

Swaran Singh, Shri
Tiwary, Shri D. N.
Tiwary, Shri K. N.
Uikey, Shri M. G.

Veerappa, Shri
Ramachandra
Verma, Shri Balgovind
Virbhadra Singh Sar.

NOES

Adichan, Shri P. C.
Badrudduja, Shri
Banerjee, Shri S. M.
Behera, Shri Baidhar
Bharti, Shri Maharaj
Singh
Dange, Shri S. A.
Devgun, Shri Hardayal
Dwivedy, Shri Surendra-
Nath
Fernandes, Shri George
Gopalan, Shri A. K.
Gopalan, Shrimati
Suseela

Gowda, Shri M. H.
Gupta, Shri Kanwar Lal
Haldar, Shri K.
Joshi, Shri Jagannath
Rao
Joshi, Shri S. M.
Khan, Shri Lafat Ali
Khanna, Shri P. K.
Kothari, Shri S. S.

Kuchelar, Shri G.
Laskar, Shri N. R.
Limaye, Shri Madhu
Meghachandra, Shri M.
Molahu Prasad, Shri
Mukerjee, Shri H. N.
Onkar Singh, Shri
Pandey, Shri Sarjoo
Paswan, Shri Kedar
Patel, Shri J. H.
Ram Charan, Shri
Reddy, Shri P. Antony
Samanta, Shri S. C.
Sambhali, Shri Ishaq
Sen, Shri Deven
Sezhiyan, Shri
Shastri, Shri
Ramawatar
Shinkre, Shri
*Sinha, Shri Mudika
Suraj Bhan, Shri
Vidyarthi, Shri R. S.
Yadav, Shri Jageshwar

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The result of the division is: Ayes: 122; Noes: 41.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We shall take up the other clauses tomorrow.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: We thank you very much, Sir.

16.21 hrs.

MOTION RE: DROUGHT CONDITIONS

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the statement laid on the Table by the Minister of Food

*Wrongly voted for 'NOES'

†The following Members who recorded their votes:

AYES: Sarvashri Rameshwar Rao, Nageshwar Dwivedi, P. Antony Reddy, Awadesh Chandra Singh, Ramanand Shastri, Randhir Singh, Shambhu Nath, Valmikij Chaudhary, Shrimati Sudha V. Reddy, Mudrika Sinha and P. K. Khanna.

NOES: Sarvashri J. M. Biswas, Dhirsvar Kalita, Kameshwar Singh, Shri Chand Goyal, Indrajit Gupta, Bhogendra Jha, S. Kundu, and Jhar-khande Raf

and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought conditions in the country, be taken into consideration."

I do not want to say anything at this stage.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the statement laid on the Table by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought conditions in the country, be taken into consideration."

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Bombay South): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the statement laid on the

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Table by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought conditions in the country, expresses its concern at the utter inadequacy of thinking and planning at the Governmental level to meet the drought conditions in the country which have become a perennial feature causing immense loss to the nation's economic life and resolves that a programme of minor irrigation projects and other schemes of water conservation be immediately started in all areas that are susceptible to drought conditions and further resolves that the Government should formulate a Famine Relief Code and place it before the House for consideration." (1)

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA (Barmer): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This House, having considered the statement laid on the Table by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought conditions in the country, while approving the measures taken so far to tackle the drought situation in the country, recommends that lasting and permanent solutions be sought to the problem of recurring droughts in Western Rajasthan by:—

- (a) providing adequate financial resources to the State Government so as to enable it to sink 500 tube wells and to energise them; to lay pipe lines for drinking water and to repair tanks and bunds;
- (b) taking over the construction of Rajasthan Canal by the Central Government and completing it on war footing on the basis of the original blue print for it;
- (c) constructing a network of Border Roads that will not

only strengthen the security of this border region but will also provide employment to thousands of starving people; and

- (d) setting up a Dairy and the Intensive Cattle Development Block in Barmer so as to preserve and further enrich the cattle-breed in the region." (2)

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:

"This House, having considered the statement laid on the Table by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought conditions in the country, is of the opinion that the Government have miserably failed to meet the situation arising out of drought and urges on the Government to implement the following proposals immediately:

- (a) to draw up a master plan for drought affected areas;
- (b) to provide a sum of Rs. 100 crores in the Budget for relief work;
- (c) to draw up an integrated scheme of irrigation by tube-wells, canals and open wells with the help of electricity;
- (d) to set apart 25 per cent of total consumption of electricity for agricultural purposes; and
- (e) to suitably amend the famine code so as to include death due to malnutrition in the drought affected areas as deaths due to starvation and for declaration of famine." (4)

SHRI D. N. PATODIA (Jalore): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the statement laid on the Table by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought conditions in the country, expresses its concern at the negligent manner and inadequate measures adopted by the Government in providing relief to the affected areas resulting in large scale destruction of cattle and starvation of lakhs of people and resolves that—

- (a) relief work in the affected areas of Rajasthan be taken up on war footing and free distribution of fodder and drinking water and distribution of food at subsidised rates be started at all the places more particularly in the district of Jalore and the relief work be continued at least until after the next monsoon when the drought conditions are likely to disappear;
- (b) spending on relief operations be judiciously allocated to provide adequate funds for long-term relief by sinking new tube-wells and energising the existing ones; and
- (c) programme of sinking 200 tube-wells in Jalore district along with supply of electricity and construction of roads be taken up immediately to complete within one year by providing adequate Central assistance wherever necessary." (5).

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the statement laid on the Table by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought

conditions in the country, and the calamitous losses inflicted on the people of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh by the cyclones which hit the East Coast in October and November, trusts that the Government would soon afford adequate assistance to Orissa and Andhra Pradesh Governments to undertake satisfactory relief and rehabilitation programmes to help the cyclone-affected masses, especially the agricultural workers, peasants and all others in all possible ways, such as declaring moratorium on their debts for a period of three years, supply of fresh credit, free of interest for the next five years, starting employment centres and providing house building grants and supply of free rations to all vulnerable sections for a few months. This House further recommends that the administration of relief and rehabilitation measures and funds granted therefor both by the State and Central Government should be entrusted to special high powered officers who would be impartial and non-partisan." (6)

SHRI MEETHA LAL MEENA
 (Sawai Madhopur): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the statement laid on the Table by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought conditions in the country recommends that—

- (a) tube-wells be installed in South Eastern area of Rajasthan like Districts Sawai Madhopur, Jaipur etc., along with Barmer and Jaisalmer areas, to meet famine situation and the work for reinstallation of tube-wells in Bamanwas and Nadouti Tehsils of District Sawai Madhopur be started early;

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- (b) the Central Government should issue instructions to Rajasthan Government to declare villages in Sawai Madhopur and Jaipur as famine stricken areas;
- (c) every kind of relief should be given to famine stricken villages in Sawai Madhopur and Jaipur areas of Rajasthan specially to District Sawai Madhopur where there had been vast devastation due to floods in rainy season and where the crop has dried up due to drought;
- (d) Government should immediately give assistance for repairs of most of wells, barrages and tanks." (7).

SHRI SITARAM KESRI (Katihar):
I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the statement laid on the Table by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought conditions in the country, is of opinion that the Government have considerably succeeded in meeting the situation arising out of the drought and urges that the following proposals be implemented immediately with a view to provide permanent relief to the People—

- (a) to draw up a master plan for the drought affected areas;
- (b) to provide adequate sum in the Budget for the relief work;
- (c) to set apart a minimum of 20 per cent of total consumption of electricity for agricultural purposes; and
- (d) to take preventive steps so that the country may not face

such a situation in future.
(8)

SHRI NAVAL KISHORE SHARMA (Dausa): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the statement laid on the Table by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought conditions in the country, recommends the following for the permanent solution of the ever devastating drought in various parts of the country particularly in Rajasthan that—

- (a) a fund at the national level be created to face the natural calamities such as drought or famine and floods;
- (b) funds be provided immediately for undertaking medium and minor irrigation schemes in hand at once;
- (c) immediate arrangements be made to supply electricity to such areas of Rajasthan where Rabi cultivation is possible and for that purpose a sum of rupees ten crores be placed at the disposal of Rajasthan State Electricity Board; and
- (d) construction of Rajasthan canal be taken over by the Centre and work be completed at the earliest." (9)

DR. KARNI SINGH (Bikaner): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the statement laid on the Table by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought conditions in the country, is of opinion that the amount sanctioned for famine relief in Rajasthan

by the Centre is very inadequate because while in other parts of the country at least drinking water is available during famine in vast areas of Rajasthan it is not available even in normal times and famine there has been in continuity in some parts for the last 7 years and recommends more Central aid and taking over by the Centre of the Lift Channel Project of Rajasthan on a higher priority to solve permanently the irrigation and drinking water problems." (10)

SHRI P. L. BARUPAL (Ganganagar): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the statement laid on the Table by the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought conditions in the country, recommends that—

- (a) supply of canal water to Pakistan be reduced to make more water available in the agricultural area of Shri Ganganagar;
- (b) water be supplied to land at the higher level;
- (c) immediate measures be taken to save fallow land in Anupgarh, Suratgarh and Raisingh tehsils of Shri Ganganagar from drought conditions as are available in Jaisalmer and Barmer; and
- (d) tube-wells be sunk to save this area from drought conditions which have become a regular feature there." (11)

SHRI SHINKRE (Panjim): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the statement laid on the Table by

the Minister of Food and Agriculture on the 18th November, 1968 regarding drought conditions in the country, is of the opinion that the Government did not succeed in meeting properly the situation arising out of drought and urges on the Government to implement the following proposals immediately:—

(a) formation of an All-India Drought Prevention and Relief Committee consisting of representatives of all the States, Union territories and the Central Government to make, from time to time, a thorough study of drought affected areas, assess the damage caused by drought, suggest ways and means to minimise the losses and drought occurrences and to recommend proper relief to the sufferers; and

(b) formation of a "Bhoomisena" (Land-Army) on the lines of Indian Army to undertake the work on integrated schemes of irrigation by tube-wells, canals and open wells and to bring under cultivation the desert area of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh." (12)

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the other day the House had an opportunity of discussing the conditions arising out of floods and also to some extent drought and the cyclone, but the House devoted most of the debate for discussing the troubles and sufferings of our people arising out of floods and the Minister of Irrigation also concentrated his attention on that. Today I am glad the hon. Minister of Food and Agriculture has come forward with this motion to give an opportunity to the House to discuss the sufferings of our people caused by drought. I want him, as I had intimated to the House twice before, to give some consideration also to the sufferings and needs of all those people who have come to

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be affected by the recent cyclone that lashed against the east coast specially in Orissa and Andhra at a speed of 120 miles.

Before I begin to deal with the sufferings of the people caused by the cyclone I want to draw the attention of the House to one particular aspect of drought conditions that was not discussed in so much detail the other day, that is, in regard to Rajasthan. Large areas of Rajasthan have come to suffer from serious and prolonged drought, for the past two years and this year they have again begun to suffer from this terrible drought. District which are affected are Jalore, Barmer, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Bikaner in which all the 3,377 villages with a population of 24 lakhs have come to be affected. Also, some parts in Ajmer, Sirsi, Nagaur, Bhilwara, Sikar and Jhalawar have come to be affected. They are suffering so badly that thousands and thousands of cattle have had to be sent away from those areas merely on consideration of non-availability of fodder by kisans who have invested lakhs and lakhs of rupees in them. Unfortunately, they are not able to maintain and feed them. There is no cattle-feed available anywhere in the neighbourhood. Therefore, they are either selling them away for a song or giving them away freely to whosoever is good enough to feed them.

Sometime ago, our country was shocked to learn that some of the neighbouring States, Gujarat as well as Madhya Pradesh, were unwilling to take over all these famished cattle and the respective Governments of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh had to come to some kind of negotiation between themselves in order to allow the kisans in Rajasthan to drive their cattle into the neighbouring areas for the sake of mere fodder. One thing is known that thousands of cattle have died of starvation and many more thousands are on the verge of starvation and death also.

Now, Sir, surely the country cannot be a silent spectator of this terrible tragedy that is taking place in that vast desert land of ours in Rajasthan and something expeditious has got to be done. We believe, the local Government is trying to do its best or the best it can possibly do, cannot be enough in order to save this very rich breed of cattle. They are needed not only by the kisans in that area, they are an asset to nation's wealth and to allow that to be destroyed in this manner would be a national calamity.

What I would like to suggest, on the advice of my friends who hail from Rajasthan, Shri Patodia, Shri Meena and other Members also sitting behind me, is the energising and commissioning of 20 tube-wells which are already there, immediate starting of work on the project of sinking 200 more tube wells so as to complete them within one year, at least within two years, providing employment on road construction and also improving of whatever irrigation, small irrigation facilities, there may be in Rajasthan, providing fodder and drinking water for cattle freely and not merely to be subsidised; foodgrains to be supplied at subsidised rates and freely at the same time, to the vulnerable sections of people, in the shape of gruel or in other forms; construction of roads and supply of electricity to as many places in the rural areas as possible and the relief measures to be continued till the onset of the next monsoon.

Coming to the cyclone and the damage caused to our area what happened on the 26th and the 27th October was this and the magnitude of it, I think, could be understood by the House if they were to keep in mind that the normal rainfall in the whole of October used to be 593 inches of water and till the 25th, that is, just before the onset of the cyclone, they have had already 522 inches of water and, as against a balance of only about 70 inches of water, as much as 1,247 inches of rainfall came down upon

those people in taluks of Sompata, Ichchapuram and Takkali. Even the Andhra Government report says that as many as 3,64,613 trees, mango, coconut and cashew, each one of which is estimated to cost anything from Rs. 300 to Rs. 500, sometimes even Rs. 1000 when it comes to mango, were gone and that "there is not even a single farm, according to the official version," in the cyclone area which has not been affected in one form or the other. The damage has been most in the aged and fruit-bearing farms presenting a pathetic sight, resulting a heavy economic loss to the grower." These trees alone cost more than Rs. 12 crores, and all these trees are gone. They are expected to bear fruit and yield income for 30 to 50 years after they begin to bear fruit. They take 10 to 15 years for the gestation period. Now all these are gone. It looks like a desert, like a graveyard, like a battle-field, where everybody is dead and fallen on the ground. There is nothing to grow, nothing to yield, and no proper employment for those people. Coconut provides multi-pronged employment. Each coconut tree provides employment for several agricultural workers. Now all these people would not be able to have any kind of maintenance or employment or source of living for the next ten years, that is, if by any chance, they are lucky enough to replant all these gardens with fresh seedlings. But where are the seedlings? The Andhra Minister for Food & Agriculture had gone there and made a pathetic appeal to all those who could possibly supply the seedlings to be prepared to supply them. They cannot be had in Andhra Pradesh; they have to be brought from distant places like Kerala, Assam, West Bengal and various other places. We cannot get them from Orissa because Orissa is also suffering. Therefore, expeditious steps have to be taken by the Government of India even in regard to providing this minimum of necessity to these people.

What is it that has happened by way of relief measures? These people themselves in their official report say that the Collector sanctioned

Rs. 50,000 on 7th November, i.e., 12 days after the disaster had taken place. Earlier, the Tehsildars distributed some paltry quantities of food, worth Rs. 50,000 or even less. They say that they are going to supply one kilogram every day for every family. When I went there for the second time, 15 days after the calamity had taken place, in several villages, the food supply had been made only once—one kilogram per family. Imagine what must be the plight of all those lakhs of people! Foodgrains are not available and they do not have money to purchase anything. All this time they had, somehow or other, to make do with one kilogram per family supplied only once and not every day. The Government wanted to supply it, but they are not able to say that they have been able to supply. Until one week was over, the Collector was nowhere there. He tried to reach the area, he said, but he could not reach while the local MLAs were able to reach, as was narrated the other day in the report that I made to the Prime Minister from which my friend, Mr. P. K. Deo was good enough to quote on my behalf. Even the local social and political workers were able to go there; yet, it was not possible for the Collector to go there for one week. It was not possible for him to make any kind of grant even for the supply of food till the 7th November. What was he supposed to have been doing during those crucial eleven days? It is said that he had some money placed at his disposal for drought relief and he was allotting that money for various purposes but that money could not reach them before the 7th November. The only decision that he was able to make was to set apart Rs. 50,000 for sanctioning one kilogram of rice per family and, according to him, per day. 'Per day' meant evidently for the Government there a fortnight. Is this the way how this disaster had to be met? Is this the way how the sufferings of the people have to be alleviated?

When I made this report on the 13th instant to the Prime Minister, she

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was good enough to assure me on my suggestion that she was going to ask the Food Minister to send a Central team of officers to go and study the situation and recommend whatever assistance Government of India could be expected to give. On my return after my second visit, on the 21st, when I asked the Government, why is it that the Central team was not yet sent, the Deputy Prime Minister had the hardihood to say that they had to take their own time because they did not have sufficient number of teams, that they had to visit so many States and, therefore, a period of three weeks was not a long one or need not be considered to be too long and that we should be prepared to be patiently waiting. And, my hon. friend, the Food Minister was not able to help this House or help this country by saying that he was in a position to send them if necessary by plane immediately. I do not know whether they have been sent at all. What about the position of the Government of Andhra? True, they sent their Famine Commissioner, but he was able to reach there only on the 8th. They sent their Agriculture Minister also who reached there on the 10th. Till then no responsible officer who could take decisions and give orders to the local district administrations was able to reach and assess the needs of the people and then give timely relief and for all those fifteen days those sufferers were obliged to be waiting on the tender mercies of this Government. Their tender mercies are not as tender as the tender cocoanuts but they have become as hard as the heart of this Government which did not consider three weeks to be long enough for the Central team to go there. What is worse than that, Sir, the Deputy Prime Minister was good enough to reply to me on the 25th of this month saying:

"The State Government have not sent us any report on the subject so far. We have asked them for such a report, and the Central team's visit will be finalised as soon as this is received."

I do not know what is happening between the State Government and the Union Government here. The State Government has already sent a report to their Adviser in Delhi. I have it here in my hand. Surely this must have reached the Food and Agriculture Ministry and some other ministries also. It could not be later than the 25th of November. How is it that the Finance Minister was able to say that he had not received any report at all? Are there any gradations in these reports like preliminary report, mid-way report, final report and emergency report? I do not know how long the Government of India is going to wait, how long the Andhra Government is going to wait, in order to wake up this Government of India and sting them into some relief activity. We do not know, whether as between the Government of India and Andhra Government there might be some secrets. So far as the people's sufferings are concerned, Andhra Government is alive to those sufferings because their minister had already gone there and they were good enough to allot Rs. 50 lakhs. According to our estimate this Rs. 50 lakhs is only a pittance. It would not be anywhere near what is needed. They have said that they are granting loans under distress taccavi, helping the coconut growers to rehabilitate themselves and helping them in their replanting needs, helping the agriculturists to purchase cattle and reclaiming sand-cast land at a rate not exceeding Rs. 500 per person. Per person means per family. In respect of each peasant family, in regard to the satisfaction of all these demands, or any one of these demands, is Rs. 500 enough, Sir? They themselves say that they do not want to suggest any help for these people who have got more than five or four acres of land. To make a distinction between those who have got less than two acres and others who have got more than 5 acres or 4 acres is a cruel thing. All of them are badly in need of assistance. Only a few of them are going to be helped in this manner; and they have

put it at Rs. 10 lakhs. Not less than Rs. 2 crores is needed by all peasants for this purpose alone. Also they have said that they would give gratuitous relief to persons whose houses were damaged, subject to a maximum of Rs. 250 per family. Is there any house of even a Harijan family which can be reconstructed with Rs. 200? Let my hon. friend Shri Jagjivan Ram turn his own mind to his own experience of the conditions in which our Harijans or backward classes or tribal people are living. Would it be possible to put up these mud walls and to provide the necessary timber and the roofing materials after clearing the debris and reconstructing all these things, on Rs. 200 per family? Not less than Rs. 50 lakhs are needed.

Then free supply of rice to fishermen. For how many days? 20. The 20 days are already over. There is no rice there in that area at all. Cruel has also become very difficult to get. This is needed for not less than two months. It is anybody's guess how soon it would be possible for them to find nets and other implements in order to sally forth to the sea, catch some fish and begin to find something to purchase their necessities. Therefore, I suggest that at least Rs. 10 lakhs should be granted as cash grants to fishermen. For purchase and repairs of boats, they wish to provide Rs. 5 lakhs only, whereas Rs. 25 lakhs are needed. For supply of 10,000 blankets they suggest only Rs. 1 lakh. At least Rs. 4 lakhs are needed. Repairs to roads and so on—their provision is Rs. 3½ lakhs whereas Rs. 15 lakhs are needed. For repairs to village panchayat roads, only Rs. 1 lakh has been provided. At least Rs. 5 lakhs is needed for the purpose. For repairs to minor irrigation sources, Rs. 2½ lakhs are provided where as Rs. 25 lakhs are needed, 10 times as much. For repairs to schools and other buildings, they provide Rs. 50,000. I have seen those structures. Even to re-build the school building, one

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would require not less than Rs. 5 lakhs. For minor irrigation sources (PWD), the provision is Rs. 3 lakhs whereas Rs. 3 crores are needed. For miscellaneous items and so on, they provide Rs. 50,000 whereas not less than Rs. 50 lakhs would be needed.

In all, the whole of it will come to not less than Rs. 10 to 15 crores. Are the Government of India going to bear their shares? I would like to know how much of aid the Andhra Government has asked for. But not less than Rs. 10 crores would have to be provided if all these are to be reconstructed.

A Central team has gone to Orissa the other day. More than one-third of Orissa has been affected by the cyclones. More than 3½ districts have been destroyed. If the Central team has suggested only Rs. 7 crores for the whole of that area, how can I feel confident that this Government would be really willing to spare Rs. 10 crores for this smaller area, although the whole of this area has come to be devastated so badly? But then am I going to be satisfied? I have seen that area. In Ganjam, villages have suffered as much as our own Udhanam. So I suggested that twice as much as has been suggested by the Central team should be allotted to Orissa. So much more of assistance per capita, per village, has got to be rendered to these three taluks. Most of this assistance has to be given by the Union Government. The Andhra Government has been quick enough to sanction Rs. 50 lakhs. They would have given more, but they do not have it. Their Revenue Board member himself has gone on record as saying that he has never seen such an area of devastation and the extent of it, in the whole of his official career. The Minister of Food himself has admitted the gravity of the situation. They need money for their own

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drought relief purposes. They have themselves conceded that 20 districts in Andhra have been victimised by drought. Central Government have sanctioned only Rs. 7 crores and that too in a very parsimonious manner, Rs. 5½ crores as loan and Rs. 1½ crores only as grant. At long last, they have sanctioned Rs. 1 crore more recently.

I do not wish to trouble you or the House with more of this. The House must voluntarily begin to trouble itself with the thought of the sufferings of these people, of their needs, of their pathetic helplessness, and of the urgency with which help has got to be speeded to that area.

Lastly, whatever assistance may be given by the Government of India and the State Government to these areas, as I have warned the Prime Minister I do not want this assistance to be channelled through the District Collector as usual. Let there be a special officer of the rank of a Revenue Board member, completely independent of politics, independent of partisanship, of local interest and local prejudices, unlike the Collector and under the authority of that high-placed officer, let the district staff, augmented as it ought to be at every level of official work, distribute this assistance to the people in a non-partisan manner with social conscience and with sympathy and with feeling for the sufferers.

श्री ५० ला० बालूपाल (गंगानगर) :
सभापति महोदय, खाद्य मंत्री महोदय ने सूखे की स्थिति के बारे में सदन में जो बक्तव्य रखा है उस बारे में मैं आप की मार्फत सरकार से संक्षेप में कुछ निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ ।

यह तो सभी जानते हैं कि राजस्थान में इस वर्ष जो सूखा पड़ा है, विशेष कर बीकानेर, जोधपुर, जैसलमेर, बाड़मेर और जालौर में

वह बड़ा विकट पड़ा है । यह सूखा वैसे कोई नई बात नहीं है क्योंकि राजस्थान में प्रत्येक नीसरे वर्ष यह सूखा पड़ता रहता है परन्तु इस वर्ष सूखे के कारण वहाँ जो भयंकर स्थिति पैदा हुई है वह वर्णन में नहीं आ सकती है । इस सम्बन्ध में पांच सौ वर्ष से राजस्थान में एक मारवाड़ी का मुहावरा प्रचलित है जिसमें बतलाया गया है कि राजस्थान में अकाल कहां कहां रहता है । वह मारवाड़ी मुअहावरा यह है :

“पग पूगल घड़ मेड़ते, बाहु जी बाड़मेर,
जोया ठोया जोधपुर ठाम्रो जैसलमेर ।”

16.57 hrs.

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

जैसा मैंने बतलाया राजस्थान में प्रत्येक नीसरे वर्ष सूखा पड़ता है । अकाल की शुरूआत होनी है पूगल से, घड़ मेड़ते में रहता है, भुजा उसकी बाड़मेर में रहती है, कहीं कहीं जोधपुर में अकाल रहता है लेकिन अकाल का जहां तक सवाल है जैसलमेर में वह परमानेंटली रहता है । लेकिन वह बात पुरानी हो चुकी है । आज विज्ञान का युग है और मैं आप से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि जब लोग रूस और अमरीका में चन्द्रमा तक ही नहीं पहुँच गये हैं बल्कि अन्तरिक्ष में मानव भेज चुके हैं और वहाँ उन के द्वारा प्लाट्स लेकर खेती करने की बात सोची जा रही है वहाँ उस के विपरीत आज हिन्दुस्तान में आजादी के 21 वर्ष के बाद भी एक भारत के नागरिक को पेयजल नहीं मिलता है तो वास्तव में यह हम सबके लिए एक बड़ी शर्म की बात है । मैं आप से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि राजस्थान के अन्दर पीने के पानी की बड़ी बिषम समस्या और लोगों को पीने का पानी सुलभ नहीं हो पाता है । मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बात इस सदन से जायब छिपी नहीं होगी कि वहाँ राजस्थान में 30-30 मील तक लोगों को पानी मुयस्सर नहीं होता है, वह पानी के लिए तरलते फिरते

हैं लेकिन कहीं उनके लिए पानी की व्यवस्था नहीं है। उनकी कैसी शोचनीय अवस्था है इसका अनुमान तो इसी से लगाया जा सकता है कि वहाँ जो संसदीय शिफ्टमंडल गया था वहाँ की हालत देख कर उसकी भाँखों में भाँसू आ गये थे।

मेरा सुझाव है कि सरकार को वहाँ की इस समस्या का कोई एक स्थायी हल तलाश करना चाहिये और उस समस्या को केवल राजस्थान की समस्या नहीं अपितु देश की समस्या समझना चाहिए। मेरा सुझाव है कि वहाँ की राजस्थान नहर का निर्माण एक युद्धस्तर पर एक राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर शीघ्र से शीघ्र प्रारम्भ कराया जाय। जहाँ पर पानी नहीं पहुँचा है वहाँ पानी लिफ्ट इर्रिगेशन से पहुँचाया जाय। जहाँ नहर नहीं पहुँचती है वहाँ पर ट्यूबवैल खुदवाये जायँ और जहाँ ट्यूबवैल से अग्रर पानी खारी निकलता हो तो वहाँ पाइपलाइन से पानी पहुँचाया जाय।

आज गरीबों की वहाँ बड़ी दुर्दशा हो रही है और उन के पास खाने के लिये पर्याप्त अन्न नहीं है और मैं चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस दिशा में सक्रिय क्रम उठाये और उन्हें अन्न की पर्याप्त व्यवस्था सुलभ करे। वहाँ गरीबों पर जैसी बीत रही है उसे देख कर मेरा दिल रो उठता है। मैं 18 साल से इस पार्लियामेंट का मेम्बर हूँ और वहाँ के पिछड़े और गरीब इलाके के लिये अपनी भावावाज बुलन्द करता आया हूँ लेकिन दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि अभी तक उन के लिये जितना किया जाना चाहिये था वह नहीं हो पाया है।

मुझे यह बात खेद के साथ कहनी पड़ रही है कि बड़े-बड़े शहरों की ओर सरकार का ध्यान अधिक जा रहा है और यही कारण है कि दिल्ली, बम्बई, कलकत्ते जैसे बड़े नगरों में दिन पर दिन आलीशान इमारतों, होटलों और वस्त्रों की गगनचुम्बी इमारतों का निर्माण होता जा रहा है। यहीं दिल्ली में हम देखते हैं कि ऐसी सरकारी बिल्डिंगें व क्वार्टरें

जोकि अभी 20 वर्ष तक मजे से चल सकते हैं उन को मोड़-फोड़ कर आलीशान बिल्डिंगों का निर्माण झड़ले से चल रहा है। उधर से तो गरीबों की मदद करने और उन्हें जीवन की बुनियादी आवश्यकताओं को सरकार द्वारा पैसे की कमी बतला कर पूरा करने से टाल-मटोल की जा रही है दूसरी तरफ़ इमारतों के निर्माण व सरकारी कार्यालयों के विस्तार और सरकारी भ्रमसरो की भरमार करके राष्ट्रीय धन का अपव्यय किया जा रहा है।

यह देखा जाता है कि कल का प्रादमी यदि वज्जिर बन जाय या सरकारी पद पर चला जाय और चाहे घर में उन की माता, पत्नी आदि गोबर के कंड़े पाथनी हों, वैसे कंड़े पाथना मेरी नजर में कोई बुरी चीज नहीं है लेकिन, हाँता यह है कि उस व्यक्ति के मिनिस्टर बनते ही या गवर्नमेंट सविस में जाते ही उसका दिमाग आस्मान को छूने लग जाता है, उसके पैर धरती पर नहीं टिकते हैं और उसे चलने के लिये मोटर और हवाई जहाज चाहिए, रहने के लिए आलीशान बंगला और वह भी एयरकंडीशंड चाहिए, हीटर का गर्म पानी चाहिए और अन्य अन्य शानशीकत वाली तमाम सुविधाएँ चाहिए और इस का नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि एक एक मंत्री या बड़े सरकारी भ्रमसर की कोठी का 1000-1000 रुपया सिर्फ पानी और बिजली आदि का खर्च प्राता है। कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि रुपये का भ्रंघाभुंघ व्यय होता है और कोई इसे रोक नहीं रहा है। यहाँ तो यह हालत हो रही और दूसरी तरफ वह दर्दनाक अवस्था है जिसका कि मैंने अभी जिक्र किया था। मैंने इसकी बाबत बाबू जी से प्रार्थना किया था और वहाँ की दर्दनाक हालत से उन को प्रवगत कराया था तो उन्होंने ने कहा था कि धीरज धरो, आत्मविश्वास से काभ लो, भगवान का भरोसा करो, थिल देखों का भरोसा करो, वह हमारी मदद करेंगे, मानमून था रहा है, सब ठीक हो जायेगा तो मैंने बाबू जी से यही कहा था :

[श्री प० सा० बाबूपाल]

"पर भ्रष्ट की बार्ने किये घर की भूख न जाय,

घर की भूख जब जायसी जो भ्रष्ट हाथों प्राय ।

जो भ्रष्ट हाथों प्राय दारिद्र्य तब ही जाय,

जब होय संतोष जानिये बैठो बाय ।"

बाबू जी को मैंने यह बतलाया था कि अभी तो हमारे लोग भूखों मर रहे हैं और ऐसी हालत के कायम रहते संतोष कहां से हो सकता है ? मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि श्री जगजीवन राम जग को जीवन देने वाले हैं, श्री जगजीवन राम भारत के भ्रष्टदाता हैं। वह जैसलमेर में गये थे, लेकिन मुझे वहां नहीं से गये। मुझे ले जाते तो मैं उनको ऐसे परिवार दिखलाता कि तीन तीन दिन से बच्चे भूखे मर रहे थे और उन को भ्रनाज नहीं मिल रहा था। हरिजनों की स्थिति विशेषकर दयनीय है। जब हम सरकार से बात करते हैं तो वह कहती है कि हमारे पास भ्रनाज बहुत है। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि वह किस तरह से ऐसा कहते हैं। भ्राज जो कूड़ा करकट दिया जा रहा है, भ्रगर जमाना होता तो उस को गधे भी नहीं खाते। इस तरह की ज्वार को भ्राज मनुष्य को दिया जा रहा है। एक तरफ ऐसे मनुष्य हैं पूरी, पकवान, भ्रगूर, सेव, मेबे मिष्ठाभ्र जिन को खाने से भ्रजीर्ण होता है और हाजमे के लिये चूर्ण लेना पड़ता है और दूसरी तरफ गरीब लोगों को भ्रर पेट खाना नहीं मिल रहा है। यह सोचने की बात है। भ्राज वहां के लोग कहते हैं कि हमें भीख नहीं चाहिये, उन को गेहूं नहीं चाहिये, उन को मोटा भ्रनाज चाहिये। मैंने कहा कि मैं जा कर बाबू जगजीवन राम जी से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि उन को ज्वार चाहिये, बाजरा चाहिये, मक्का चाहिये। साथ ही वह भ्राठ किलो के बजाय बारह किलो बिया जाये ताकि वह पेट भर कर भ्रोजन करे।

17 hrs.

मैं बतलाना चाहता हूं कि पौष्टिक तत्व न मिलने से 50 परसेंट लोगों को रतौंधी हो गई है। उन को आंखों से दिखता नहीं। मि० नाहाटा ने कहा कि 100 बच्चे मर गये यह ठीक है। और हम ने एक ही दिन में तीन बच्चों की लाशें देखीं। मि० नाहाटा ने 20 दिन की बात कही थी। मान लीजिये कि एक रोज में पांच बच्चे मरें तो बीस पंजे सौ। सौ बच्चे मरना कोई बड़ी बात नहीं है। वह बच्चे भ्राज इसलिये मरते हैं कि उन को बीमारियां हो जाती हैं, पौष्टिक पदार्थ न मिलने से उनके पेट फूल जाते हैं और लहू के दस्त होने लगते हैं और भ्रन्त में बच्चे मर जाते हैं। मैंने परसों जोधपुर में 'राष्ट्रदूत' में पढ़ा कि बीकानेर की कोलाई तहसील में भ्रपौष्टिक पदार्थ मिलने से 22 भ्रादमी मर गये। पहले मैंने सोचा कि शायद किसी पत्रकार ने खामक़्वाह यह लिख दिया। लेकिन एकमित्र ने जिन पर मुझ को विश्वास है मुझको तार दिया कि भ्रा कर यहां देखो कि यह स्थिति वास्तविक है या गलत है।

मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि भ्रकाल को भ्रजाफ न समझा जाय। मैं तो समझता हूं कि दुनिया भर के फालतू काम भ्रन्धे सरकार बन्द कर दे और उन भ्रन्धों का बजट कम कर दे, वह हीटर सप्लाई करना बन्द कर दे, रिफ्रिजरेटर सप्लाई करना बन्द करदे, सोफो सेट सप्लाई करना बन्द कर दे, बड़ी बड़ी बिल्डिंगें बनाना बन्द कर दें। भ्रगवान के लिए उन को कुछ देर के लिए स्थगित कर दे और भ्रकाल पीड़ित लोगों को सहायता दे। नहीं तो भ्राने वाले समय में लोग भ्राप को गालियां देंगे। भ्राज तो हम बहुमत हैं लेकिन भ्राने वाला समय बतलायेगा कि जमाना भ्रवर्नमेंट को खान्त देगा। भ्राप को सोचना चाहिये कि भ्राखिर इस समस्या का समाधान क्या है। भ्राप इस चीज को समझिये कि क्या स्थिति है।

मैंने भ्राज भ्रखबारों में पढ़ा कि पाकिस्तान ने दार्वर पर 17 फीट सन्धी और 15 फीट ऊंची

बीवार बनाई है लेकिन [हमारा 1400 किलो-मीटर के लगभग बार्डर सूना पड़ा हुआ है। उन्होंने उसको बिल्कुल छोड़ दिया है। हमारे वहाँ मारवाड़ी में कहा गया है कि जब पोला-पन होगा वहाँ टिड्डी भंडे देनी है। जब तक पाकिस्तान बिासी एरिया में घुस नहीं आयेगा तब तक आप वहाँ की व्यवस्था ठीक नहीं करेंगे। मेरा निवेदन है कि उजड़े गांवों को आप बसाइये। मैं खाली राजस्थान के बारे में कह सकता हूँ वह काफी खाली पड़ा हुआ है। वहाँ बंगाल बिहार के भ्रादमियों को बसने की सहूलियत दी जाये। आज कहा जाता है कि हमारे शहरों में भ्रावादी बहुत बढ़ रही है। हमारे राजस्थान में बहुत बड़ा एरिया खाली पड़ा हुआ है। राजस्थानियों का हृदय बहुत भड़ा है। जो लोग भी बंगाल और बिहार में नहीं समा पा रहे हैं उन को हमारे यहाँ भोज दिया जाये।

मैं एक बात की ओर और एक ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि यह खतरा बढ़ चला है कि प्रकाल बढ़ने की वजह से न केवल भवेसी ही मर गये हैं बल्कि बच्चे भी मर जायेंगे। अगर भगवान की मेहरबानी हो भी गई और भगले वर्ष वर्षा हो गई तो भी भ्राने वाले समय में किसान इस स्थिति में नहीं है कि खेती कर सके। न उसके पास हल है, न बीज हैं और न पैसा है। इस लिये प्रकाल निवारण के लिए नो नैयार ही रहिये लेकिन यह भी सोचिये कि उन को वंस देना है, बीज देना है और खेती के औजार देना है। हमारी राजस्थान सरकार इस मामले में समर्थ नहीं है। आज कम से कम एक लाख के करीब मजदूर काम पर जा रहे हैं। दस साल के बच्चे का आज एक रुपया दिया जाता है औरत को सवा रुपया दिया जाता है और बर्द का डेढ़ रुपया दिया जाता है। अगर इसका एचरेज मगा लिया जाये और एक परिवार के सब भ्रावनी भी काम करें तो आप प्रन्वाज बसाइये कि वहाँ की सरकार को कितने लाख रुपये रोजाना खर्च करने पड़ते होंगे। मैं आप से कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम भीख मांगना तो

सीख ही गये हैं। कोई ऐसा देश नहीं है जिसके हम कर्जदार नहीं हैं। हमारे यहाँ कहा गया है कि होग्या सो तो भाग्यी भी। इसका मतलब है कि जब बेशर्मी आई ही गई तो थोड़ा और मांग लीजिये, लेकिन राजस्थान के प्रकाल को दूर करने के लिए जो भी मांग की जाये उससे उन भी मदद कीजिये। मैं आपसे भीख नहीं मांग रहा हूँ। मैं मानवता के नाते, मनुष्यता के नाते आप से भर्ज कर रहा हूँ।

मैं इस बात की ओर भी आप का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि गंगानगर के साथ बड़ा प्रन्याय हुआ है। उस से कहा जाता है भाखरा नहर है, राजस्थान नहर है, हिम कैनाल है। लेकिन सरकार की उदार नीति के कारण, शत्रु को पनपाने की नीति के कारण पाकिस्तान को पानी देने के कारण गंगानगर का पानी 50 परसेंट रह गया है : इस कारण से वहाँ के किसानों के खेत सूखे पड़े हैं। वहाँ पानी नहीं पहुंच रहा है। लोग ब्राहि ब्राहि कर रहे हैं और मुझ को सब लानत देते हैं कि हमें ने समझा था कि तुम किसान के बेटे हो और तुम को लगातार चार बार चुन कर लोक सभा में भेजा है, अगर तुम हमारे लिये बोलते क्यों नहीं हो ? मैं यहां बोलता हूँ तो कोई सुनता नहीं है, सुनता है तो किसी के कानों पर जूं नहीं रेंगती, हम क्या करें। गुरु नामक ने कहा है :

आपे दिया सो दूध बराबर, मांग लिया सो पानी,
रगड़ लिया सो रक्त बराबर कहूँ गुरु नामक बाणी॥

श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा (कोटा) :
पार्टी छोड़ कर आ जाओ।

श्री ए० ला० बाबूपान्न : छोड़ो, तुम्हारी
पार्टी में क्या रक्खा है ?

गंगानगर में तीन तहसीलें हैं जिन में से बिसेचकर सूरतगढ़, दूसरी रायसीनगर और अनुपगढ़ यह अनइरिगेटेड हैं और बंजर पड़ी हैं। उन की स्थिति जैसनमेर और बाड़वेर से प्रच्छी नहीं है। इसी तरह से बीकानेर

[श्री प० ला० बारूपाल]

की कोलाई तहसील है। और भी तहसीलों की स्थिति इतनी खराब है कि मैं उस को बतला नहीं सकता। मैं समझता हूँ कि श्री जगजीवन राम गरीब घर में पैदा हुए हैं और वह गरीबों की स्थिति को जानते हैं।

जिनका काम पड़ा इन मन से सो साधू मन की गति जानें,
व्यावहारिक की गति व्यावहारिक जानें,
व्यवहारिक की गति क्या बांझ पहचाने।

जो मां बच्चा जननी है उस को ही पता होता है कि प्रसव पीड़ा क्या होनी है। जो स्त्री बांझ होनी है उस को प्रसव पीड़ा का पता नहीं होता। मंत्री महोदय कृषकों और गरीबों की हालत को जानते हैं। उन को चाहिये कि राजस्थान की अधिक से अधिक मदद करें और जो गरीब लोग हैं, प्रकृति पुत्र हैं, धरती जिनका बिछौना है, आसमान छत है, उन की दयनीय स्थिति का ध्यान रखें। मैं इस संबन्ध में अधिक नहीं कहना चाहता क्योंकि और भी सदस्य बोलेंगे। हमारे श्री नहाटा भी बोलेंगे, लेकिन उन की दर्दभरी स्थिति से घाबें नहीं बन्द की जानी चाहिये। अगर मैं एक बात कहूँ तो श्री जगजीवन राम जी बुरा न मानें। हमारे यहाँ मारवाड़ी में कहते हैं कि :

घ्राप करे सो है देवता, क्यों करे सो मनुष्य,
क्यों ही न करे वह है डंगर।

जो अपने घ्राप करता है वह देवता है, जो दूसरों के कहने से करता है वह मनुष्य होता है और जो कहने से भी नहीं करता वह जानवर होता है। इस से बड़ी और कोई गाली नहीं हो सकती। बाबूजी बुरा न मानें। मैं उन की बड़ी इज्जत करता हूँ। लोग मुझे उन की छाया समझते हैं और वह हमारे ऊपर छाया के समान हैं लेकिन लोगों की जो स्थिति है वह एक कटू सत्य है। दूसरी कोई

सरकार होनी तो हम उस को उलट देते, लेकिन हम करें क्या? जब मैं यह दर्दभरी कहानी कहता हूँ तो लोग कहते हैं कि मैं बड़ा भावुक हूँ, और यह कह कर टाल देता है। मैं भावुक नहीं हूँ। अन्तर केवल इतना है कि जब दो भादमी कोई काम करते हैं तो एक दिमाग से काम करता है और दूसरा हृदय से काम करता है। कोई दिमाग को पास रखता है कोई हृदय को पास रखता है। लेकिन जो दिमाग से काम करता है वह आघा बेईमान होता है। हृदय से काम करने वाला मां के समान होता है। उदाहरण यह हो सकता है कि दिमाग तो होता है बाप का और हृदय होता है मां का। मां तो महीने बच्चे को पेट में रखती है और जब वह बाहर आता है तो हृदय से उस का पालन करती है। बाप तो दो मिनट के बाद ही उस को दूर कर देता है। मंत्री महोदय दिमाग से काम न कर के मां की तरह हृदय से काम करें।

MR. SPEAKER: I hope now Mr. Barupal agrees that this is much better than a Calling Attention Notice. I hope at least now he realises that so many Members can speak. Sometimes if an hon. Member realises his mistake, it is all right. It is not too late even now. I am glad that so many Members can speak on famine. A calling attention would have meant just one minute for him and nothing more. Now he has spoken and so many other will speak.

Now, one hour is not enough. I realise it. A large number of people want to participate. So we shall adjourn this discussion at 6 o'clock and taken up the half-an-hour discussion. This discussion can be resumed on some other day, whenever it is convenient for the Minister. On some other day we can start at 6 and discuss it for 1 or 1-1/2 hours, so that we may have a fuller discussion. This is not a discussion where there is much controversy. All parties want relief.

Dr. Karni Singh.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरबा : इनको किस तरह से बुलाया गया है। पार्टी के हिसाब से बुलाया जाना चाहिये। पहले आपने स्वतंत्र पार्टी से रंगा साहब को बुलाया। अब दूसरा नम्बर जन संघ का है।

डा० कर्मी सिंह (बीकानेर) : मैं भी राजस्थान का हूँ।

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरबा : लेकिन पार्टी के हिसाब से होना चाहिये। इस तरह से कभी नहीं हो सकता।

MR. SPEAKER: You will get your chance, but not when you want. The Speaker can call anybody who catches his eye. If you do not want to participate, you are free to do what you like.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरबा : पार्टी के हिसाब से आपको बुलाना चाहिये। यह कालिग एटेशन नहीं है। न ही यह शार्ट नोटिस क्वेश्चन है।

श्री नाथूराम अहिरवार (टीकमगढ़) : यह राष्ट्रीय प्रश्न है। पार्टी का इसको प्रश्न क्यों बनाते हो।

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरबा : लेकिन पहले हमारी पार्टी को बुलाया जाना चाहिये। हमारा नम्बर दूसरा है।

Dr. KARNI SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for having allowed this debate where members from different parts of the House would have an opportunity to discuss the drought situation. Last time, when we had occasion to speak about drought conditions, many of us tried to get the Government to accept the fact that famine conditions did in fact exist and famine had to be declared. Several months have gone by since then and this situation has now fortunately been accepted. I feel the approach to this curse has to be very strong and well

orientated, because the human suffering involved is so much. People in Rajasthan say that this is an unprecedented famine and perhaps the worst in fifty years. People from all parts of the country and all sections of the house will have to cooperate to tide over the next six months.

I would only say this: India will have to find a permanent solution to this, because constantly to depend on foreign countries for aid is highly humiliating. Only recently I was in the USA on my way back from Mexico. I read some papers from my own country, which followed me wherever I went to keep me posted with up-to-date information. Whenever I read anything about foreign aid when I was out of my country, it made me feel ashamed of myself that my country should go with a begging bowl. As a citizen of a free country, I felt indignant that we should take a beggar's bowl and look for aid from countries which were condescending. Therefore, as a self-respecting nation, if we want in the years to come to stand on our own feet and be self-sufficient in every way, food and food production will have to be given a much higher priority. Famine is one of those problems that our country has been afflicted with not only now but for centuries, and with the aid of modern technology and science at our disposal, I am quite sure that a permanent remedy to this problem can be found through better use of our river waters etc.

I would like to say here, with a great deal of regret, that the team of experts who visited Rajasthan failed to visit one of the worst affected districts, and that is Bikaner. Unfortunately, in spite of the fact that I had raised this question here that Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur and Jalore were very badly affected, this district has been totally neglected by the team of experts. Even the Prime Minister, when she visited Rajasthan, failed to go to Bikaner and the hon. Minister of Food and Agri-

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culture also unfortunately, was not keen enough to visit our area, and the experts committee has completely short-circuited that visit. Now, I do not know why this has been done. I would not like to attribute motives because, as I said at this stage we must all work together, but I have a feeling that perhaps the Government and the ruling party felt that since they have not been able to elect a Congressman for the parliamentary seat of Bikaner, perhaps the best thing to do was to ignore this area.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): No, that is not the reason.

DR. KARNI SINGH: Well, I hope it is not so. I do not want to make any unfair or any uncharitable remark.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: It is a reflex of your thinking.

DR. KARNI SINGH: That may be your thinking. But the fact remains that I have written to the hon. Minister and I received a letter while I was in Mexico. Even till now there has not been any sign of either the hon. Minister or the Prime Minister taking the trouble of visiting this area. They are sitting here in Judgment on my mind.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: We could not visit every area of Rajasthan.

DR. KARNI SINGH: It is not 'every area' It is an area which is worst affected by famine.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: I did not visit the whole of Rajasthan. I did not go to Barmer. So, why should I go to Bikaner?

DR. KARNI SINGH: Thank you very much. But do not go there during the next elections also.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA: Now he is speaking of the starving people of that area. But he was in Mexico when the people were suffering.

DR. KARNI SINGH: I have toured that area before I went to Mexico. Then, I went to Mexico on behalf of your country as part of the Indian shoots contingent; not as an individual member.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: Because, that was more important to him.

DR. KARNI SINGH: But you are the Minister. It is your job.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: I know my duties.

DR. KARNI SINGH: When my father was the ruler, he did his job.

I would very respectfully submit that this team of experts must visit this district and they must find out the problems of the people of this area, particularly as far as drinking water is concerned. It has been brought to the attention of everybody that in the western regions of Rajasthan, where water is very deep not only in Bikaner but also in Jaisalmer and Jodhpur, we have to pump water 300 to 400 ft. and I believe that the subsidy that is given is only Rs. 12½ on a well. I would request that this subsidy should be raised to Rs. 50.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA: It is Rs. 25 per day for a well.

DR. KARNI SINGH: No, I have got the paper before me. We all are trying to help the people of Rajasthan. The problem is the same. The question of repair of wells in the desert areas where the people do not have the means to repair them themselves will have to receive much higher priority from the government, and I would request the hon. Minister that he should be kind enough to see that this is given much higher priority. If

we depend entirely on the people with their slender resources to repair the wells, particularly in areas where people have to travel 20 to 30 miles even to receive good drinking water, then it is asking for the moon.

Then, I have been told that in certain areas there have been people in the famine camps who have not been paid for as much as 40 days. I would say to the government that this is a period of hardship and that in this period wages must be paid regularly, every week or every two weeks, as the case may be.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: Not paid for 40 days?

DR. KARNI SINGH: I will present the facts to you as soon as my speech is over.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: Welcome.

DR. KARNI SINGH: And this is not the first time it has happened. About two or three years ago, when there was a famine which was not so bad, wages were not paid in time and the workers suffered a great deal of hardship.

As far as camps are concerned, reports have been received from all over Rajasthan that the Government has said that famine camps will be opened within a radius of 10 miles. I am afraid to say that in some areas these camps are between 20 to 30 miles apart. In the present context I would request that Government should try and see that famine camps are opened within a radius of 10 miles so that people can migrate to these camps quickly.

As far as the fodder situation is concerned, I believe that fodder depots have been opened. Some of

them are quite adequate; in some areas they are not adequate I request that fodder should be made available at a place where the cattle can migrate and water is available. Of course, in the desert it means places close to wells where pumping arrangement is possible.

But some of the cattle in Rajasthan, particularly the Rathi breed of cows, which are very famous, are being wiped out and it will be years before we can raise this type of cows. I think, we will have to work twice as hard if we want to save these cattle. We have to set apart grazing lands in these areas; these are our prairies.

The price of fodder has been raised by the Rajasthan Government from Rs. 8 to Rs. 11 per quintal in the last few weeks. I do not know why this has happened. Fodder should be subsidised. We are facing a hardship perhaps not known in the last 50 years. I would request that fodder prices should be brought down to be made available within the purchasing capacity of the farmers.

The subsidies that are given to farmers for buying this fodder and cheap food should be made available to them expeditiously so that they can get it as quickly as possible.

The labourers working for a whole day cannot serve with 240 grammes of foodgrains per day. The demand is that this should be raised to 20 kilos a month.

On the lift channel construction work, I believe, the wages are paid at the rate of Rs. 1/95 per 100 cubic feet. These are very difficult times. The lift channel work is in the famine belt and people are requesting that these wages should be paid at a slightly higher rate.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: They are being paid Rs. 1/50 every day, I think.

DR. KARNI SINGH: Rs. 1/95 per 100 cubic feet. The work is being

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done between Lunkaransar and Bikaner which is right in the middle of the drought area. I do not know whether the Minister knows it.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA: The Canal work is being done by the PWD.

DR. KARNI SINGH: But they are all emaciated people afflicted by the famine and I request that this should be taken up separately from usual years because the food that they get to eat is not enough—the nutrition is not enough—and a man cannot work hard enough to dig so many cubic feet per day on a malnutrition diet.

Before I conclude I would like to express on behalf of the people of Rajasthan our sincere and grateful thanks to our neighbouring States of Haryana, UP, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Punjab for their generosity extended to us to try and help solve our problems and save the cattle wealth of our country. I am sure that such help will be forthcoming in a larger measure in the next few months.

MR. SPEAKER: Some Members have already said that they will speak on the next day; for instance, Shri Dange. We have seen the hurry of the other people. Naturally he has given way to the other Members to speak today. He is a top leader of the Party inside and outside but still he has been good enough to say that. I am very happy about it. Now, Shri Berwa is in great hurry; let us hear him.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा (कोटा) : मैं आज नहीं बोल सकता हूँ ।

MR. SPEAKER: He may not get a chance next time, Shri Nahata.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा: अब टाइम कहाँ है ? अभी घण्टे घंटे की चर्चा शुरू हो जायेगी ।

MR. SPEAKER: You Will lose your chance if you refuse to speak. I have called you. If you do not speak you will lose your chance. I am not responsible. I can deal with top leaders like Shri Dange, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and some other leaders but it is very difficult to deal with these people.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : अध्यक्ष महोदय...

MR. SPEAKER: All right; Shri Nahata may give him a chance. I have to accommodate people from Rajasthan and he comes from that area.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे बड़े अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि यद्यपि सदस्य यहाँ पर दलीय आघार पर चुन कर आते हैं और उन को उसी के अनुसार इस सदन में सीट दी जाती है, लेकिन अभी स्वतंत्र पार्टी की ओर से श्री रंगा के बोलने के बाद बारी के अनुसार जनसंघ के सदस्य को नहीं बुलाया गया । मुझे बड़ा दुख है कि यहाँ पर प्रजातंत्र के सिद्धांतों की उपेक्षा की जा रही है और पूंजीवाद पनप रहा है ।

हमने हमेशा देखा है कि राजस्थान में सर्दी के बाद अकाल पड़ता है, क्योंकि गर्मी में पानी सूख जाता है । लेकिन दुर्भाग्यवश इस बार सर्दी से पहले ही बारिश न होने के कारण सूखा पड़ गया । राजस्थान में सूखा पहली बार नहीं पड़ा है, वहाँ पर कई सालों से सूखा पड़ रहा है । लेकिन हमारी सरकार ने भेड़िये और गड़रिये की कहानी की तरह हम को मजाक समझ लिया और सोचा कि ये लोग तो हमेशा चिल्लाते आये हैं । मैं समझता हूँ कि राजस्थान वालों का चिल्लाना अनुचित नहीं था ।

हमारा यह दुर्भाग्य है कि राजस्थान नहर अधूरी पड़ी है । उस का एक-चौथाई हिस्सा बना कर छोड़ दिया गया है । अगर राजस्थान नहर बन जाती, तो डिफेंस की दृष्टि से हमारा बाँडर एरिया सुरक्षित हो

जाता और राजस्थान को भी पर्याप्त मात्रा में पानी मिल जाता, लेकिन शायद विदेशियों के दबाव या धन के अभाव के कारण ऐसा नहीं हो पाया है। जब मैं देखता हूँ कि यहाँ पर मंत्रियों की फ़ौज बढ़ती जा रही है, तो धन के अभाव की बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आती है। राजस्थान नहर को बना कर जैसलमेर तक ले जाया जा सकता था, जिससे उस क्षेत्र में पानी की व्यवस्था हो सकती थी।

आज राजस्थान में 12 लाख आदमी और 18 लाख भवैशी अकाल-ग्रस्त हैं। उन भवैशियों को पर्याप्त चारा देने की व्यवस्था नहीं है। सरकार की ओर से कहा गया था कि भवैशियों के लिए 30 कैम्प बनाये जायेंगे, लेकिन केवल 18 ही बनाये गये हैं। उन कैम्पों में 36,000 गाय रखी जानी थी, लेकिन रुपये के अभाव में केवल 3200 गायें रखने की व्यवस्था हो पाई है।

राजस्थान सरकार और केन्द्रीय सरकार ने पिछले 21 साल में राजस्थान में 52 करोड़ रुपये खर्च किया है। वहाँ पर 280 नलकूप बनाए गए, जिन में से 138 चालू थे। उन नलकूपों की क्षमता चार हजार गैलन से लेकर इक्कीस हजार गैलन तक थी। लेकिन स्थिति यह है कि सूखा होने और पानी न होने के कारण सिर्फ 36 नलकूपों में पानी है और बाकी सब में ठक्कन लगे हुए हैं। सरकार कहती है कि हम उन्हें गहरा करेंगे और पानी की व्यवस्था करेंगे। हमारे पूछने पर बताया गया कि चूंकि बिहार में अकाल पड़ा था, इसलिए सारे पम्प वहाँ भेज दिये गये। सरकार की उपेक्षा नीति का यह एक सुबूत है।

राजस्थान में 36 हजार गांव हैं, जिन में से 24 हजार गांवों में अकाल घोषित हुआ है। लेकिन कुछ गांव ऐसे हैं, जो नहरी एरिया में हैं, जहाँ लिफ्ट इरिगेशन नहीं है, लेकिन फिर भी वे अकाल के घास बने हुए हैं। कुछ क्षेत्र राजनीतिक आघात पर अकाल-ग्रस्त और सूखा-ग्रस्त घोषित किये जा रहे हैं जब कि जिन

एरियाज़ में अकाल और सूखा है, उन को छोड़ रखा है। कहा जाता है कि उदयपुर, सर्वाई माधोपुर और बांसवाड़ा के बारे में जांच की जा रही है और पाली, मंगानगर, भरतपुर, जयपुर तथा कोटा के बारे में रिपोर्ट तो आ चुकी है, लेकिन उस पर विचार होना बाकी है। सर्वाई माधोपुर का कुछ हिस्सा अभी भी अकाल के मुंह में पड़ा हुआ है और वहाँ खाने को कुछ नहीं मिल रहा है। तो यह एक राजनीतिक आघात पर इस तरह की सौदेबाजी करना और अकाल-ग्रस्त व सूखा-ग्रस्त एरिया बताना, यह कहां तक ठीक है? मेरे पास एक तार भ्राया हुआ है, बीकानेर के कोलायत क्षेत्र के कैम्प से, जो कैम्प आपने मजदूरी के खोल रखे हैं, उस क्षेत्र में 15-15 दिन हो गए वैसे नहीं मिले हैं। जो हमारा एक अकाल कोड़ा बना हुआ है, उसमें परिवर्तन होना चाहिए। वह ऐसा बना हुआ है कि चाहे सूखा पड़ जाये, अकाल पड़ जाये, कुछ भी हो जाये लेकिन वह घोषित नहीं किया जाता है। उसमें तब्दीली होनी चाहिए। लेकिन उसके हिसाब से भी देखा जाए तो एक आदमी को 18 छटांक घाटा मिलना चाहिए, दो छटांक दाल मिलनी चाहिए लेकिन अभी करणी सिंह जी ने कहा था कि एक रुपया 90 पैसा उनको दिया जाता है। मगर यह एक रुपया 90 पैसा एक आदमी को नहीं दिया जाता है। यह तीसरी फीट मिट्टी खोदने पर दिया जाता है और एक आदमी तथा एक औरत से तीस फीट मिट्टी खुदती है। तो आदमी को एक रुपया 12 पैसे और औरत को 78 पैसे दिए जाते हैं। अब बताइये कि एक रुपया 12 पैसे में किस तरह की मजदूरी हो सकती है? मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो फ़ेमीन कोड़ा बना हुआ है इसको तो डालो चूल्हे में, इसको तो लगाओ घाग और जो नई मंहगाई बढ़ गई है उसके हिसाब से मजदूरों को पेट भर भ्रम दिया जाए।

रेलवे ने कह दिया कि बीस परसेन्ट ह्रास कटौती कर वैसे चारे के बगनों में और गांव वगैरह भेजने के ऊपर लेकिन 20 परसेन्ट से

[श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा]

क्या होता है ? इधर तो जानवर मर रहे हैं, आदमी मर रहे हैं भूख से और हम चाहते हैं कमाई करना । यह बीस परसेंट कम करने से क्या फायदा है ? हमारी सरकार ने जो चारे के मंडार खोले हैं और जो अनाज के मंडार खोले हैं, उनके पास पैसा ही नहीं है, वह खरीदें कहां से ? उनको फ्री मिलना चाहिए । जब तक वे अपने पैरों पर खड़े न हो जाय तब तक उनके लिए फ्री राशन पानी होना चाहिए । मगर ये फ्री का नाम नहीं लेते, कहते हैं कि दस पैतें किनो फ्री छूट दी जायेगी । लेकिन यह पैसा आयेगा कहां से ? इन एरियाज के ग्रन्डर भ्रगर भ्रकाल को देखा जाये तो जैसलमेर और कोकरन के बीच में जो बेटों की झाड़ियां थी उनको काट-काट कर और उनकी छाल छील-छील कर आदमी खा गए । जब वह भी नहीं रही तो वहां से निकल गए । वहां का सारा बाईर एरिया खाली हो गया । इससे पाकिस्तान को अच्छा दांव लग जायेगा क्योंकि वहां से सारे आदमी भा गए, भ्रोंपड़े नष्ट हो गए, जानवर सारे इधर-उधर हो गए, कुछ नष्ट हो गए । सरकार को चाहिए कि भ्रगर राजस्थान की सुरक्षा करनी है, भ्रगर पाकिस्तान से लड़ना है, सीमा की सुरक्षा करनी है, तो सीमा के ऊपर उनको वापिस लाकर बसाया जाए और उनके जानवरों को रखा जाए । इस तरह का काम भ्रगर सरकार करेगी तो वहां पर सुरक्षा हो सकती है बरना दुश्मन किसी भी समय वहां भा सकता है ।

वित्त मन्त्री साहब कह रहे थे कि दो करोड़ रुपया और अभी प्रधान मन्त्री इन्दिरा जी जब वहां गई थी तो उन्होंने दिया था । उन्होंने भाते ही कहा कि दो करोड़ रुपया और देंगे । एक करोड़ रुपया पहले दिया और दो करोड़ यह, इस तरह तीन करोड़ रुपया क्या 12 लाख आदमियों और 18 लाख जानवरों के लिए पर्याप्त है ? कहां तक यह उनकी जरूरतों के लिए पर्याप्त हो सकता है ? एक करोड़ रुपया तो अनुदान के रूप में बजटका, बर्खा

या और जगह जो व्यापारी हैं, जो राजस्थान से गए हैं उन्होंने हमदर्दी दिखाई है और एक करोड़ रुपया दिया है । तो क्या सरकार इसकी जिम्मेदार नहीं है ? केन्द्रीय सरकार और राज्य सरकार, दोनों को चाहिए था कि वे मिलकर पर्याप्त मात्रा में धन जुटायें । अभी मुख्य मन्त्री सुखाड़िया ने स्वयं कहा है कि जब तक 60 करोड़ की रकम नहीं होगी, तब तक यह राजस्थान का दुर्भाग्य समझना क्योंकि उन के पास पैसा नहीं ही है और पैसा नहीं है तो क्या करेंगे ? उनके पास तो सिर्फ मंत्रिमंडल बढ़ाने के लिए पैसा है, भ्रकाल वालों के लिए पैसा नहीं है । मैं चाहता हूँ कि केन्द्र सरकार और राज्य सरकार मिल कर इसका जो उपाय अभी होना है उस उपाय को अभी करें । यह नहीं कि हम इतने हजार कुयें खोद देंगे, इतनी बिजली लगा देंगे, इतने खम्भे गाड़ देंगे । यह तो भागे की योजना है लेकिन अभी उनको बचाना है । अभी मौत के मुंह से निकाल कर उनकी रक्षा करनी है । इसके बाद और धन जुटाकर ऐसे उपाय किये जायें जिससे कि सारा भ्रकाल खत्म हो जाये और आइन्दा भ्रकाल न आये ।

कितना दुर्भाग्य है कि थोड़ी सी भ्रमकी देते ही आधा पानी पाकिस्तान को दिया जा रहा है । भ्रगर वही पानी राजस्थान के ग्रन्डर भा जाये तो गंगा नगर वाइमेर और जैसलमेर बगैरह हरे भरे हो जायें । अमेरी और जापान इंजीनियरों ने उसका सर्वेक्षण भी अभी का कर रखा है कि हम इसको हरा भरा कर देंगे लेकिन अभी तक इनका सलाह-मशिवरा ही नहीं हो पाता । न यह सरकार स्वयं करती है और न करने देती है । इसने राजस्थान को कटघरे में लटका रखा है । मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जो भी रुपया मिले वह राजनीतिक आँखार पर वितरित न हो । 66-67 में जो अभी काम हुआ था उसमें 50 लाख २० का थोटासा हुआ है और अगले उस पचास लाख रुपये की

डिप्लेन प्राप पूछें तो मैं बता सकता हूँ । उस वर्ष 17 सड़कों का काम हाथ में लिया, उसमें से एक सड़क का काम पूरा हुआ— कनोड़ से पचभदरा रोड और 16 सड़कों अधूरी ही पड़ी हुई हैं । सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग के अनुसार एक मील में जो ग्रेवल रोड बनाई जाती है, उसमें 42 हजार रुपये खर्च होते हैं । इस रोड पर 2,91,523 रु० खर्च हुए हैं । रामसर से चौहटन 25 मील का टुकड़ा हाथ में लिया जिसमें से 16.4 मील का टुकड़ा पूरा हुआ जिस पर 22,21,666 रु० खर्च हुआ । लेकिन 42 हजार छोड़ कर अगर 50 हजार से भी हिसाब लागया जाए तो 8 लाख ही खर्च होना चाहिए था । इस तरह 14 लाख खा गए । बाड़मेर से बदरमोद रोड 7.4 मील बनी और खर्च हुआ 11,72,160 रु० । गडरा-मंकरा रोड केवल 1.6 मील बनी, उस पर खर्च प्राया 4,63,000 मोहल्ला-गुड़ा रोड 1.4 मील बनी जिस पर 3,30,212 रु० खर्च हुआ । चोरी मन्ना धनाड़ भूमिया घाठ मील बनी जिस पर 13,98,000 खर्च हुआ । सिंदरी नोतरा रोड चार मील बनी जिस पर 2,15,811 रु० खर्च हुआ । बालोतरा नीली रोड तीन मील बनी, 2,96,562 रुपया खर्च हुआ गाराकातला से तुदला सात मील बनी जिस पर 10,28,562 रु० खर्च हुआ । इस तरह से प्राप देखिए कितने ही लाख रुपयों का चोटाला हुआ । अब प्राप सोच लें कि वह तो फिर एलेक्शन के दिन ये 67 में एलेक्शन लड़ना था इसलिए रुपया और कहां से जुटाते । घोतिया, पोतिया, लंगोटिया, यानी मजदूर का नाम लिख दिया घोतिया, बाप का नाम पोतिया और गांव का नाम लंगोटिया । इस तरह से झूठी हाजिरी और झूठे रजिस्टर बना कर सारा रुपया खा गए । मैं चाहता हूँ कि केन्द्रीय सरकार और राज्य सरकार दोनों की तरफ से अधिकारी नियुक्त हों जोकि उन रजिस्ट्रों की चेकिंग करें और जांच करके जो घोट घधिकारी हैं, जो

अकाल राहत का फायदा उठाना चाहते हैं, उनको उचित बंद दिया जाए । मेरे कोटा में कई एक एरियाज ऐसे हैं इन्मगड नायब तहसील बगैरह जो पूरे के पूरे अकाल में हैं लेकिन उन्हें कोई देखने वाला नहीं है, कोई ध्यान देने वाला नहीं है । सर्बाई माघो पुर का पूरा एरिया अकालग्रस्त है, कोई नहीं देखता ।

और दूसरे क्या हैं कि जो हाकिम हैं, जो सिंचाई के अफसर हैं, उन्होंने क्या फायदा उठाया है कि पानी देते हैं तो एक पम्पी निकाल देते हैं और कहते हैं कि पांच सौ रुपया लाओ नो वेंगे नहीं तो नहीं वेंगे । उन्होंने इस तरह अकाल पैदा कर दिया है । तो यह है स्थिति चल रही है जिसको कोई संभालने वाला नहीं है । दूसरी तरफ दवाओं के नाम पर, दूध के डिब्बे के नाम पर और तरह-तरह से लोग फायदा उठा रहे हैं । मेरे एरिया के अन्दर कई डिपोज में ऐसी-ऐसी घास पड़ी है कि जिसको जानवर तो क्या कर्हे कोई संभता तक नहीं, जिसको कोई खा ही नहीं सकता है । अनाज ऐसा पड़ा है जिसको जानवर भी खायें तो बीमार पड़ जायें लेकिन प्रादमी बेचारे उसको खा रहे हैं । इसको देखने वाला कौन है ? इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि इसका स्याई हल ढूँढा जाये । राजस्थान का अकाल और सूखा यह कोई प्राज का सबाल नहीं है । यह हमेशा का सबाल है । जरा मा केरल में हाहाकार मचता है, तीड़-फोड़ होनी है, हड़ताल होती है नो हमारे मन्त्री लोग वहां भागते हैं मय दलबल के साथ और हमारे राजस्थान की बेचारी गरीब जनता जो कभी ऊंचा मुंह करके बोलती थी नहीं और जिसकी टैक्सों के बारे खाल उछेड़ डाली, वह प्राज दाने-दाने के लिए मोहताज हो रही है । मेरा निवेदन है कि राजस्थान के मुँह से बुद्ध-स्तर पर निपटना होगा । बाईर पर से जितने लोग

[श्री श्रीकांर लाल बेरवा]

गए हैं उनको वापस बुला कर बसाना होगा। यह नहीं कि जो 1965 में पाकिस्तानी गए हैं उनको बुला कर वापस बसाया जाए। जो लोग ऐसे बस गए हैं उन्हें निकाला जाए और उनकी जगह जो बेचारे अभी-अभी गांव छोड़ कर गए हैं उन्हें बसाया जाए। मैं तो एक प्रश्न किया था इस बारे में तो मन्त्री जी ने जवाब दिया था कि कुछ पाकिस्तान चले गए थे और वे आकर बस गए हैं, उनको निकालना मुश्किल है। यह नहीं होना चाहिए। जो गये हैं बेचारे गांव के गरीब गये हैं, जानवरों को लेकर गये हैं, उन को वापस बसाना होगा और उन को बसाना चाहिये।

मैं, श्रीमन्, आपके द्वारा निवेदन कर्ंगा कि राजस्थान के मसले को कम मसला नहीं समझना चाहिये, इस मसले को युद्ध-स्तर पर निबटना चाहिए। आगे की स्कीम के बारे में नहीं सोचना चाहिए, आगे की जब सोचेंगे जब इनके प्राण बच जायेंगे, इन की जान बच जायेगी, नहीं तो 12 लाख आदमी और 18 लाख जानवर मौत के मुंह में हैं।

SHRIMATI SUDHA REDDY (Madhugiri): Mr. Speaker, of all the pestilences that can affect man, perhaps famine is the worst. Take the ravages of nature, famine or fever, or the ravages that can be inflicted by man upon man, and perhaps by man upon woman! like war. I think famine combines the worst of all these ravages in that when there is a situation of famine, man is at war with himself and with the whole community, with his surroundings. He is feverish; he has a sense of ill-being prevailing on him. Therefore, Kautilya was not far wrong when he said:

अर्षोऽनराणाम् पतिः अंगनानाम्
ऋतुराद् तरुणाम् वर्षा नदीनाम् ।
स्वधर्मं चारी नृपतिः प्रजानाम्
गतम् गतम् दौबन म्दानयन्ति ।

which meant, "Common well-being to man, a good husband to a beautiful damsel, spring to a tree, torrential rain to a river and a Righteous King to a good people—these bring rejuvenation to man."

We have been faced with famines and pestilences time and time again, quick often year in and year out; and yet, for the last 30 years we have been talking of nothing but temporary relief measures with an intermission of people speaking of long-range programmes which are never to come. I think we have had enough of these temporary palliatives which help us to tide over the situation for the present, but one must remember that, like all temporary programmes, the effect of the programme is dissipated and it is not really felt by the community.

I represent a constituency called Madhugiri. The name of the area is very sweet but it is as dry as a prickly thorn. The whole area has been drought-stricken for the last four years, at last this year one drill has been brought in by an organisation called AFPRO in conjunction with the Government of Mysore; one more is to come. How is it that we have not been able to bring in more of these drills? The drills used by the agriculture department are pitiful in their achievement. Normally, the drill tip gets stuck in the well, and that is the end of the well, the well has to be abandoned!

Then the land development banks which lend money for digging wells take so long to process applications. I understand that about Rs 10 crores have been given all over the country by way of aid for about 35,000 wells. This is absolutely the bottom of the minimum. I feel that at least 50 per cent of the assessed value of the security advanced should be given as loan to cultivators.

Then, again, take the state of our cooperatives. Usually in these drought

affected areas repayment is a very difficult thing and therefore, the co-operative movement itself has failed in these areas. What can be done to strengthen these cooperatives and if necessary subsidize even the share capital, when we are subsidizing even bad films in this country, has to be thought of at least for the future.

Minor irrigation programmes have been taken up, but still one sees more road relief work going on than minor irrigation in many areas. Quite a few of the Taluk Board Presidents and Taluk Boards do not realise that roads have to be maintained. Once or twice I questioned a few Taluk Board Presidents. They said the Government would maintain them. Therefore, there seems to be quite an amount of illusion in operating these short-term relief programmes, and I feel that unless we take up long term drought relief, famine relief, with missionary zeal, nay even on a war footing, nothing can be achieved.

When a specific provision was thought of in the draft fourth plan to the extent of nearly Rs. 40 crores, it was whittled down to Rs. 10 crores latter. I hear a pitiful provision of Rs. 50 lakhs has been made for the year 1968-69 which I think is quite a shame.

May I also stress that specific regional planning must be contributed to. For instance, in a taluk of my constituency the Taluk Board has very successfully experimented with tamarind plantation. Tamarind is a tree which can survive any drought. We all know that. I hear that each tree pays back as much as Rs. 800 per year. Therefore, why this sort of side line of development should not be thought of in these very dreary areas, is a matter for consideration.

Sheep rearing also could be taken up on a large scale. It is a pity that a country which perhaps sent about 200 sheep to Australia in the very early days is now short of good wool. Why should the Government of India not explore the prospect of bringing back strains of sheep which can

thrive better here from Australia, a country to which we sent them earlier?

With this may I request that the hon. Minister in charge may give due attention that the whole Government of India should bestow the attention that drought relief programmes require and give them such priority that they deserve.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the drought conditions prevailing in the country. Time and again both inside the House and outside the Government of India has been urged by millions of people to take permanent measures to meet the drought conditions prevailing for the last 20 years under Congress rule.

The hon. lady Member, newly elected from my district has mentioned this Tumkur district and various other districts of Mysore State. Chronic drought conditions are prevailing during the last 4 years and the Mysore Government has urged the Government of India for financial assistance to meet the situation. I am very sorry to say that the Government of India has not made any effort to bring any permanent measure in the State of Mysore. It has been brought to my notice that in the last month a memorandum was submitted to the Prime Minister of India and also to the President of India pleading for financial assistance to the Mysore State to meet the situation because continuously for the last 4 years drought conditions have been prevailing in Mysore State resulting in loss of human life and cattle. But, unfortunately, the Government of India did not come to their rescue. A criticism has been levelled against the team of officers of the Central Government, headed by one Mr. Sathe who visited to see the drought condition prevailing in that area, he has discriminated in not visiting certain districts. It has come to my notice that even in famine the Government of Mysore in collusion with the Government of India is playing politics.

[Shri K. Lakkappa]

I have to bring it to the notice of the Government of India that when Rs. 3.5 crores has been offered to the Government of Mysore, the Mysore Government has used it for political purposes in view of the Taluk Board elections and the Congress making use of this relief measure for their political ends and this corrupt practice of the Government of Mysore in collusion with the Government of India has brought still worse conditions prevail in the Mysore State.

17.51 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair.]

I would like to quote an instance where the Government of India officer visited certain parts of the Mysore State which have been chronically affected and the Government of Mysore has given a warning and asked the Government of India and the Members of Parliament for help. But unfortunately the team which visited Mysore, has not taken note of the serious consequences and the serious drought conditions prevailing in Mysore State, especially in Tumkur district and some other parts of Mysore State. I would also like to say that a discrimination has been made inasmuch as the Chitaldurg district only—because the Congress President comes from Chitaldurg district—got all the relief. I am levelling this charge. Let the hon. Minister who is in charge of Agriculture visit the spot and analyse the situation and assess the situation and see what politics is going on in Mysore State. Mr. Sinde had received several letters from people of my State and also received Memorandums to the Prime Minister of India and the President also that a solution should be found for such chronic drought in Mysore State. I would like to say that these chronic conditions prevail not only in Mysore State but in other parts of the country like Rajasthan and also in Bihar and Orissa. This was raised several times. I would like to say that nearly 1 crore of people in Mysore State have been affected as a consequence of

these drought conditions prevailing continuously for the last 4 years. What is the relief measure? Adequate relief measures have not been provided, and I have been stressing before the Government of India to see that a phased programme is drawn up as a permanent measure to meet these drought conditions. This area in Mysore is in the famine belt and a permanent measure should be found in order to see that relief is given to those areas. Unfortunately, the Government have not even recognised these famine belt and even the famine code has not been amended to provide relief to Mysore State. It is a very sorry state of affairs that has been prevailing in Mysore State.

Let me then take the minor irrigation schemes and the major irrigation projects. Some of the centrally-sponsored major irrigation projects had to be financed by the Government of India and all these minor irrigation schemes had to be carried out by the Mysore Government; they have had to prepare them, and no scheme even in the drought-stricken areas, in nearly 16 districts, has been sanctioned. Take, for example, the question of financial assistance. Let me mention the Tirukanapalya reservoir in my district. We have been urging for the last 12 years that the entire famine-belt area should also come under cultivation; and that project, which is a feasible one, has not been sanctioned, and it has been neglected because of politics.

I have to criticise this Government for not having established any relief schemes to see that at least some improvement may be made, over the past 20 years of this Congress rule. That being so, what right has this Government got to exist in this country? I demand the resignation of even the Minister, because, you respect the Constitution and you say that the rights under the Constitution are guaranteed so far as the citizens of India are concerned. What is the guarantee that we have got under the

Congress rule? We have seen cases of starvation; cases of deaths; malnutrition; we have seen several deaths during this Congress rule all these years, the Congress rule which has brought untold sorrow to all mankind. I would like to stress once again that the Government of India should institute an enquiry with regard to the Government officers' team which had visited the Mysore State, and especially the Tumkur district which has been neglected and which has not been visited by the officers concerned who have not taken note of the serious drought-conditions prevailing there.

AN HON. MEMBER: Is Tumkur your constituency?

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: There are other projects in other districts also. Chitaldurg district has been visited by Mr. Sathe because the Congress President hails from that district. What Congress Raj and what Congress rule you have got? (*Interruption*) I am not ashamed to say that you are playing politics here, in such a serious situation arising in the State.

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

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Just one minute. We have been urging on the Government of India and the Government of Mysore that a Famine Board should be created in each district where chronic conditions are prevailing. I would like to know what assistance has been provided by the Central Government. What has happened to the resolution passed by the Mysore Assembly requesting to sanction Rs. 20 crores to meet the situation, and what is the financial aid

that you have given? You have given only Rs 3.5 crores as financial aid. I would like to have a categorical assurance in this behalf. I would like to urge on the Government of India that they should make an enquiry in this behalf and also see that equitable finance assistance is distributed and permanent measures of relief are formulated so far as these 16 districts of Mysore State are concerned and in other parts of the country.

श्री अमृत नाहटा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे खाद्य मन्त्री श्री जगजीवन राम जी ने जो वक्तव्य यहाँ पेश किया है मुझे कहते हुए बड़ा दुःख है....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He may resume his speech later.

SHRI SHEO NARAIN: There is no quorum, Sir.

SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD (Kurnool): Sir, it has been agreed that the question of quorum should not be raised on such occasions. (*Interruption*).

18 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: After it has been raised, what can I do? Let the bell be rung.

The bell has stopped ringing and there is no quorum. The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

18.2 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Thursday, November, 28, 1968 | Agrahayana 7, 1890 (Saka)