भी मधु लिमये: मैं केवल घाक्षेपों को गिनाता हूं। मेरे जो ऐतराज हैं, उन को गिनाता हूं। घारा 8 1 में कहा गया हैं कि:

"The House of the People shall consist of not more than 500 Members chosen by direct election from territorial constituences in the States."

स्रोर एक बात कही गई है कि वृताव क्षेत्र मौर लोक संख्या का सम्बन्ध है। यह जो प्रतिनिधि है वह.....

Shri Randhir Singh: State Assemblies also, not only Parliament.

श्री मथु लिमये : मैं यही कह रहा हूं। ग्राभी विधान सभा की चर्चा करने से क्या फायदा है ?

Mr. Chairman: If you do not allow him to continue from this side and if in turn they do not allow you to continue from that side, the proceedings of the House cannot go on in this manner. It is below the dignity of this House... (Interruptions). The hon. Member has based his objections on certain articles in the Constitution. Unless he reads them I cannot formulate my opinion about this. So, please do not interrupt him. Now, we will take up the point of order next time.

श्री मन् लिमसे : मैं दो मिनट से ज्यादा नहीं चाहता ।

Mr. Chairman: Why not next time?

भी मण् लिमधे : तब तो प्रस्ताव हो खतम हो जायेगा ।

म्राप मपना निर्णय सुरक्षित रिखये।

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): Since it has been raised, let him take a few more minutes and finish it....(!Interruptions).

भी मनु लिमये : माप प्वाइंट माफ भार्डर को कैसे पोस्टपोन कर सकते हैं ? Mr. Chairman: In my own opinion, without prejudice to either side, there is a lot of force in this point of order and unless we study the point of order, we cannot decide upon it. I say this without prejudice to any side. We will have time to study this next time when we taken this up.

Shri Piloo Mody: He remains on his legs for three months.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: Will the discussion be continued next time?

Mr. Chairman: Yes. You will be considered to be on your legs; you will speak next time.

17.34 hrs.

## STARVATION DEATHS.

Shri Sradhakar Supakar (Sambalpur): Mr. Chairman, Arising out of the answer given on the 30th May, 1967 to starred question No. 152, I put a supplementary question as follows:

"Certain deaths on account of starvation were published in statements of some ministers. Has the Government verified whether the Ministers actually made the statement or not?"

Shri Annasahib Shinde replied as follows:

"As already mentioned by the hon. Minister we referred the statement to the various state Governments but no stage Government has so far submitted any information which indicates that there had been deaths due to starvation."

Before that date and after, many ministers of the different states have made statements—not merely ministers but also prominent public men have made statements about starvation deaths. I will be making a refer-

[Shri Sradhakar Supakar]

ence to some of them. The first statement that I come across is that made by a Minister in Uttar Pradesh. as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 11th April, 1967. I quote:

"At least 35 persons have died of starvation in the scarcity and drought-stricken district of Mirzapur according to the Food and Civil Supplies Minister, Mr. Jharkhand Roy."

Then, in the Hindustan Times dated 13th April, 1967, it is stated:

"Shri Udit Narayan Sharma, the Uttar Pradesh Revenue Minister, disclosed here today that some starvation deaths occurred in Dudhi, Robertsganj and Chunar tehsils of Mirzapur district."

Then, I come to the statement made by the Chief Minister of Bihar quoted in the Statesman dated 22nd April, 1967 from Bombay which says:

"Mr. Mahamaya Prasad Sinha, the Bihar Chief Minister, told the correspondents here today that 157 deaths due to starvation had been reported till two months ago in his State. Another dozen or so had died on the same account during the last two months."

Then, I come to another statement made by Mr. Roy, the Revenue Minister of Uttar Pradesh, dated 15th May, 1967 in the Hindustan Times. It says:

"Addressing a news conference, Mr. Roy said that starvation deaths had occurred and might still be occurring for want of food and water."

Then, I come to a closer date, the date on which this question was put, namely, 26th May. It is about the death of 150 persons through starvation. Mr. Birendra Kumar Saklecha, leader of the 66-member Jan Sangu

party in the MP Vidhan Sabha, tuday alleged says the report, "that in Surguja district alone, as many as 150 persons had died of starvation. We have also a report from the Rajmata of Gwalior; she has also made some statement. But this was denied by the Minister in the Bhopal Legislative Assembly on 5th July 1967."

I will quote one or more instances from other places. I will now quote from non-official sources. This is from a report dated 4th April:

"Mr. Shiva Prasad Jaunpuria, leader of the SSP group in the Assembly today alleged that a report of starvation deaths in Shadol district and four in Damoh district has been registered in the police stations."

I need not go on with other reports. But I may complete these quotations by quoting from a question of Shri Onkar Lal Berwa in this House on that day. In putting a supplementary question, he asked:

"वह श्रासीर में यहां बतलाते हैं कि मध्य प्रदेश में भूस से मरे 40,बिहार में 119 मरे, उत्तर प्रदेश में 166 मरे, राजस्थान में भूस से मरने वालों की संख्या 9 है।"

Now, all these statements have been made before the date when the question was put, and the hon. Minister was pleased to state that a reference has been made to the concerned State Ministers but no reply was received.

Since putting this question on 30th May, nearly 2½ months have elapsed. I want to know specifically from the Minister whether any further communications have been received from the Ministers in the States, specially from those who are alleged to have made those statements. If communications has been received, I want to know what action, so far as the responsibility of the Government of

19082

India is concerned, has been taken and whether the State Governments have asked for more aid in of foodgrains or in terms of medical other account. aid or on any actually they have not replied during the course of the last four months and more. I want to know how many reminders have been whether Government have analysed the cause why after making the allegations of starvation deaths, the ministers from the States have replied to the queries of the Government of India. All these things need clarification and that is why I have raised this discussion.

Shri Ranga (Srikakulam): I am glad Mr. Supakar has raised this question. In view of similar questions raised in the past as to the incidence of starvation deaths in different parts of the country and the replies given thereto by Government, with regard Saurashtra, to Orissa. Rajasthan, Kutch and also Andhra, may I know whether Government have any steps at all first to satisfy themselves about the need for classifying deaths due to serious under-nourishment as also deaths due to starvation? If they have not done it, what the lesson they have drawn from the discussions that we have raised this House during the past four years in regard to this matter?

Coming to the present situation, several ministers have made themselves responsible for stating there had taken place deaths due to starvation. Starvation is understood not in the sense in which coroners in the panchayat who enquire into the deaths of these people understand it, but in the sense that doctors would be prepared to understand and explain, when that they are due to a under-nourishment serious state of caused by want of food over a prolonged period of 10 or 15 days. What steps has the Government taken or proposes to take in order to assess properly the incidence of such deaths

due to serious under-nourishment and lack of supplies or availability of food over a prolonged period of 10 or 15 or 20 days? I have myself been witness to two deaths caused in this manner in Orissa. I am referring to Orissa. I saw those people, one who was dying and another who died only that morning. I enquired from local doctors and also local influential people. They bore witness to the fact that those deaths were due to the fact that those people had no money. . . .

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri-Annasahib Shinde): When was it?

Shri Ranga: Not now. It was in Orissa last year when that crisis had taken place in Orissa and we raised that question here.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): Which they denied.

Shri Ranga: And afterwards they had to admit that it was true. Now, those people did not have money, they went on begging, there was a limit to that and they could not get beyond that, afterwards the doctors and friends began to give them food but by then they had reached a stagewhen they could not swallow food, they could not take even liquid and when they took anything they only vomitted the whole thing with the result they did not survive. These things happened. Would it not be in the interest of our country if the Government of India could develop some measuring rod by which they could really assess the effect of scarcity of food that prevails in different parts of the country. They should also take into account the scarcity of water also during such times as this drought so that it may help in developing their own famine relief as well as food relief measures now and also for the future

**भी रणधीर सिंह** (रोहतक): चेग्नर-मैन साहब, मैं मजबूती के साथ इस खयाल का हं कि सैंट्रल गवन मैंट की तरफ से, श्रीर खास तौर से महकमा खुराक की तरफ से मिनिस्टर साहब ने, खराक देने का जो बन्दो-बस्त किया है, वह बेहतरीन है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हं कि यहां से स्टेटस की जी मंध्ली कोटा दिया गया. क्या स्टेट सरकारों ने उस कोटा को ठीक तरह से बांटा या नहीं । क्या यह डेंग्स शहरों में हुई या देशत में ? श्रगर ये डेब्स देहात में हुई, तो किन हालत में हुई? **क्या यहां से स्टेट्स को को**टा गया या नहीं ? न्या स्टेट सरकारों ने मनासिव एजेंसीज मुकरर कर के उस को ठीक तरह से डिस्टी-**ब्यूट किया या नहीं ? जो डे**थ्स हुई हैं, क्या उन के लिए कांग्रेस सरकार जिम्मेदार है या इस की जिम्मेदारी नान-काँग्रेस सरकार पर है जो डेथ्स हुई हैं.....

स्ताद्यात्तयाकृषि मंत्री (श्रीजगजीवन राम) : डेस्स हुई ही नहीं।

श्री रणबीर सिंह : ग्रगर नहीं हुई हैं, तो बहुत ग्रच्छा है, लेकिन ग्रगर हुई हैं, जैसा कि कहा जाता है, तो क्या प्रदेश सरकार ने एक-लिक्टिड पर्सन्ज को कोई कम्पेन्सेशन दिया है या नहीं ?

Shri E. K. Nayanar (Palghat): Sir, in Kerala, as the hon. Minister knows, the food situation has very worsened. During the last six months, it has been reported by Sarvodaya leaders, 200 people have died in Madhya Pradesh due to starvation. In Uttar Pradesh, in one district alone 200 people have died. In Kerala the deaths are due to cholera. In one district of Cananore and Tellicherry more than 100 people have died. It is due to famine conditions, scarcity and nothing else. My hon. friend here was mentioning about allotment of quotas of foodgrains. In these months of July and August, which are the worst lean months, against 75,000 tons of rice only 34,000 tons of rice have been given. The

Congress people there, instead of helping in solving this problem, are inciting the school boys not to go to their classes. They are inciting them to strike. They are not bothering bout that. The attitude of the Congressmen in Kerala is such.

I want to know whether, to arrest deaths due to famine in India, Government is going to evolve a policy to give an adequate measure of food to the deficit States. Talking about deaths due to famine or about solving the famine problem-do anythingwill not cut much ice. In UP which is not so deficit as Kerala is there were 200 deaths; then, there were 200 deaths in Madhya Pradesh and 100 in Kerala due to cholera. So, I appeal to the hon. Minister to give adequate food to the deficit States like Kerala to arrest deaths due to famine and contagious diseases like cholera and to send more food to Kerala during the lean months like these.

श्री रामसेवक यावव (बाराबंकी) : श्राच्यक्ष महोदय, यह भारत की लाख स्थिति श्रीर दमा का मर्ज लगता है दोनों एक जैसे हैं श्रीर मैं कांग्रेसी या गैर-कांग्रेसी सरकार को दोध नहीं देना च हता । लेकिन में पूछना चाहूंगा कि श्रभी मध्य प्रदेश का माननीय सूपाकर जी ने जिक्र किया कि वहां पर भी मौतें हो रही हैं श्रीर कई जिलों का वर्णन किया तो श्रभी वहां की सरकार ने 14 जिलों को श्रकाल क्षेत्र घोषित किया है, ऐसा मैंने श्रव्यक्षार में पढ़ा श्रीर साथ साथ उत्तर प्रदेश का भी जिक हुशा, वहां के भूतपूर्व खाद्य मंत्री श्री गेंदा सिंह जी के बयान का हवाला देते हए.....

श्री जगजीवन रामः उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री का भी बयान देखा?

भी रामसेवक यादव : वही मैं कह रहा हूं। तो मैं इस बहस में नहीं जाऊंगा कि मृत्यु हुई या नहीं हुई लेकिन भगर वहां भ्रान्त की कभी है भीर खास कर के गोरखपुर, देवरिया भीर पूर्वी जिले उत्तर प्रदेश के जी हैं वह इतने घ्रभावग्रस्त हैं कि एक बार इस सदन की संसदीय समिति बनी थी उधर विशेष ध्यान देने के लिए तो वह 14 जिले जो प्रकाल क्षेत्र घोषित हुए हैं उन्हें विशेष सहायता क्या खाद्य मंत्री देंगे और उत्तर प्रदेश के पूर्वी जिले खास तौर पर देहातों में ग्रप्त की कमी है वह कमी इसलिए है कि जो मोटा ग्रप्त जाता था वह नहीं मिल रहा है तो उस स्थिति को संभालने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही हो रही है?

श्री जार्ज फर्नेडी अ (बम्बई दक्षिण) : ग्रध्यक्ष महोदय, मझे मंत्री महोदय से दो चीजों का खलासा चाहिए। एक जो भख-मरी से मौत होती है इस की उन के पास कोई भखमरी की डेफिनीशन है क्या ? क्यों ग्रध्यक्ष महोदय, किसी हास्पिटल के ग्रन्दर या किसी डाक्टर के पाम किसी ग्रादमी के मौत के बाद जब उस की रिपोर्ट रखी जाती है तो उस में यह कभी भी नहीं लिखा जाता कि ग्रादमी भखमरी से मरा । उदाहरण के लिए बिहार में या और किसी भी इलाके में समझ लीजिए कि ग्रनाज न मिलने से कोई भी घास उठाकर खा लेता है या किसी भी पड की पत्ती ले कर वह खा लेता है भौर उससे बह भ्रादमी मर जाता है तो यह लिखेंगे कि इस भ्रादमी को उलटी हो गई भौर वह मर गया । भूखमरी की वजह से वह पत्ती खा गया भीर मर गया ऐसा कभी नहीं लिखा जायेगा । इसलिए मैं यह जानना चाहता हं कि ऐसा कोई भी स्टेंडर्ड या भौर कोई चीज है कि जिस से यह कह सकें कि इस किस्म की भखमरी की मौत है?

दूसरे जब से उस सदन में मैं भाया हूं तब से मैंने इस प्रश्न को पूछा है लेकिन भ्रमी तक कोई ठीक जवाब नहीं मिला कि यह जो फेंमिन एरिया करके डिक्लेयर करने की बात भाती है, मध्यक महोदय, भाप ने देखा कि जब तक कांग्रेस शासन रहता है तब तक

किसी भी इलाके को फेमिन एरिया कर के नहीं बताया जाता है। गैर-कांग्रेसी सरकार माते ही फेमिन एरिया कर के उसे कहा जाता है। तो क्या केन्द्र की ग्रोर से कोई फेमिन कोड है क्योंकि ग्रब कांग्रेसी सरकारें भी हैं और गैर-कांग्रेसी सरकारें भी हैं भौर ग्रौर फेमिन हिन्दस्तान में कोई नया मामला नहीं है, सदियों से चला ग्रा रहा मामला है, तो क्या एक राष्ट्रीय फेमिन कोड बनाने के लिए मंत्री जी कदम उठायेंगे क्या ? मैंने सना है कि अलग अलग सुबों में अभी के नहीं श्रंग्रेजों के जमाने के बने हुए फेमिन कोड हैं और इन कोडस का इस्तेमाल भी ग्रंग्रेजों ने बंगाल में तो नहीं किया लेकिन उसके पहले कई जगहों पर किया था, तो सब बातों का ग्राधार ले कर कोई केन्टी प फेमिन कोड बनाने का प्रयत्न करेंगे क्या ?

श्री श्रीवद गोयर (चण्डीगढ) : ग्रध्यक्ष महोदय, पिछले लगभग दो मास से ग्रनेकों प्रदेशों के, ग्रनेकों जिलों के संबंध में समाचार पत्नों में भुखमरी के समाचार प्रकाशित होते रहे हैं भीर हमारी केन्द्रीय सरकार की घोर से कभी इन समाचारों का खंडन भी नहीं किया गया तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हं कि क्या मंत्री महोदय ने स्वतंत्र रूप से कभी इस की जानकारी की है जैसे उदाहरण दिया गया कि उत्तर प्रदेश के मृतपूर्व कृषि मंत्री जो थे श्री गेंदा सिंह जी, हाल में उन की श्रोर से समाचार प्राया है कि वहां पर देवरिया जिले में मौतें भुख से हो रहीं हैं, तो मैं जानना चाहता हं कि क्या स्वतंत्र रूप से इस की जांच कराने की कोशिश मंत्री महोदय ने की है ? मैडिकल रिपोर्ट का सहारा लेने की बात नहीं है कि टेकनिकली वह भख से मोत हुई या नहीं । क्या प्रामाणिकता से सरकार इस बात की जांच स्वतंत्र रूप से कराने के लिए तैयार है कि कुछ व्यक्तियों के लिए इस प्रकार की परिस्थित निर्माण हुई कि खुराक की

कमी के कारण उनकी मृत्यु हुई है? मैं चाहता हूं कि स्वतंत्र रूप से जांच करा कर ईमानदारी सै उत्तर दें, मेडिकल रिपोर्ट का सहारा लेने की कोशिश न करें।

Shri S. Kundu (Balasore): It is indeed unfortunate that in our country people die of starvation. I like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one statement of the Prime Minister which she made when she visited Orissa during the famine, in Kalahandi, where she said that in some particular cases the people died mal-nutrition but not of starvation. I reel that it is indeed a contradiction in terms to say that people die of malnutrition but not of starvation. Malnutrition is due to under-feeding or sometimes due to no-feeding and sometimes it is by eating certain such things as roots, grass and such other things, which are not actually the real diet of human beings, not meant for human consumption. practically remaining in a starvation 'level.

So far, in the famine code or anywhere, as to what a starvation death is, has not been defined. Nobody has taken care to give any direction to the officers saying that under such and such circumstances, they should inform whether a particular death is dustor starvation or not. Will the hon. Minister take care to define what starvation death is and what exactly he means by starvation death?

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister.

Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma rose-

Shri Shri Chand Goel: Let the honlady Member be given a chance.

Shri Sheo Narain (Basti): Her name is not in the list.

Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma (Khammam): Why is he saying all this?

श्री शिवनारायण : मैं भी खड़ा हुआ। या मुझको भी सवाल पूछने का मौका दीजिये

Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma: He is not a lady....(Interruption) ग्राप तो लेडी नहीं हैं

श्री शिवनारायण : लेडी या नो लेडी का सवाल नहीं है।

भी रणघीर सिंह : यह लेडी बनने के लिए और पेटीकोट पहनने के लिए तैयार हैं।

श्री शिव नारायण : ग्रगर इन का नाम लिस्ट में है तो इन को मौका दीजिए सवाल पूछने का श्रीर नहीं तो हम को भी दीजिए ।

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: For the first time, he has raised a very valid point.

Mr. Chairman: This will not be treated as a precedent but a special concession given by the House.

Shrimati Lakshmikanthamma:
Sometimes the Chair has been allowing the Members to put questions whose names are not there in the list.

Sir, whenever there is a calamity in one part or the other of the country, there is the feeling of sacrifice and understanding amongst the people of the country. As to how the Government is using the machinery, either the A.I.R. or any other machinery, to rouse the people, I do not know. I have seen only Shri Jaya Prakash Narayan going about whole country, every State, forming committees and rousing the under-What are we standing of the people. doing in that direction? There is no dearth of the sense of sacrifice on the part of the people of this country, in the parts where there is no famine, to share the burden of the people who are suffering in other parts there is famine. Whenever such situations arise, I want to know how the

Government and the State Governments propose to contact the people and to make them realise the sufferings of the people in famine area what have been their reactions? What has been their share? The Andhra Government has sent three trainloads of rice plus Rs. 25,000 worth of medicines and so on. What has been the response of different State Governments, where there is no famine, to the sufferings of the people in famine areas?

18 hrs.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): Hon. Member, Mr. Supakar, has raised a point about the reported starvation deaths. true that on various occasions ports appeared in the Press wherein references were made to alleged starvation deaths, and whenever reports appeared in the Press or some important personalities in the country referred to alleged starvation deaths, we referred all such reports to the various State Governments where such deaths were reported. I must submit for the information of the hon. House that not a single death report has been corroborated by any State Government so far. Perhaps the members on the other side would have alleged or would have made the charge against me, had there been Congress Governments in all the States, that there were efforts to suppress the facts. But now in States there are Congress Governments and in some States there are non-Congress Governments. So, there is no reason to attribute any mala fide or to say that deliberate efforts were made to suppress the reports. To this day, though regular reports are being received from drought-affected areas, not a single report has been corroborated by any State Government.

Shri Ranga: You have to develop a yardstick.

Shri Annasahib Shinde: I am coming to that.

I must say that one of the worst calamities in our history had overtaken us this year. Despite the fact that we were working under strain, there are still 21 difficult months ahead, but I must state that with the co-operation of the State Governments and with the co-operation this hon. House and the voluntary organisations we have been in position to overcome many of difficulties and we faced the difficult period very bravely. I must say that the hon. Minister of Food and carried a very heavy Agriculture burden and responsibility in this period and he discharged it. I must congratulate him on behalf of the House, not because I happen to be a Minister under him but it is a historical fact. The most difficult situation was faced by all of us, specially by the hon. Minister, very courageously, and that saved the country from the worst tragedy which would otherwise have overtaken this country.

I need not go into the details because a detailed discussion has taken place in regard to food. I need not refer to Kerala and the other States. Yesterday the hon. Minister replied in detail in regard to the supply position about food in respect of Kerala, West Bengal and other States. But I must say that a tremendous help has been rendered by the Centre to the State Governments. For instance, during the last few months, though the revenue years are 1966-67 and 1967-68, about Rs. 170 crores have been advanced by way of assistance to the various State Governments by the Centre. This is a vast amount, and though the Centre is in financial difficulties, the Centre did not try to put that excuse in order to shirk the responsibility, but went all the way to help the State Governments. I must mention at the same time that Governments also took the State various schemes and activities; for instance, in Bihar, the minor irriga[Shri Annasahib Shinde]

gation activities were undertaken on such a big tempo. Now people have got the confidence that we can really face difficult periods if the right gort of programmes are given to the people.

I need not refer to the number of people employed on relief works. In fact, there was a period in June when about 34 lakh people were employed on relief works, but as a result rains, the number is decreasing. may refer to the Bihar figures which will indicate how the intensity is gradually decreasing. The largest number that were employed on relief works was in June and it was 7,37,642. From that figure, now in a month and a half, it has come down to 1,20,000. It shows how favourable rains and monsoon have helped a number areas to reduce the difficulty about employment.

Then various other relief measures by way of providing medicines, vaccines, etc., through the Health Ministry were carried on, and I do not think that anywhere, in any part of the country, the situation is out of control

Shri Ranga has referred to one of the important aspects of the problem, namely that of malnutrition or undernutrition. I must say that our country is a poor country and a large number of people suffer from malnutrition and under-nutrition. But it is not a situation peculiar to India alone. When we refer to the FAO reports we find that two-thirds of humanity today suffers from malnutrition. May I draw the attention of Shri Ranga to what has been published in the British journal The Economist dated the 5th July? It points out that even the most affluent society is also not free from this trouble of malnutrition.

Shri Ranga: It is serious undernourishment here over a prolonged period. Shri Annasahib Shinde: What I am saying is that it is a great problem and humanity has to get out of this situation. We must try to overcome this problem by increasing our production and industrialisation and finding employment potential and so on.

Shri Jagjiwan Ram: And also by increasing the purchasing power.

Shri Annasahib Shinde: And also by increasing the purchasing power. But the point that I was referring to was this....

Shri Ranga: If he has no yard-stick, let him say so. If he is going to have any yard-stick then let him say so. Why all this explanation? Nobody is accusing him here and now that he is responsible for it.

Shri Jagjiwan Ram: Even in Delhi, a large number of people suffer from malnutrition. Why should he forget our country's condition?

Shri Annasahib Shinde: The point that I was referring to was this. A team of medical experts had gone into the health problem in Mississipi and they say:

"Child after child is suffering from vitamin and mineral deficiencies, serious untreated skin infections, hunger and disease.".

If this is the case with the most affluent society in the world, what can we say about India?

Shri S. Kundu: They are mostly Negro children. Many of them are unemployed.

Shri Annasahib Shinde: They refer to all children including Negro children.

This problem is a world-wide problem, and in India we have assessed the problem and we are trying to overcome the problem. I have noth-

ing more to add, and I thank you for giving me an opportunity to explain the position.

Shri S. Kundu: He may not reply but let him bear in mind what we have said about starvation deaths.

18.07 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Saturday, August 12, 1967/Sravana 21, 1889 (Saka).