed wealth (the former using his official position) and floated several companies and purchased property in the names of other people. The attachment covers a house in Coolai, of flat in Vepery, land in Pallipattu, four-

(Shri O. V. Alagesan)

lorries, bank deposits and moveable articles."

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA.

It has not yet been established in the court of law. That was my point.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Investigation has been going on all these months. Persons like Mr. Bhattacharyya should be convinced. Not only DMK Ministers but other dignitaries have been found to have indulged in these malpractices. Why not prosecution be launched against not only the DMK Ministers but the other dignitaries as well? Investigation has been going on, and certainly the investigating authorities should have come into possession of valuable and reliable evidence to prosecute many people. This should be done. Such of the issues that have been placed before the Sarkaria Commission need not be touched upon, but there are very many other individuals who are not covered by them. Sarkaria Commission there are many other individuals, DMK dignitaries, etc., who can be prosecuted, because, I know, the investigating authorities have not been keeping quiet. They have been proceeding very vigorously with the investigation. If such a step is taken, even sceptics like Shri Dinan Bhattacharyya will be convinced that there is a case against them. It is high time that prosecution should be launched against people who are found to be guilty as a result of investigations.

I would like to say, the other day a plea was entered in the House that the detenus should be treated fairly and that even an Advisory body should be set up so as to go into the cases, etc., etc. A concern was shown for the welfare of the detenus who are kept inside the prison. I am going to tell you an incident which shows how the authorities in Madras, in Tamil Nadu have been over-enthusiastic in meeting the grievances of the detenus.

The top DMK leaders are kept in the Madras Central Prison. I do not know what grievances they had. They put down their grievances, committed them into writing and sent it to the Adviser, not through the Superintendent of the Jail. I do not know how it was carried, how it was possible for them to send any representation.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Why not?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: ... except through the Superintendent of the Jail. I do not know. In our days, when we were there for a long time, for years and years, we were not able to do it. Then, what has been done? It is not the IG of Prisons who has been asked to inquire into the matter. Whatever the grievances, certainly they should be inquired into. But it was not the IG of Prisons but an official as high as the Home Secretary himself comes into the prison and not in the presence of the IG of Prisons or the Superintendent of the Jail—nobody was there—he holds a long talk with the DMK detenus—I am told one of the detenus claims a 12-year friendship with the Home Secretary while he was in Delhi—and then what happens? He does not go even to the Superintendent of the Jail. He goes to the Secretariat and orders the transfer of the Superintendent of the Jail and in his place he orders the transfer of another man from Trichy who is supposed to be and who is expected to be a more pliable person. This is what has happened. I do not know whether the transfer has been given effect to or whether it has been kept pending.

But you can understand the extent to which the administration has gone, to which people like me take exception, whether such an act...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Member's time is up.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I have got something more to say. ...

As usual, as a beggar before you, please give me a few minutes more.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have given you five minutes more.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I do not know whether the clock is playing tricks. . . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: . . . Or your mind is playing. You can carry on.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: This is the actual fact. So I would like to know whether such a leniency is called for. Certainly their grievances should be looked into, but I do not know whether this sort of thing is provided for in the Rules. It is for the Home Minister to look into the matter.

Then, compulsory retirement. Now, according to the Government's statement, 255 officials, both Gazetted and Non-Gazetted, have been retired and in the PWD, a notorious Department, where many things have happened, only 19 have been retired. Now, the Minister has said in his statement that compulsory retirement of officers and placement of suitable officers has been resorted to, to make the administration clean and to tone up the administration. I request him to issue instructions that this may be resorted to more and more. There are many cases of corrupt officials or inefficient officials who could be safely sent away under this provision. If this is resorted to, there would be a more wholesome administration. There has been a cut of 30 per cent in electricity which has been imposed. This was not expected. Want of rains has played its part. The electricity department which was one of the best departments in the country has gone down very much in efficiency and in its way of doing things. A civilian who was presiding over it was relieved; he has been kicked upstairs and another civilian has been put in. I would very much plead with the Government, with the authorities, with the Home Minister and those who are holding responsibility there, to see that an efficient engineer is posted there. The Home Minister

knows what wonderful things a dynamic person who heads the electricity board in his State is doing and he has taken Andhra Pradesh to great heights in the matter of more generation of electricity, providing more power stations and so on. I do agree that the generation of electricity has increased, but that is not enough. A lot has got to be done. That can be done only if a technical person is posted to the place.

Just as the life of municipalities was not extended the life of panchayat unions also should not have been extended. Unfortunately this was extended by 6 months. Now I would like to plead with the Government that the posts of chairman and Vice-Chairman of Panchayat Unions may be thrown open for election again. That is to say the same electorate may be given an opportunity to elect a new Chairman or a new Vice-Chairman as the case may be.

Mr. Kathamuthu was saying that temple lands should be taken over. It is a serious matter. Without consulting the interests concerned it would be wrong to undertake such a step. You may tighten your land ceiling laws if necessary. There are many religious institutions like mutts and so on which have been keeping the faith of the people burning all the time. To go and disturb them and say that Government will make some annual payments etc. is not at all good. It is a matter which should be gone into very deeply and I hope that no hasty action will be taken in the matter. Thank you.

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह सोखी (जमशेदपुर) :
 फाँटी स्पीकर साहब, यह जो रिजोल्यूशन लाया गया है. इसके लिये में होम मिनिस्टर साहब को बधाई देता हूँ जो 6 महीने प्रेसीडेंट रूल को तमिलनाडु में बढ़ाने के लिये है। अभी तक जितने मेरे दोस्त बोले हैं वह सब करीब करीब तमिलनाडु के ही रहने वाले हैं, और मैं दूसरे प्रदेश का रहने वाला हूँ। मैं

[सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह साखी]

तमिलनाडु के बारे में आप के सामने कुछ प्रेसिडेंट रूल और इमरजेंसी से जो अच्छे नतीजे निकले हैं वह रखना चाहता हूँ। वैसे पहले पहले तो मैं मद्रास 1960 में गया था और तब से ही दो साल या छः महीने बाद जाता ही रहता हूँ और अभी पिछले महीने विचिनापल्ली से होकर आया हूँ। मैं ने देखा है कि जहाँ पर तमिलनाडु में डी० एम० के० सरकार थी इमरजेंसी के पहले, जब मैं जून के महीने में इमरजेंसी से पहले गया था, एल० आई० सी० की इमारत माउन्ट रोड पर जली थी, उस को देखने गया था तो मैंने यहाँ लोक सभा में आ कर कहा भी था कि अगर तमिलनाडु में ला एंड आर्डर की सिचुएशन को नहीं देखा गया तो वहाँ कुछ भी हो सकता है।

ऐसा लगता था कि उस बिल्डिंग को एक योजना बना कर जलाया गया था। पिछले महीने मैंने उस बिल्डिंग को फिर देखा। उस को इतना नुकसान हुआ था कि एक साल तक उस की रिपेयरिंग पूरी नहीं हो पाई है।

इमरजेंसी लागू हुई और उस के नतीजे अच्छे निकलने ही थे। लेकिन जब वहाँ पर श्री करुणानिधि की डी० एम० के० गवर्नमेंट थी तो उस ने इमरजेंसी को पूरी तरह से लागू नहीं किया। वहाँ पर हालत दिनों-दिन बिगड़ रही थी, कार्रवाई बढ़ रही थी और एच० एम० टी० तथा दूसरी जगह काम करने वाले दूसरी स्टेट्स के लोग अपने आपको बहुत इनसिफ्युर फील करते थे। तमिलनाडु में प्रेजिडेंट्स रूल लागू होने के बाद वे लोग कहते हैं कि अब उन को कोई दिक्कत नहीं है।

1973 में पार्लियामेंट की जायंट कमेटी ग्रान माइन्ड सेफ्टी के साथ मैं मद्रास गया था। तमिलनाडु गवर्नमेंट ने पार्लियामेंट की कमेटी और तीस एम० पीज० के लिए कोई कर्टसी नहीं दिखाई। हमें कमेटी की

मीटिंग के लिए कोई कमरा नहीं दिया गया। जिस एम० एल० एज० होस्टल में हमें ठहराया गया था, कमेटी की पहली मीटिंग उस होस्टल के डाईनिंग हाल में छोटे छोटे फ्रॉलिंग टेबल्स को जोड़ कर की गई। महाराष्ट्र वगैरह दूसरी स्टेट्स में, नान कांग्रेस स्टेट्स में भी हम लोग गये और वहाँ हमारे साथ बड़ा अच्छा व्यवहार किया गया। लेकिन ये लोग सेंटर की बिल्कुल उपेक्षा करते थे और ऐसा लगता था कि उन की योजना हिन्दुस्तान के टुकड़े-टुकड़े करने की थी। उस वक्त कोई हिन्दी बोलना तो क्या सुनना भी परमन्द नहीं करता था। हम लोग महसूस करते थे कि हम लोग अपने ही देश में फारेनर्ज हैं। डी० एम० के० गवर्नमेंट ने एक ऐसा एट्मास्फियर बना रखा था, जिस में दूसरी स्टेट्स के लोगों को बड़ी तकलीफ होती थी। जब हमारी कमेटी के चेयरमैन ने तमिलनाडु के गवर्नर, श्री के० के० शाह, को एप्रोच किया, तो दूसरी मीटिंग के लिए हमें एसेम्बली हाल में कमरा मिला।

मैं आप को अपना एक एक्सपीरियंस बताता हूँ। पिछले महीने मैं मद्रास से तिरुचिचिरापल्ली जा रहा था। कुछ लोकल बिजिनेसमैन और दूसरे लोग उस ट्रेन में सफर कर रहे थे। मेरे पूछने पर उन्होंने बताया कि इमरजेंसी और प्रेजिडेंट्स रूल को कम से कम दो चार साल जारी रखा जाये, क्योंकि इस की वजह से काम बहुत अच्छी तरह चल रहा है।

मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से कहूंगा कि हमारे देश में डेमोक्रेसी है, हमारे यहाँ पब्लिक की सेवा के लिए गवर्नमेंट है और पब्लिक का गवर्नमेंट है। जब तमिलनाडु की पब्लिक चाहती है कि प्रेजिडेंट्स रूल वहाँ पर जारी रखा जाये, तो फिर इस को सिर्फ छः महीने नहीं, बल्कि और आगे बढ़ाना पड़ेगा।

क्योंकि वह वहाँ के लोगों की मांग है और इस के साथ-साथ तो मिनिस्ट्री के बारे में बताया है या जो एक नया सवाल वहाँ पैदा हुआ था पार्लियामेंट में कर्प्पाच को लेकर करण्ट करुणानिधि, ऐन्त कुछ करन्ट में लिखा था, यह कर्प्पाच नया सवाल सरकारिया कमीशन के सामने पेण हो रहा है। मेरा निवेदन है कि सरकारिया कमीशन की फाईंडिंग्स का राज्यायं तो सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को चाहिए कि सीनिएसो बिलकन न बरतै, उन लोगों के खिलाफ कड़ी से कड़ी कार्यवाही करे, उन को जेल भेजे और जेल की सजा भुगतने दे। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री हरी सिंह (खुर्जा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, तमिलनाडु की जनता की भावनाओं को परखने के बाद, वहाँ के शासन में जो परिवर्तन आए और वहाँ की जनता ने उस से जो एक राहत की सांस ली है, इन सब बातों को परखने के बाद हमारे गृह मंत्री जी जो यह प्रस्ताव लाए हैं कि वहाँ पर राष्ट्रपति जी का शासन 6 महीने के लिए और बढ़ा दिया जाय मैं इस प्रस्ताव का स्वागत करता हूँ और आप का ध्यान इस ओर खींचना चाहता हूँ कि तमिलनाडु में अगर आप बारीकी से अध्ययन करें तो डी एम के की हुकूमत वहाँ बनने के तीन मुद्दे थे—तमिल कल्चर, तमिल लैंग्वेज और सेपरेट टमिल स्टेट। तमिलनाडु पार्टी के निर्माण और उस के शासन की भावना को अगर गौर से देखें तो मालूम होगा कि भारत की एकता के लिए सब से खतरनाक यह पार्टी रही और इस पार्टी की हुकूमत मुल्क को बांटने वाली, बंटवारा लाने वाली पार्टी को हुकूमत थी।

तमिलनाडु के अन्दर विसी प्रकार का शासन नहीं रह गया था और सारे तमिलनाडु में जो डी एम के के हार्ड बवायल्ड वर्कर थे जो पार्टी का काम करते थे वे सरकारी

पैसे पर दफ्तरों में जुटे हुए वे और वहाँ की पुलिस के कर्मचारी, कांस्टेबल और दूसरे लोग बिल्कुल पक्षपातपूर्ण हो गए थे। उन के हाथों जनता को इंसाफ नहीं मिलता था। कोई शिकायत आम जनता लेकर जाय तो पुलिस वाले देखते थे कि यह किस पार्टी से ताल्लुक रखने वाला है। राजा को या शासन को पक्षपात की नजर नहीं रखनी चाहिए लेकिन वहाँ यह स्थिति थी। यही नहीं, आप देखें कि हिन्दुस्तान में जहाँ योजनाओं के द्वारा मुल्क के हर हिस्से में तरक्की हुई, वहाँ योजनाओं को तमिलनाडु में इतनी बुरी तरह से काम में लाया गया कि जो तमिलनाडु एक अच्छी स्टेट थी, जो आगे और तरक्की में जा सकती थी वह पीछे जाने लगी। वहाँ भ्रष्टाचार सारे सूबे में छा गया था। मैं एक वाक्य में यहाँ कहना चाहूँगा कि तमिलनाडु में 51 तो ट्रेप डाले गए और करीब 70 रैड किए गए पिछले 6 महीनों में जिस में 86 अधिकारियों के ऊपर जो गजटेंड हैं जांच चल रही है और 175 नान-गजटेंड और गजटेंड अधिकारियों को कम्प्लेसरी तौर पर रिटायर कर दिया गया। सारे सूबे में भ्रष्टाचार का बोलबाला था। डी एम के पार्टी के मिनिस्टर क्या, डी एम के पार्टी के अध्यक्ष क्या, एम एल ए क्या और यही नहीं बीच में जो जिला स्तर के डी एम के के पदाधिकारी थे सब किसी न किसी तरह से भ्रष्टाचार में फंसे हुए थे, कुनबापरस्ती नेप्पोटिज्म यही उनका काम रह गया था। और तो और, कुछ ऐसे पदों को वहाँ पैट्रोनाइज कर दिया गया था जिस से उनको बराबर पैसा मिलता रहे।

राष्ट्रपति जी का शासन वहाँ आया तो वहाँ की जनता ने राहत की सांस ली। वहाँ पर फूड सिचुएशन बहुत खराब हो गई थी। राष्ट्रपति शासन आने के बाद वहाँ भोजन की बहुत अच्छी व्यवस्था हुई, चावल और दूसरे अनाजों का मिलना शुरू हुआ। यही नहीं, खूबों में जो एक स्टोक होना चाहिए

श्री हरी सिंह

चावल और दूसरे अनाजों का पिछले दिनों की ओर नजर डालें तो वहां पर यह स्टाक नहीं के बराबर था। राष्ट्रपति शासन आने के बाद सारे राज्य में 1.5 लाख टन चावल इकट्ठा किया गया और इस प्रकार वहां फ़ूड सिन्ड्रोशन को कंट्रोल में लाया गया। तमिलनाडु में डी एम के के शासन काल में कीमतेँ आसमान छू रही थीं। जब सारे देश में इन्फ़्लेशन कम हो रहा था, तमिलनाडु में यह बीमारी बढ़ रही थी। राष्ट्रपति के शासन में वहां पर मंहगाई 30-40 प्रतिशत कम हुई है। सारे प्रदेश में आम ज़रूरत की चीजें सस्ती हुई हैं। राष्ट्रपति शासन की यह उपलब्धि काबिले तारीफ़ है।

15 hrs.

यदि हम ग्रामीण इलाकों की तरफ़ नजर डालें तो वहां पर जो छोटे छोटे किसान और मजदूर थे जिनकी सालाना आमदनी 2400 रुपए से ज्यादा नहीं थी उनके कर्जों को माफ़ कर दिया गया है। बीस सूत्री कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत जहां सारे देश की तस्वीर बदल रही थी, तमिलनाडु में उसका कोई प्रभाव नहीं था बल्कि तमिलनाडु में जो सरकारी कर्मचारी थे, पत्रकार और दूसरी सरकारी एजेंसीज थीं वे तरह तरह की बातें छाप कर केन्द्रीय शासन की तस्वीर बिगाड़ रही थीं। योजना के सम्बन्ध में जैसा मैंने कहा 1976-77 के लिए वार्षिक योजना में 170 करोड़ का प्रावधान किया गया था लेकिन राष्ट्रपति शासन आने के बाद 201 करोड़ की योजना बनाई गई। तमिलनाडु में डी एम के की सरकार नान-प्लान्ड एक्सपेंडीचर पर रुपया लगाकर निजी आदमियों को फ़ायदा पहुंचा रही थी लेकिन राष्ट्रपति के शासन में उनको रोका गया जिसके कारण बहुत सारी उपलब्धियाँ प्राप्त हुईं। जैसे तमिलनाडु में सूखा पड़ गया था जिससे त्राहि त्राहि मच गई थी लेकिन केन्द्रीय सरकार ने बड़ी सूझ-बूझ के साथ और

हिम्मत के साथ साधन जुटाकर उस पर कन्द्रीय किया। डाउट के कारण मद्रास में नहाने के लिए पानी नहीं था, पीने के लिए पानी नहीं था और बिजली की सप्लाई ठीक नहीं थी लेकिन वहां पर बिजली का उत्पादन बढ़ाया गया। वहां जो लाखों रुपए की बकाया चली आ रही थी, लोग दे नहीं रहे थे उसकी पर्याप्त रिकवरी की गई। जिन लोगों पर काफ़ी इनराशि बकाया थी उनसे उसकी वसुली की गई। इस प्रकार से जो आमदनी बढ़ाई गई वह काबिले तारीफ़ है। इस प्रकार वहां राष्ट्रपति का शासन प्रशंसनीय रहा है। राष्ट्रपति शासन के द्वारा वहां पर डिसिप्लिन कायम हुआ है, क्राइम्स में काफ़ी कमी आई है। इसके साथ साथ उस प्रदेश में ऐसा वातावरण बना है उसका ट्रेन्ड उत्थान की तरफ़ है, सेल्फ़ सफ़ीशिएन्सी की तरफ़ है। वहां पर राष्ट्रपति शासन की अवधि बढ़ाई जाये—यह वहां की जनता की मांग है। इसके द्वारा वहां पर नेशनल इन्टिग्रेशन को अधिक बल मिलेगा। इन अलफ़ाज के साथ मैं इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI ANNASAHB GOTKHINDE (Sangli): Sir, while supporting the Resolution seeking extension of President's rule in Tamilnadu, I want to highlight only one point. Our Prime Minister had assured in her speech that drinking water needs of Madras city would be looked into and solved in the near future. With the intervention of our Agriculture and Irrigation Minister, an inter-state agreement between three states to supply 15 TMC of Krishna water to Madras had been arrived at and it has come as a boon to the long suffering citizens of Madras city. The agreement has been acclaimed as an encouraging arrangement for regional co-operation.

Maharashtra, which has the second lowest irrigation average throughout the country, has agreed with a brotherly feeling to supply 5 TMC out of its

share in the Krishna water allocation, to relieve the drinking water scarcity in Madras City. The Home Minister has claimed that special emphasis is being laid on providing a clean and efficient administration in the State. I want to know what urgent steps are being taken to draw the requisite quantity of Krishna water and convey the same to Madras City so as to relieve the acute drinking water scarcity there.

DR. HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam):
 Sir, I support the statutory resolution moved by the hon. Home Minister. When President's rule was imposed in Tamilnadu, the country rejoiced because for over nine years, the situation obtaining there, from the point of view of national integration, was an aberration. That situation was more or less rectified as testified to by the Home Ministry pamphlet. The government was able to take steps which at least partially satisfied the expectations of the people. As a member of the consultative committee on Tamilnadu, I was able to realise what a tough assignment the present Advisers have and how they have been able to tackle the situation fairly satisfactorily. Now that we are seeking extension of President's rule for another six months, while appreciating the good work already done to restore normalcy, I suggest that steps may be initiated to involve the people at various levels through the committee system. Of course, the MPs' consultative committee is there. As a tried statesman and administrator, the Home Minister knows that Tamilnadu was one of the best administered States. So, in tune with the aspirations of the people, we can constitute some committees wherever possible.

Our first thought centres round the very distressing drought situation there. 10 out of 15 districts have been affected. How is it that it is not possible for the government to have an integrated water resources policy. Although Kerala is known for its

water resources, the so-called competent people say that it is not adequate enough. Andhra has some water resources and so has Karnataka. Can we not have an integrated water resources policy so that water can be equitably distributed to the southern States including Pondicherry? The government should bestow its attention on this. I am glad the Chief Ministers of the southern States are coming here to discuss the Cauvery dispute. Along with that, the other water systems also can be discussed and attempts made to have an integrated policy, so that one will not hear complaints about riparian rights and all that. This should be attended to as early as possible.

During the nine years of DMK misrule in Tamilnadu, the minorities, both religious and linguistic, did not have a fair deal. The nefarious and notorious incidents that took place at the famous Vellore Medical College and Hospital are well known. Then a lot of noise was made about the Vellore Hospital both inside and outside Parliament. Now, after the imposition of President's Rule, much has been done to rectify the situation. In fact, the Golden Jubilee was celebrated with great eclat all over the country, particularly in South India. Our Prime Minister herself went there and other leaders like Shri Brahmananda Reddi also went there. I am told that a number of cases were registered against the hospital authorities and eminent doctors for vindictive purposes and they are still pending against them. The hon. Home Minister may kindly look into them and see what steps could be taken to remedy the situation.

Then I come to linguistic minorities. The DMK loudly proclaimed the establishment of Dravidasthan and the worse sufferers were the linguistic minorities like the Telugu-speaking people and, worse still, the Malayalees, with whom the Tamilians have great emotional and racial attachment and affinity. Of course, now there is a

[Dr. Henry Austin]

sense of relief among the linguistic minorities. Still, many cases are pending against people of different linguistic origin vindictively foisted against them by the DMK Government. This may be examined so that only when there are genuine cases they are proceeded against. This matter may be looked into, because many cases have been launched for party purposes and for ulterior considerations.

Another point I want to high-light is the deplorable situation of the people living in the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu. Since the drought situation has affected Tamil Nadu, one particular area which can give relief and help the people from starving is fisheries by further exploitation of the marine resources. Tamil Nadu has recently made much headway in the exploitation of marine resources and from Kerala a number of exporters have migrated to Tamil Nadu and started export of shrimp, lobsters and other sea products. But the fishermen in the sea coast are living a miserable life. Now that the co-operative societies have been dissolved, new co-operatives manned by honest men should be formed in order to alleviate the sufferings of the people. A blue revolution should be launched. In fact, it has already been inaugurated with mechanised fishing in Tamil Nadu. This will provide nutritious food for Tamil Nadu and will also add to the wealth of the country in terms of foreign exchange.

Now the cashew industry has been migrating from Kerala to Tamil Nadu, largely because the Kerala Government has fixed a minimum wage and also because of the higher incidence of sales tax. So, this should be taken advantage of by encouraging those people who are going there, and this industry may be helped. Along with it, cashew plantation can be thought of. Because of competition from China, a lot of difficulties have arisen for us in Tanzania and other countries from where we are importing our cashew requirements. So, we have to go in a

big way for plantation of cashew in Tamil Nadu, whose climate and topography are favourable to this industry. I hope the Government will take necessary steps in this regard.

I support the extension of President's Rule by another six months. I am sure that this extension will further help the Home Ministry to consolidate and stabilise the situation. Our Home Minister's personal interest in Tamil Nadu as seen by his frequent visits to the State will help to stabilise the political and administrative set-up in the State.

श्री स्वामी ब्रह्मानन्द जी (हमीरपुर):
 उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं, तमिलनाडु में राष्ट्र-पति शासन की अवधि बढ़ाने के बारे में जो बिल रखा गया है उसका समर्थन करता हूँ। यहां पर कुछ विरोधी दल वालों की तरफ से कुछ ऐसी बातें कही गई हैं जिन के बारे में मेरे लिए कुछ कहना आवश्यक हो गया है। उन्होंने कहा है कि मीना में जो लोग पकड़े गए हैं उन पर बहुत जुल्म हुआ है। मालूम होता है कि इन सज्जनों ने इतिहास नहीं पढ़ा है और अगर पढ़ा होता तो अंग्रेजों की इन्होंने प्रशंसा न की होती। हम लोग 1921 से अंग्रेजों से लड़ने रहे हैं। हमने देखा है कि अंग्रेजों ने मितने जुल्म किए हैं। ज़िन्दे ने जल अन्दान दिया था और उनकी मृत्यु हो गई थी उसने बाद अंग्रेजों ने चन्द लोगों को ए और बी क्लास दी और बाकियों को सी क्लास में ही रखा। तरहर-तरह का दमन चक्र उन्होंने हमारे खिलाफ चलाया था। मालूम होता है कि जो सज्जन बोल रहे थे उनको इतिहास ही मालूम नहीं है। अब हमारे यहां जिन लोगों को मीना में बन्द किया गया है और जो राजनीति दलों के लोग हैं और फिर चाहे वे सामूली आदमी ही क्यों न हों उनको बौद्धरूपया हो खाने को दिया जा रहा है और आगम से उनको रखा हुआ है। वहीं कोई बात नहीं हो रही है। लोग कहते हैं कि जमीन नहीं बटो। मैं आप को

एक ऐतिहासिक बात बताऊं कि भगवान कृष्ण दुर्योधन के यहां गये और कहा कि पांडवों को 5 गांव दे दीजिये। तो दुर्योधन कहता है कि बिना युद्ध के तो सुई की नौक के बराबर भी जमीन नहीं दूंगा। परन्तु हमारी सरकार ने बिना किसी खून खराबे के इतनी जमीन निकाल कर बांटी है कि उस जमीन को मिला कर एक सूबा बन सकता है, पांच गांव तो बहुत छोटे होते हैं। इसलिये व्यर्थ की बातें नहीं कहनी चाहियें।

हम मानते हैं कि दोष हैं, और उन को हम छिपाते नहीं है। भगवान कृष्ण जब दारिका में राज्य करते थे तो उन के मित्र सुदामा फटी घाती के छोर में चावल बांध कर ले गये थे। जब कृष्ण ने देखा कि मेरा मित्र भूखा मर रहा है तो उस के लिये मकान भी बनवा दिया, खाने पीने का भी पूरा इंतजाम कर दिया। परन्तु हमारी सरकार ने तो लाखों आदिमियों के मकान बनवा दिये, और भी इंतजाम किया। हम इतने में संतुष्ट नहीं हैं, और भी लोगों के कल्याण के काम करना चाहते हैं। हमारी प्रधान मंत्री चाहती हैं कि प्रत्येक गरीब को भोजन मिले, दवाई मिले, गरीब और अमीर को खाई पट जाये।

कुछ दोष भी हैं और वह यह है कि चुने हुए आदमी को कोई अधिकार नहीं है, अधिकारी लोगों की ही हकूमत है। हमारे मंत्रीगण अधिकारियों को फाइनों पर दस्तबत डी करते हैं। इस में बेचारे मंत्रियों का भी दोष नहीं है क्यों कि विधान ही ऐसा है। इस को बदलना चाहिये।

हमारी प्रधान मंत्री ने वह काम किया है श्री ऋषि दयानन्द ने हरिजनों के प्रति छुआछूत हटाने के बारे में किया था। उन्होंने छुआछूत की खिलाफत की, बाद में महात्मा गांधी ने उसी काम को किया और श्रीमती

इंदिरा गांधी भी उस काम में लगी हुई हैं। जैसे भगवान राम ने सबरी के बर खाये इस छुआछूत को मिटाने के लिये, युधिष्ठिर ने सुपच के यहां खिचड़ी खाई, परन्तु हमारी प्रधान मंत्री ने छुआछूत मिटाने के लिये जो काम किया वह और कोई नहीं कर सका। अगर ऋषि दयानन्द के हाथ में डंडा होता तो सम्भव है वह भी छुआछूत को दूर कर देते। हमारी प्रधान मंत्री के हाथ में डंडा है इसीलिये वह छुआछूत दहेज आदि बुराइयों को दूर कर रही है। पता नहीं यह बातें लोगों को क्यों नहीं दिखाई देती हैं।

यह ठीक है कि चुने हुए आदिमियों को कुछ अधिकार होने चाहियें। लेकिन आज स्थिति यह है कि एम० पी०, मिनिस्टर को एक दरोगा के बराबर भी अधिकार नहीं है। अधिकारियों का भ्रष्टाचार बढ़ा है। विधान ऐसा है कि राष्ट्रपति किसी आदमी को अपराधी कर के रखना चाहे तो नहीं रख सकता। यह दोष हमारे विधान का है। इस को हमें जल्दी से जल्दी बदलना चाहिये। विधान को बदल कर हमें सही प्रजातन्त्र कायम करना है। मेरे ख्याल में कोई जरूरत नहीं है हाई कोर्ट और सुप्रीम कोर्ट की। जो ग्राम पंचायतें हैं उन को न्याय करने का अधिकार होना चाहिये।

आज हमारी हकूमत पूंजीपतियों को खरम कर रही है और खामकर पूंजीपतियों के ऐसे तत्व को जो प्रधान मंत्री को हटाना चाहते थे। अगर मैं हकूमत में होता तो लाइन में खड़ा कर के ऐसे देशद्रोहियों को गोली से उड़ा देता। लोग प्रधान मंत्री के बारे में गलत बातें कहते हैं। मैं कहता हूँ कि हमारी प्रधान मंत्री इस देश की ही नहीं बल्कि सारे विश्व की नेता हैं।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Home Minister.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: On a point of order, Sir. The time allotted for this Resolution is 3 hours. We have got a lot of time. Are you going to give 40 minutes to the Minister?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: You choked us and you seem to be finishing the debate before the allotted time of 3 hours. It is rather unfair.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It does not matter. I do not have any other name in my list. So, I am calling the Home Minister.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We wanted to say several things. You choked us. You are now finishing the debate before the allotted time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not the way to behave in the House. I gave you 20 minutes whereas I had rationed 10 minutes each for other speakers. I did not know that some of them would be taking much less than that. In spite of the fact that you got double the time I gave to others, you are making an issue. Does this become of a senior Member like you? I do not like this.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I am sorry that this should be the way in which you regulate the debates.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please; kindly sit down.

The Home Minister.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to all the hon. Members who have participated in this debate on the Resolution. I have listened to the critical remarks made by certain hon. Members and also to the valuable support given by many other hon. Members.

When the Resolution, for the first time, came before this House, after the Assembly was dissolved and the then Government of Tamil Nadu was dismissed, this House had fully debated the reasons as to why recourse to such an action had to be taken. It has been fully discussed and debated and several friends on this floor have expressed that by taking an action of this kind, the Prime Minister has conferred a benefit on the people of Tamil Nadu. In fact, the people of Tamil Nadu are said to have heaved a sigh of relief at the dismissal of the DMK Government. I do not want to go into all that again. But I can tell you that there was a feeling amongst several people in Tamil Nadu and elsewhere that this action of the Central Government had been delayed for quite a long time.

As has been also voiced today, according to them, they feel that the Emergency in Tamil Nadu had come only a few months ago, about 5 or 6 months ago, not as it had come to the rest of the country, about 14 or 15 months ago, the reason being that the implementation of the national programme, particularly the 20-point programme, had begun in right earnest only subsequent to the imposition of the President's Rule in Tamil Nadu. There was not only no implementation of the 20-point programme before but at certain times we heard about some ridicule of the 20-point programme by the then DMK Government.

Several points have been mentioned by hon. Members. I am thankful to them for the support that they have given and also for the support that they have given to the administration and the Advisers particularly in the State. The administration has been toned up, and if I may claim, in these six months or so, there has been a qualitative change in the administration. There is no denying that fact. The amount of political corruption that was witnessed before is, I suppose absent. There may be corruption in the lower official

but that has to be met in a different way, and that is also being tackled to the best of our ability.

Hon. friends have pleaded for the association of non-officials. You may be aware that we have a Consultative Committee on Tamil Nadu Legislation, which consists of about 60 Members of Parliament—probably, the biggest body—and about half of them, at any rate forty per cent of them, belong to Tamil Nadu; they bestow a lot of attention on not only legislative matters but all administrative matters. In fact, after the imposition of the President's rule, this Committee has met twice, and recently when we met on 1st August or so, we sat for two days and discussed many items of consequence to the Tamil Nadu administration; in fact, many hon. Members took part in that—not only have they elicited information on several aspects but they have also made their own suggestions—where the Advisers were present, where the other officers of the Tamil Nadu Government were present. So, what I wish to submit to the House is that there can be no more effective body than this. In addition, several non-official, leading Members of Tamil Nadu go and meet the Governor and try to speak to him on many matters of concern; they also meet the Advisers. If I may claim, the Advisers every day try to meet as many non-officials as possible to know the currents and cross-currents in public opinion and to keep themselves in tune with the relevant public opinion. In addition, as I have mentioned in the Consultative Committee also, the Governor was thinking of associating non-officials at the district level, in the district administration, and I suppose, hon. Members and even other public leaders will be able to associate themselves with the District Committees and give their valuable suggestions and support in the implementation of not only the 20-Point Programme but also, generally, in meeting the drought, particularly in the general administration of the State....

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Would the hon. Minister throw some light on the

composition of this Committee, whether the non-official element would be predominant or the official element would be predominant, how it will function and all that?

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: I am not able to say just now, but certainly the non-official element will be there; there is no doubt; and it will be in sufficient strength to make its position felt, to make an impact on the Committee.

SHRI G. BHUVARAHAN (Mettur): What about Chairman? Official or non-official?

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: It can be either.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Would you like a Minister to come all the way to preside over these Committees?

15.30 hrs.

[SHRI P. PARTHASARATHY in the Chair]

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: Hon. Members have expressed concern about the Cauvery water and the situation in the Thanjavur area which receives that water. I must, at the outset, thank the Government of Karnataka for trying to meet the needs of Tamil Nadu, at least partially, by releasing some water. To that extent I can pay my thanks. But it is very important and necessary, in my opinion and personally speaking, that the regulation of inter-State waters is made by the Central Government. I am not going into the details of the dispute between the Karnataka Government and the Madras Government. I am not fully aware of the old history of the case, but I want to say this only, namely, that with regard to the regulation and particularly, with regard to the quantum—certainly, I suppose I do not know the quantum or the regulation thereof—if it is in the hands of the Central Government, probably, it may give better satisfaction to

[Shri K. Brahmananda Reddy]

the concerned States. But, as you know several hon. Members who have been here and outside have been trying to plead that these inter-State river should be in the Central List and I do not know what steps are being taken to bring it into the Union List. Sir, I also come from a State which is on the sea coast and, therefore, we sometimes experience this kind of difficulty and more so, there is a possibility of these difficulties becoming more and more troublesome and more and more difficult, leading to more and more irrigation between States and States in the future when several reservoirs are built up by the States concerned. Therefore, though I wish to express my thanks to the Karnataka Government for having done something. I am sure they will be able to do something more also. After all, even the Tanjavur crop is as much a national asset as any other. Therefore, I hope they will be able to take the needs of Tamil Nadu, particularly which they have been used to for ages into consideration and afford the necessary relief. And I would also advise the Governor and the Advisers of the Tamil Nadu Government to be in constant touch with the Karnataka Government for seeing to it that the necessary releases are made pending a final settlement of the question.

One other important matter that has been raised is about the Krishna waters. It is true of course, thanks to the Prime Minister who has announced it at Madras on the 15th February, 1976 regarding the consent of the three States of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, to release 15 TMC of water to Madras for drinking purposes. As you may know, while hon. Shri Alagesan was in the Central Council of Ministers and he was also a Minister for Irrigation and Power, I think, at that time and he was the colleague of Mr. Hafiz Mohd Ibrahim, even then it was mentioned...

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Award.

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: I would not call it an award....

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Something like an award.

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: Something akin to an award but not an award practically....

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Not a legal award but a political award.

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: Political award, say so, but not having the legal complications of an award, a temporary political settlement wherein it was mentioned that 15 TMC of water should be given to Tamil Nadu for drinking purposes from these three States. Now, taking this water to Tamil Nadu is not that easy a proposition. Therefore, the officers of Tamil Nadu Government, Andhra Pradesh Government and other concerned Governments are meeting to settle how it is to be taken. I do not know and I am just saying off-hand and subject to correction, that if Krishna water is to be taken, it must be taken only from the Sri Sailam Dam. Krishna water at Sri Sailam must be put into Tamil Nadu and a dam built up at Somasila so as to enable the Tamil Nadu Government to take water either through a pipe or an open canal as they please. It is an urgent matter, and, of course, and I suppose all the three Governments concerned would expedite the consideration and disposal of the matter and take effective steps to start some work on this project.

SHRI ANNASAHEB GOTKHINDE: Are these works to be executed by Tamilnadu government or by the three States?

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: So far a Maharashtra and Karnataka are concerned, they have to give their consent to give so much of water. Only that is necessary. Beyond that nothing much is necessary. The

only other Government with whom they have to discuss with engineers etc. is that of Andhra Pradesh Government.

There was a difficult drought situation in Tamil Nadu, particularly the southernmost districts of Ramanathapuram, Tirumelveli and parts of Madurai. These areas have been very adversely affected. The State Government is doing its best to afford necessary relief to the people in their distress. The Central Government has also gone to the assistance of the State Government financially. They sent out a team and after they submitted a report, Rs. 7.5 crores were sanctioned and I have also given in the booklet the various steps taken to sink borewells etc. and also afford employment to those people who are wanting employment. In addition to what the Central Government is doing the State Government themselves from their own resources have been able to spend about Rs. 9 crores towards meeting the drought situation. I am expecting in the next two or three weeks a central team to go to these areas and assess the situation and make report to the Centre and on receipt of such a report, necessary speedy action will be taken. As I have said more than once, it is the Government of India's desire to see that money is not a constraint in meeting the drought situation in Tamil Nadu. Therefore, I can assure hon. Members that whatever is possible will definitely be done to afford the necessary relief.

I wish to thank other hon. Members particularly friends coming from other States like Kerala, Maharashtra and Mr. Swaran Singh Sokhi etc. Mr. Swaran Singh Sokhi made observation about the general feeling that they feel that President's rule is a boon to the State of Tamil Nadu and they want it to continue for a much longer time. I am not express-

ing any opinion on that but I wish to say that there is intensity of feeling which in general people of Tamil Nadu have for the continuance of the President's rule.

I wish to refer to one other matter, namely, about the temple lands which Mr. Alagesan has mentioned. It is true that Mr. Kathamuthu mentioned about it. It is just possible that there can be two views about this matter. But looking back at our civilisation at the feelings which people have on these matters, it is necessary not to rush through matters like these but to examine the question in detail.

You know several bigger people have also expressed themselves on this—I do not want to go into detail. While affording relief to the tenants who are on the land, so far as tenure is concerned, it becomes necessary to protect the ageold temples which have got an all-India reputation etc. and to see how best they survive. In that connection, I would wish to say that the Tamil Nadu Administration must be able to take into consideration the feelings of several sections of the people there. I do not express an opinion now. I do not know if it is a subject which is to be left to a future elected popular Government for their opinion. I am not expressing an opinion. It is a matter where emotions of people are vitally involved and therefore, I would wish to say that this is a matter which the Tamil Nadu Administration may feel advised to examine from all points of view.

Another suggestion has been made by my hon. friend, Shri Alagesan regarding the election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Panchayat Unions. I can just now say only that this is a suggestion worth some further consideration. Certainly, the implications of it will be considered and action taken.

[Shri K. Brahmananda Reddy]

My friend, Dr. Austin has told us about the treatment given to the minorities previously in the previous Tamil Nadu Administration. I do not think the Tamil Nadu Administration under the President's Rule will do anything of that kind. I hope they will be generous to the minorities like the Telugu, Malayalee as also the Kannadigas and does anything to their advantage. Every State, each State, has its minority and I suppose that in matters relating to education etc., the Tamil Nadu Administration will be quite generous not to offend the feelings of those minorities. In fact, any State in India should think twice before doing anything which adversely affects the linguistic minorities or religious minorities by the treatment meted out to them. I have nothing more to say.

SHRI G. BHUVARAHAN: Everybody is a minority at some place or other.

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: For instance, in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, the minorities have to be treated very generously. It is a question of continuous protection so as to give them the confidence. There are other matters but I do not want to go into details. Several steps have been taken in regard to the promotion of handloom industry to which my hon. friend, Shri Bhattacharyya made a reference. You will kindly refer to the booklet, page 35. I am not going to read it. You will see from there what has been done, how many bonded labour have been freed and how many housesites have been given. If I may make an offhand statement, about 60,000 housesites have been given and about 2,500 bonded labour have been freed and a lot of development in handloom industry had taken place. Therefore, I would request my hon. friend, Shri Bhattacharyya not to always project his party point of view.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: No question of party of view, I

mentioned about the master weavers and asked whether they are controlling 20 per cent of the looms.

SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY: It is unfortunate that the hydel reservoirs in Tamil Nadu are in the condition in which they are now. I will just read out one sentence:

"The storage in hydel reservoirs is inadequate. The present availability is a mere 444 MU compared to 1887 MU which was available in the corresponding period last year".

So that the storage is hardly one fourth of what it was in the corresponding period last year. Therefore, there is a difficult situation so far as the storage facilities are concerned and naturally it affects power generation. Therefore, the cut that was imposed may have to be continued for some more time until the reservoirs get refilled.

I wish to express my thanks to there members who have participated and have shown interest in the administration of Tamil Nadu. I hope they will continue to keep alive their interest in Tamil Nadu, Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"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".

The Resolution was adopted.