

take your seat. I have taken note of your feelings. I am going to allow you to say whatever you want to say. In Orissa, I am told that, flood situation is serious. They want to raise it. After that I will allow you. Now Shri Rabi Ray.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapara) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to inform you that seven out of the thirteen districts of Orissa are in the grip of an unprecedented flood. Army has been deployed there to mitigate the sufferings but we had to undergo sufferings. I blame the Government for late deployment of the army by two days and on account of this the woes of the people increased. Through you I want to inform the Government that 15 to 20 lakh hectares of land is submerged under water and you can well imagine the gravity of the situation. I also wish to tell you that fifteen to twenty people have lost their lives till date. I urge that the Prime Minister should immediately pay a visit to that area and assess the situation since sixty lakh people are affected. Fotedar Saheb was here a little while ago but he has left. Cholera has spread in that area. The action State Government is going to take in this regard is still not known. But the Central Government should immediately send emergency medical relief to that place. Till date thirty eight thousand tonnes of foodgrains have allocated to Government of Orissa by the Central Government under the public distribution system. Keeping in view the current situation in the state I urge that this should be increased to sixty thousand tonnes immediately. Rice is also not available there. Sixty

lakh people are affected by the floods and seven districts have been hit hard. You can very well imagine the situation where fifteen to twenty lakh hectares of land is inundated.

A year back when Orissa was in the grip of devastating flood, the State Government had made a demand of hundred crore rupees but nothing was given. I think the State Government is going to submit a memorandum in this regard. As per my estimate the loss was to the tune of at least five hundred crore rupees.

[*English*]

The Central Government does not assist the State Government in a big way.

[*Translation*]

The State Government will not be ask to do anything. Lakhs of people are involved in it. Through you, I request that the Prime Minister should go there and take stock of the situation. The most important thing is that people do not die of cholera. The Central Government should send doctors there.

[*English*]

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this time the floods in Orissa are unprecedented. Seven days back there was a flood. The floods have destroyed the whole coastal areas. Because the Chief Minister ordered the stopping of the flow of water from Hirakud Cuttack town could be saved. People are still on the tree tops and the State Government has not been able to reach them. Of course, the State

Government requested the Army to help; but the Army came late. Still there are many areas where it has not been possible to reach the people. So under these circumstances, an epidemic has come in a big way and the State Government is not in a position,—in fact no State Government can be in a position—to meet such a situation. I, therefore, on my behalf, requested the Prime Minister by telephone to immediately visit Orissa because seeing the situation it only will give a proper impression to the Central Government. It is the worst human tragedy that has taken place.

I, therefore, urge the Leader of the House to make a statement immediately here, about whatever demands that have been made by Shri Rabi Ray and also about the Prime Minister's immediate visit and also granting of additional help of medicine and food to the State Government which are required immediately. Otherwise there will be thousands of deaths and the people will not be rescued. This is the position. The crop has been damaged twice. So, the coming year will be very worse in Orissa. Many houses have collapsed. The Central Government should take into consideration the misery of the people of Orissa and it should immediately take all necessary steps to assist the State Government.

SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK (Bhubaneswar) : This is the third round of floods in Orissa this year which has affected seven districts and 45 lakhs of people have been affected in this round. All the 13 districts have been affected in all the three rounds.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum) : This is not a matter for Orissa only.

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you obstructing the Member from Orissa ?

SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK : The statement should be made on behalf of the Government about the situation and all urgent steps should be taken immediately to help the marooned people and the State Government.

It is a very tragic experience. The Central Government should realise the situation. The Central Government has not come to the rescue of the State Government. There is not enough stock of rice. Essential commodities are not available in Orissa because of this dislocation. Government should send the required stock of essential commodities.

The people of Orissa had a tragic experience during the floods in Ganjam district when they did not get any help from the Centre. This should not happen again.

A Parliamentary Committee should be constituted and it should visit the State and all the necessary steps should be taken as per their advice.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : You should appoint a Parliamentary Committee.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : The calamity that has unfortunately befallen Orissa draws not only the sympathy but the concern of the

entire House and the people of India. I would like to assure the Hon. Members that, as usual in such circumstances, the Government of India will do everything to help the State Governments, to meet the situation and there is no question of any other consideration coming in between.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): Mr. Speaker Sir, Recently Union Minister Shri Chidambaram had been to Rajbhavan Madras at the behest of the Governor of Tamil Nadu. The Governor of Tamil Nadu had invited dignitaries for tea on 15th August, 1991. At the tea party about 15 MLAs who belong to AIADMK gheroad Union Minister, Shri P. Chidambaram.

Next day when he was proceeding to his constituency from Madras, he was alighting enroute at Tiruchirapalli Air-port. (*Interruptions*) Certain AIADMK MLAs and partymen came to the Airport and attacked the Minister and two Members of Parliament who were accompanying him.

Tiruchirapalli being the district headquarters all the district administrative officials like the District Collector, Superintendent of Police and a DIG are there. Even when there are so many officials stationed in Tiruchirapalli adequate protection was not given to a Union Minister. I want to draw the attention of the entire world through this august House to a serious lapse of not giving security to a union Minister in his

home state. Even Members of Parliament are not getting necessary protection.

Law and order situation in Tamil Nadu has deteriorated. Hence I would demand the dismissal of the Tamil Nadu Government. I am to request you to consider dismissing the Tamil Nadu Government for there is only a *Goonda* rule in Tamil Nadu. My beloved brother and former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated, brutally murdered in Tamil Nadu during Governor's rule. A promising leader and a former Prime Minister himself could not be protected and I charge this as an inability and inefficiency on the part of the machinery to restore law and order. It is condemnable that a national leader has been done away with**. I would request this august House to consider why this action is necessary. Thorough probe into this incident is necessary. Whatever that had taken place at Tiruchirapalli should be inquired into and all the details should be placed before the House. In future, whenever a member of the Union Council of Ministers visits Tamil Nadu adequate care should be taken. Else whatever that had happened to Shri Chidambaram today may happen to Shri Arjun Singh tomorrow or to any other Minister in future. Whatever had happened to Shri Chidambaram is by Thugs and Goondas, those who would even dare remove their *dhotis* are there. An MLA who belongs to Pattali Makkal Katchi was beaten up in the Assembly itself. It is no ordinary matter to be ignored. I would

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.