

(Interruptions)

SHRI KALKADAS: May I know whether constitution could be amendment on the basis of census of 1991. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Be seated please.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not a new Member of this House. You are an experienced Member. There is a practice in the House that no discussion is held after the Ministers statement. It is not good to ask questions after giving thanks or congratulations.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KALKADAS: Many a time a statement has been followed by clarification. We can see the record of the proceedings of this House. (Interruptions)

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR (Outer Delhi): The People of Delhi have continuously been demanding a Legislative Assembly for Delhi for the last so many years. The BJP had extended support to the Governments of Shri V.P. Singh and Shri Morarji bhai also. In spite of persistent demands, they failed to give Legislative Assembly to Delhi. I would congratulate the Central Government and the hon. Home Minister. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: The Government headed by Shri Rajiv Gandhi had formed a committee. (Interruptions)

What your Government could not do it in one and a half year we have done in six months. (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: When I am standing, you should resume your seat. He has already in his statement said that he is going to

bring forward a Constitutional Amendment Bill. You have every scope to say anything about it at the appropriate time. Now, let us continue with the Discussion under rules 193.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Mr. Chairman, I would like to know from the hon. Member who is praising the Government on behalf of the Congress Party about the committee which was set up. When was it set up and by whom it was set up and whether this Government is accepting the recommendations of the committee set up by the V. P. Singh Government. (Interruptions)

You are completely mistaken. You have little understanding about the Committee which has been finalised and set up by the Janata Dal Government during Shri V. P. Singh regime. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now if you go on speaking, I will say that it will not go on record.

16.41 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

**Flood situation caused by recent cyclonic storm in Bay of Bengal—
CONTD.**

[English]

SHRI K. P. REDDAIAH YADAV: During the first cyclone, the Central Government has not paid anything except Rs. 84 crores and crores and unfortunately the second cyclone has devastated all the standing crops in Andhra Pradesh. By 18th November, nearly 20 per cent of the standing crops were cut and another 80 per cent of the standing crops are completely damaged or partially damaged. (Interruptions) Innumerable losses have been faced by the farmers of Andhra Pradesh.

I want to bring it to the notice of the Central Government for its indulgence to advise the State Government. Although the Central and the State Government have said that the funds are limited, the cyclones are definite. Therefore, we have to find out a via media and some remedial measures. State Governments should also take responsibility in maintaining the irrigation and drainage systems.

In this connection, through you, I want to specifically bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that during 1990-91 under the Chief Ministership of Dr. Chenna Reddy, Andhra Pradesh, he has obtained Rs. 700 crores for drainage works from the World Bank. One year has already passed. He has spent nearly Rs. 120 crores in the first year and this agreement with the World Bank is for three years. In coastal districts, all the Rs. 700 crores is to be spent in three consecutive years. What happened to it? Andhra Pradesh is facing severe drought, flood situation and in Krishna and Godavari and coastal districts, the Government of Andhra Pradesh is reluctant to give water for the second crop. The reason given by the Andhra Pradesh Government is that the World Bank insisted and put a condition that no second crop should be allowed in Krishna and Godavari during this year I want to bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister Shri Mulappaly Ramachandran to advise the State Government in this regard.

If the Government of Andhra Pradesh is permitting the farmers to have to second crop by the end of February, the second crop will be over. By this, 2.5 lakh acres will be irrigated in second crop and each acre will give 30 bags of paddy which costs a definite amount of Rs. 150 crores which will accrue to the farmers of Krishna district alone. The reason for not allowing the farmers to have to second crop given by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh is that if we give the second crop, we may not be able to complete the drainage works in this season. As per the World Bank condition, during the third year also we can complete the rest of the drainage works. Therefore, only to misuse the funds of the World Bank, the engineers colluded with the politicians. They want to

contain the farmers' right to give the second crop water in Krishna and Godavari districts.

In this connection, I have also the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and the Irrigation Minister, and the Chief Secretary and I have also addressed letters. If they give the second crop, March-April-May-June will be the working season for executing the drainage works. During these four months, the balance of the drainage work can be executed simultaneously. After all, for Krishna District alone they are spending Rs. 38 crores in this season for drainage works. We will be losing paddy worth Rs. 150 crores in these two months if they do not allow water for the second crop as far as Krishna District is concerned. Therefore, you can understand the tragedy of these farmers because of the inefficient Government of Andhra Pradesh. About this point, I would request the hon. Minister of Agriculture Shri Balam Jakhar to advise the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has come. Moreover, I will have to accommodate three or four speakers. So, you please suggest the measures required.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV: This is a point where the farmers are on a war footing against the State Government. What I want to stress is that the Central Government should advise the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh to provide water for the second crop till February-end and then start this drainage work with the World Bank funds after March or April or May. With a sum of Rs. 38 crores the drainage work in respect of the drains Gunderu, Dudameru, Polaraj and Uppeteru can be completed in one month. If we think of Rs. 38 crores, then we have to lose paddy worth Rs. 150 crores.

Now, I want to give some suggestions to the Central Government. Wherever the coastal Districts are there along the coastal belt right from Orissa, Bengal up to Madras, some machinery should be created whereby permanent dredging can be done at the end of the rivers and drains where the water flows and fall into the sea. So, a permanent dredging division should be created so that this

phenomenon can be avoided. When floods occur, all the lands will be flooded. If we do some permanent relief measures, the heavy losses can be stopped on account of floods.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI (Hindpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, natural calamities in any form are becoming a regular feature of our area. Half of the time, our region i.e. the Rayalseema region in Andhra Pradesh will be under severe drought. This time it is under the floods caused by the recent cyclonic storm in the Bay of Bengal.

Sir, in the last Session, we asked for relief measures as our district was under severe drought. In this Winter Session, we are again on our feet voicing the impact of floods in our area. In either case, ultimately the sufferers are the peasants who have no other way of livelihood. So, you can imagine that if for two seasons continuously agricultural operations cannot be taken up what will be the position of farmers and agricultural labourers who live on day-to-day basis.

In this Winter, India is shivering. I learned through newspapers how the people of UttarKashi are suffering and how they are passing through this harrowing time in this severe winter without proper shelter and enough clothing. In our area also 20 per cent of the houses collapsed and I have seen how people are suffering without proper shelter. They are living in small temples, School-buildings, in community-houses in my District. I have seen how people are suffering without any shelter in my constituency. It is really heart-moving. Approximately, more than one lakh houses have collapsed in my district itself. They are mostly mud-houses, thatched roof houses belonging to poor peasants and agricultural labourers who are the victims of this calamity. My State Government is giving Rs. 250/- only for partially-damaged house and Rs. 500/- or fully-damaged house.

Sir, in these days of double-digit inflation what can the sufferers do with this meagre amount? When I referred this matter to our Chief Minister, he expressed his inability to extend further monetary help and desired to include sufferers in the housing programme. But under this housing scheme victims must have their own sites with layout Plans. With this technical point, housing scheme cannot be extended to sufferers.

Hence, I request the Central Government to intervene in the matter and extend support to the State Government in giving amount of Rs. 3000/- to partially damaged houses and Rs. 6000/- to fully damaged houses.

Floods is another area on which maximum impact has been felt. Minor irrigation and storage facilities, water breaching of irrigation canals and tanks are all very serious things which require immediate attention of the Government.

In spite of the best intentions, the scope of it is very limited due to meagre funds. Hence I request the Central Government to release necessary amount and help the State Government in facing this problem.

With these few words, I conclude.

DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI (Srikakulam): I thank you very much for giving this opportunity to speak on this very important subject. My friends have touched many aspects of the problem relief.

I measure after natural calamity congratulate the Central Government for giving fixed allocation to the States to deal with the calamities immediately where they occur. The fixed amount is not at all sufficient in the majority of the cases since these calamities are very frequent especially in coastal areas.

In my State of Andhra Pradesh, we have been facing either cyclone or flood or drought every year. All these come under this calamity. If one area is affected by floods the other area is affected by drought. Unless the

cyclone comes the drought-prone areas do not get regular water. So, for all these things, in addition to the amount allocated, some part of it must be spent for the permanent works especially in the case of floods you must have some provisions for this. Just as in the case of cyclones you have cyclone warning centres, the same way for floods you must have flood warning centres along the course of the river so that people can feel it and they will be evacuated from the affected areas.

Since river conservation is the part of the Central Government. They have identified some of the rivers. But no work has been taken. When you compare today's position to that of the position which prevailed ten years back, the rivers have lost their depth and even a two-feet high flood is becoming a great havoc to the persons living there. I also request that this conservation must be a continuous process and also the source must be strengthened and the people living in the low-lying-areas must be shifted gradually to safer places.

The other point I would like to stress is about the protection of villages. The Protection to those villages which are along the side of rivers, is very much needed. The villages must be protected. Also, along the course of the river just like for big tanks and reservoirs, you can provide surplus weirs so that the surplus weirs can take away the water and also reduce the flood level. The surplus weir can be located just below the river, where the river receives the tributaries.

In the coastal areas, the Government had provided cyclone shelters which are being used only during the cyclones. As they are not being used constantly, they are facing disuse and atrophy. And in those days when they are flooded, they are being collapsed resulting in another calamity being added to it. Instead of that, all those who need it, they must be given cyclone proof or resistant houses. Unless we take these permanent measures to protect the fishermen colonies, this relief from year to year will increase and the demand also increases.

[Translation]

*SHRI H. K. MUNIYAPPYA (Kolar):
 Mr. chairman Sir, Since Yesterday we are discussing the havoc created by the recent severe cyclone in the Southern States. At the outset I want to express my gratitude to the Government of India for releasing immediate financial assistance to the people who are severely hit by the storm of Bay of Bengal. Karnataka Government has also released funds for taking up relief measures. Our Honourable Minister of Agriculture Shri Balram Jharkhar visited the worst hit areas of Kolar and Bangalore districts to find out the extent of damage due to flash floods. But I would like to inform him that the 27 crore rupees financial assistance released by the Centre to Karnataka is not at all sufficient. Kolar, Bangalore Chitradurga and Tumkur districts have been affected by the Sudden Storm. The destruction of cyclone is more severe in Kolar and Bangalore districts including Bangalore city. The heavy rain poured round the clock on 28th, 29th and 30th of October, It repeated again on 17th and 18th of November. The estimated loss due to cyclone faced by Karnataka State is more than 200 crores of rupees. About 70 thousand houses have been damaged and 20 thousand houses have been completely destroyed in Kolar district alone. Most of the roads in this district are damaged and it requires atleast ten crores of rupees to repair them. Sixteen tanks in one of the Taluks and 26 tanks in the entire district have been damaged. The rain fall during this cyclone is the highest in the district since 55 years i.e. since 1955, In fact in Bangalore it was record rainfall of the century. In my constituency of Kolar ten thousand families have lost their houses. Most of them are living in some schools and chouse rice at present. Their future is gloomy I therefore, appeal to the Government of India to construct pucca houses for these desperate families through HUDCO and other agencies. Temporary arrangements do not solve the problems of the people. My senior colleague Shri V. Krishna Rao and I have requested the honourable Minister of Rural Development Shri Uttam Bai Patel to visit our constituencies. He has readily agreed to

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

[Sh. H.K. Muniyappa]

visit Kolar and Chikkaballapura on 7th and 8th of this month. Crops worth 40 crores of rupees have been destroyed.

Kolar district Farmers do not have money to sow the seeds They have no houses to live. Honourable Minister of Agriculture has seen the miserable condition of the people there. I therefore, appeal to Shri Balram Jhakkar and Shri Uttam Bhai Patel to release special financial assistance to the cyclone affected areas of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry.

The farmers in Kolar district have nothing of their own They are not getting any help from banks . Hence the centre should direct the banks in these areas to provide interest free loans to farmers. Earlier, few months ago, while speaking on the Budget I was narrating drought situation in Kolar district and in many parts of Karnataka. Now we are discussing as to how to rescue the people whose future is gloomy on account of cyclone.

17.00 hrs

As I had said during the Budget discussion we have to find out permanent solutions for these perennial problems. Ganga and Kaveri rivers have to be linked The water of Mahanadi has to be flown to the southern states. Then, the problems of Kaveri dispute, Telugu Ganga dispure, Krishna river water dispute etc. would be solved automatically. This would also pave way for people to live live brothers instead of indulging in frivolous disputes.

Our late lamented leader Smt. Indira Gandhi had shown us the path to find out permanent solution to all these problems. We have to take up projects which can solve the problem once for all. We have to stop spending thousands of crores of rupees on temporarily relief measures. The farmers should get water for irrigation. Unemployment problem should be solved Banks should provide interest free loans to farmers. Then only the life of farmers can improve. They can grow more and more commercial crops

and improve their financial condition. Irrigation facilities would enable the farmers to grow more food grains. I therefore, once again request the Government of India to give a serious thought to this problem and to make all efforts to flow the water of mahanadi towards Southern States.

The people of four districts who are reeling under severe cyclonic condition should be taken care of by the centre and State Governments on war footing. Kolar is the worst affected district and the estimated loss exceeds 70 crores of rupees. The total amount needed for the relief measures in Karnataka is over 200 crores of rupees. I am confident that Shri Balram Jhakkhar and Shri Uttam Bai Patel would come to the rescue of the suffering people. More money should be released from Prime Ministers relief fund and it should reach people directly for whom it is meant. While Providing Some temporary relief measures the major chunk of the money goes to the contractors. This has to be avoided completely. Beaucrats also should not be allowed to misuse the funds. Only the needy and right persons should get the assistance. These aspects were given the utmost importance while implementing the Twenty point Programme and other revolutionary programmes of our late Prime Minister Indiraji.

I have seen with my own eyes how the funds are being wasted on temporary relief measures. I have observed this not only in my constituency but in the entire State of Karnataka. Crores and crores of rupees are being spent with out any future plans. If an amount of 500 crores of rupees is spent this Year there will be demand for another 500 crores or even more in the next year this is a never ending process. That is why I am repeatedly stressing that Government should go in for permanent projects. Pacca houses have to be constructed. More and more Irrigation facilities have to be provided to the farmers. Ganga and Kaveri rivers should be linked and this project should be taken up at the earliest. The water of Mahanadi should be flown towards Southern States without any further delay. Then only the unemployed persons get jobs. The farmers can grow

commercial crops and the economy of the country can improve.

I hope that the Government would consider these suggestions seriously and help farmers and other cyclone affected people in alleviating their sufferings. Koiar Tumkur, Bangalore and Chitradurga should get more assistance as they are yet to recover from the shock of cyclone.

Sir I think you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this very important subject and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI P. P. KALIAPERUMAL (Cuddalore): Respected Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much and I assure you that I will be precise and brief, knowing the time constraints.

At the very outset, I convey the heart-felt thanks and gratitude of the people of Tamilnadu to the Government of India for its timely help—both financial and administrative in the matter of remedial measures taken on war-footing. I also congratulate the Government of India for its functional sincerity and its vigilant monitoring in the remedial measures taken by the Government of Tamilnadu.

Mr. Chairman, the recent relentless and heavy rains and the cyclonic storm that crossed the Eastern coast between Cuddalore and Karaikal have caused extensive damage in the South Arcot District and some other districts of Tamiinadu. Due to the natural calamity, several people were killed; thousands and thousands of people were rendered homeless, paddy crops in over 50 thousand acres of land have been damaged in my district, roads in many parts of the district were damaged, all the villages are almost inundated. All the tanks and lakes were over-flowing.

The Veeranam lake, the lake built by the Chola king has developed breaches. So also, The perumal lake has developed breaches. The sea water entered the coastal

villages of Cuddalore and thousands and thousands of fishermen were badly affected. Traffic is disrupted following land slide in Kalvarayan hills. Even the highways and railway tracks were inundated. The district is mostly affected. The district administration is in full swing, taking preventive measures and ameliorative action. The Government of India has to step in and assist the State in its relief measures and also to assist the affected people directly.

The Government of India has done a lot. However, I urge upon the Government of India to send a study team to assess the extent of damage caused to Tamiinadu. The financial help rendered is not sufficient. Hence I request the Government of India to release Rs. 500 crores to Tamiinadu for flood relief. I urge upon the Government of India to advise the nationalised banks situated in the affected areas to grant housing loans, crop loans and also consumption loans to the people identified as affected by the recent cyclone and floods. Further I urge upon the Government of India to advise the banks to write off the loans due from the persons affected by the recent natural calamity.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have taken note of the anguish and sufferings highlighted by the hon. Members in the House. In the face of such difficulties what can one do except expressing sympathy for the sufferers. I want to that spot and was totally moved to see the scene there. Wherever, I went heartcending scenes were witnessed. House and standing crops, ready for harvesting were washed away and completely destroyed by the sudden calamity. I visited the villages where kuchha house were collapsed and the people were devoid of shelters. It was difficult to wipe the tears of affected persons. But what can one do except saying a few words of sympathy.

The Hon. Prime Minister on 23rd visited the area and called a meeting of all the officers which was also attended by me. The Hon. Prime minister advised to take emergent

[Sh. Balam Jakhar]

steps and mobilise resources to meet the present situation. He also suggested to contemplate the measures to be taken to face such calamities in future. One more suggestion having far-reaching implications was also given by him. He said that if houses, factories and vehicles can be insured then why can't crops.

At present the insurance facility is available to the extent of the loans given by the banks that is upto Rs. 10,000. Under the scheme insurance equal to the amount of loan was permissible but that scheme too has not succeeded. Now as per his advice I have constituted a committee. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members towards the issue and request them to give suggestions on how to make the scheme successful. They are welcomed to give good suggestions. So that different insurance schemes could be formulated for different calamities like cyclones, drought and hailstorms in hills which destroy crops in the fields. Different calamities have different affects on various crops and so are to be dealt with separately. For it, I would like to request all the hon. Members to give suggestions so that the Government arrive at a conclusion beneficial for all and can also protect farmers from difficulties in future.

It is not possible for the Government to fully compensate the loss for lack of resources. Whichever Government may come to power and howsoever powerful and financially sound it would be it will not be able to fully compensate the loss..The Government can just endeavour to somehow rehabilitate the sufferers through nominal compensations, in order to again make them stand on their own feet and also to help them forget the agony and sufferings.

Meteorological Department responsible for making forecast has excelled even this time. Many hon. Members have given good suggestions. It has been alleged that on an earlier occasion a great loss was suffered because of incorrect information but this time it is not so because this time continuously

advance warning was given and the loss of life and property was minimum. While in case of cyclone in Andhra for lack of forewarning thousands of people lost their lives. Persons living there were shifted in advance. It had struck Pondicherry most violently but even in Pondicherry no lives were lost as people were shifted in advance and the loss was restricted to only property and belongings. This time safety measures were taken in advance.

Secondly, there is shortage of funds. That's why problems and difficulties are faced. Till March, 1990 Central teams used to visit affected area to make on the spot assessment of loss and on the basis of its recommendations grants used to be sanctioned by the Centre. Ninth Finance Commission in consultations with and on pursuance of the State Governments recommended that the funds set apart for natural calamities may be put at the disposal of the states instead of Central Government. This recommendation has since been accepted. State Government and Chief Secretaries have been entrusted with the task of formulating policies and norms for disbursing funds on the basis of requirements of various areas. After the Ninth Finance Commissions Centre does not have any financial powers in this regard and all powers have been given to States. All the funds are disbursed in 4 instalments.

That's all the Government can do. Recently, I visited Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. If the instalments due to them had not been released earlier, these should be released now. Not only this, we have released future instalments and one instalment of even next year. This much has been done.

17.16 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, besides these, many other issues which need attention are also under consideration like making funds available from NABARD or Housing Bank. In view of the present situation what else could

be done except giving more assistance and declaring it a national calamity. I will do my best in this regard. I have given my report and the consultations on the issue are being held with others. On my visit to Andhra Pradesh I had a meeting with the Chief Minister and officers there. Subsequently on my visit to Tamil Nadu, I had cordial discussions with the Chief Minister of the State. I was told of the sufferings faced by the people there. I also appreciate the work done by them in this direction. As per the figures furnished by them they had suffered a loss of Rs. 390 crores. They gave many other informations. Then on my visit to Pondicherry and Karnataka, Lt Governor and Chief Minister of Pondicherry, and Agriculture and Revenue Ministers of Karnataka told me of their own sufferings. I informed them what all could be done by the Centre. I also suggested that to give relief they can convert short term loans into long term loans, they can write off loans or interest thereon. I gave these suggestions to them on the relief measures. In addition, I also assured that Centre will provide all possible help. It will provide seeds. This area is cyclone prone. This year cyclone struck two times and last year it struck one time. So why not long term measures be taken for the future, like selection of crops which can withstand effectively the onslaught of cyclone. I had discussions to explore the Possibility of starting horticulture and plantation of mango trees in the area so that losses suffered by the farmers could be minimised.

During discussion we also talked about seeds. I also suggested to make provision of new varieties of seeds of oilseeds, like sunflower etc. This way we should adopt new methods there.

Just now a few hon. Members were referring the name of Kolar. On my visit to Kolar, I saw the damaged houses of poor in the affected villages and even in these difficult circumstances, I saw a ray of hope for the better future in the area. For years the wells in Kolar had dried up and there was no water in them but now these wells have water again. Therefore, I suggested that since the rains had been good, so the loss must be

compensated by taking full advantage of the circumstances. To improve the plight, seeds fertilisers and other essential things must be made available to make the persons of the area stand on their own feet.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharsa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that recently Rs. 200 to 300 have been given to repair damaged houses—

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: I have not given.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: This has been stated in the report which is available in the library. I mean to say that atleast the amount disbursed should be enough to provide immediate relief. Otherwise, the amount of relief, of Rs. 200 to 300, is most likely to be misused and defeat the purpose.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: All these things are taken care of by the State Governments. State Governments are incharge of disbursement of funds as per the requirements. The Central Government allocates funds in lumpsum and other powers have been given to the Centre. Subsequently, I had submitted my report to the Hon. Prime Minister. Only after the matter is taken up in the Cabinet meeting a new formula is likely to be evolved.

Some hon. Members have suggested amending the present set up because what all is disbursed as per the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission is insufficient. Then, how it all should be decided? Till now a decision has not been taken about declaring Andhra Pradesh calamity as a national calamity. Whole things is possible only through reopening of the case. I am bound by rules and so have certain limitations. Rules cannot be flouted till the amendments are made. I have got my own limitations. I can only express my sympathy. I can do what all is possible within the rules and wait for the future. I can try what all is possible. Make both seeds and fertilisers available. I will try level best to make maximum assistance available to my brethren. Sufferings do not make any distinction between me and the farmers and cause. Similar agony. Suf-

fering can be shared and must not be taken lightly. All efforts must be made to remove the sufferings. What ail is within my powers will definitely be done. To make the people move, I will put my oratory to the fullest use. Economic crunch is well known. But whatever is possible within the resource constraints will be definitely done. All these matters are under my consideration.

World Bank has a aid programme for Andhra Pradesh. It can also take advantage of that. On these lines Karnataka and Tamil Nadu can also be helped. Issue of Pondicherry does not come within the purview of the Finance Commission but is looked after in the Ministry of Home Affairs. Already a grant of Rs. 1.07 crore have been sanctioned and if the need be, request for more funds can be made to the Ministry. For the states, I have already prepared a report and other reports about losses are pouring in and will be compiled. For additional funds I will submit the report to the Hon. Prime Minister and also place it before the Cabinet. One thing I would like to submit definitely that present structure needs to be amended to enable the Government to take up permanent measures in cyclone prone areas.

I am grateful to the hon. Members for participating in the debate and assure that I will try my best in the matter.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad): The Government has issued instructions to FCI to procure paddy damaged upto 20 per cent. In Andhra Pradesh farmers have suffered more loss to their crops. So, the farmers of the State are not going to be benefited by the Government's decision. Paddy crop has suffered more than 50 per cent damage. So, who will procure such paddy?

(English)

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: That relaxation has been granted by the Food Corporation. I have got it done. I have got the orders passed to purchase the paddy which

has been damaged to certain extent.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU (Tenali): That relaxation has been granted only upto 20 per cent. But in East Godavari West Godavari districts of Andhra Pradesh, more than five lakh hectares have been affected and the paddy has been totally damaged. The damage is more than 50 to 70 per cent.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: After procuring such damaged paddy, we cannot dispose it of. We can go only upto a certain extent.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: When the Union Government procures the grains in goods years, but and when there is a bad crop, the Union Government must stand by the farmers. I say this because the total crop is damaged and the farmers are in district.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The discussion was scheduled to be over yesterday and it is continuing even today. It is not in good taste if question are asked even then.

SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU (Dharmapuri): Sir our expectation of giving additional money for the relief work has not been fulfilled. I would like to urge upon the Minister, since the Department is under his control, that the calamity control fund may be released immediately for the State of Tamil Nadu. I would request you to impress upon the Cabinet and the Prime Minister to release Rs. 522 crores to the State of Tamil Nadu, otherwise we will be in a great difficulty.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, last time when we discussed the flood situation in Orissa, we raised certain matters. The Prime Minister visited our State and assured that Rs. 35 crores extra will be given to the State of Orissa. The same assurance was also given by the hon. Minister in the House. But that amount has not been released so far. So,

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, I

requested the Hon. Minister and also to the Government of India to consider this as a national calamity.

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to repeat it.

[Translation]

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar): Mr. Speaker Sir, floods, drought and excessive rainfall ruin the crops of the farmers of our country. Is this Central Government making any law to compensate the farmers?

[English]

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: Sir, there is nothing more to add except about one point regarding the State of Orissa. If the former Prime Minister promised something but did not fulfil that promise then I cannot say anything about that.

As far as I am concerned, I will look into it. I cannot take the guarantee for the earlier Government but I am ready to agree the suggestions made by you.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, my request is that it should be considered as a national calamity.

SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR: There are no norms for that. That has to be decided. If that is the case then you may be knowing that the first Andhra Pradesh cyclone has not been declared a national calamity so far. This is in the Straightjacket. They can take the power from the Centre and utilise it for their own standing. The Chief Secretary is the Chairman of the Committee. Whatever I can do, I will do. I will convey your feelings to the proper authority.

I think the best thing that has come out of this discussion is the Prime Minister's anxiety to have the Crop Insurance Scheme. It will cover all the commodities.

17.28 hrs

INDIAN SUCCESSION (AMENDMENT)
BILL — CONTD.

As Passed by Rajya Sabha

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now we move on to the next item on the Agenda. The time allotted for this was one hour and the time consumed is 41 minutes. The remaining time at our disposal is 19 minutes. I hope that we shall have to pass this Bill today itself, otherwise, we will not be able to take up other matters which are listed for tomorrow.

Shri V. N. Patil was on his legs.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL (Erandol): I congratulate the Minister for having brought this legislation. In Parliament we discussed a legislation about maintenance of law and order. We have passed so many laws.

MISA is there. TADA is there. Law against drug trafficking is there. This is a part of the social legislation. There are many irritants in the marriage laws.

The personal laws of different religions need change with the changing times. I am glad that the Parsi community has come forward to make this change and that is why this Amendment in the Indian Succession Act of 1925 has been brought.

Parsi community is an enlightened community. It is highly educated and a highly educated and a highly progressive community. I hope, similarly, the other communities will also give consent for bringing in such types of social legislations which is the need of the hour.

Some people are very touchy when we think of social legislation, change in the personal laws of the people belonging to different religions. But what we see now-a-days is that there should be some law regarding control of population also. It will be a