

[*Translation*]

SHRIDILEEP SINGH BHURIA (Jhabua) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, here I would like to draw the attention of the House to one or two important issues. Many of the tribal areas in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan are stricken with severe famine and drought, but the state Governments are least concerned. As a result of that no relief work is being operated there. So the condition of the people there has become very miserable. The people have neither food to eat nor any employment there. The cattle too are not getting grass and drinking water. I, therefore request the House through you to send a Parliamentary team there to find out the actual condition of those regions. (*Interruptions*)

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur) : Mr. Bhuria, Sufficient Relief work is going on there. You and I belong to the same regions. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Mr. Pandeya, they are not the relief works. They are rather works being done under the Jawahar Rojgar Yojna. Sir, I would like to point out that once the Chief Minister held a meeting. He stated in the meeting that if the B.J.P. did not win, all the work will be stopped. It came true. The B.J.P. did not win there and they stopped all the works. The condition is very serious there. (*Interruptions*)

I am not talking about Vidisha. Rather, I am talking about Jhabua and Ratlam Food is not being made available there. Cattle are not getting grass there. All the work which was being done in the past, has been stopped. The only thing I request you that the relief work should be started there immediately, so that the people there may be relieved of drought and famine.

[*English*]

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane) : Terrorist

activities are now on increase in Maharashtra. After the bomb blast in Ray-Road, Kalwa and Malad Railway Stations, the horrifying incident in a running suburban railway train on the 8th November, 1991 at Kalyan has claimed 12 lives. In Bombay's congested population and especially the suburban railway trains which cater nearly to half the nation's commuters and are overcrowded, the terrorists have found a vulnerable target and the Government have deplorably failed to prevent or curb the menace which shows lack of vigilance even after the previous blast.

I demand a statement by the Home Minister as to what steps are being taken to prevent occurrence of such incidents. However, there was an appalling absence of any crisis management arrangements at Kalyan. Only because of right steps by voluntary organisations the fatal chaos could be partially avoided as there was complete collapse of the administrative machinery.

The compensation offered to the kinds of the deceased and the injured is so meagre that it amounts to cruel joke. Railways have paid Rs. 5,000 to the kins of the deceased and Rs. 1,000 to the injured. It needs to be increased immediately. I therefore also demand a statement from the Railway Minister.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : We have read in the newspapers stating that the Prime Minister made an announcement on the 19th of November that two National Commissions would be set up. I am a little confused.

My dear Parliamentary Minister, kindly hear me. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Minister pay his attention to what the hon. Member is saying.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: As the Prime Minister is not here, I request the

Parliamentary Minister to hear what I am saying. I am sure my friend Shrimati Malini Bhattacharya would also be saying on this.

This announcement about the formation of two National Commissions does not spell out as to what had happened to the National Commission on Women Act, 1990, which we all passed here. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan is here now. The National Commission on Women Act gave statutory status to the Commission and Statutory rights. We had been fighting for it for a decade. All the parties were committed to that.

Now that being the situation, will these two Commissions have statutory powers? If so, another Act has to be passed. Why are these two things separated? It is difficult to have really one Commission and having two Commissions means, as there is a saying in Bengali, "two many cooks spoil the broth."

I am representing all the women here. All the women were committed to that Act.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur) : Not just the women but also men.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: So also the men. All of us were committed to that Act. Please Immediately go forward in forming the Commission according to that Act and see how it works, and also take our cooperation in doing that.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: I am not reiterating any point made by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee. I am only saying that we have been pestering the concerned Minister throughout the last Session to make some kind of a commitment on the National Women Commission Act and we have not been able to get any such commitment. It seems that the Minister was most reluctant to implement the Act. Now we find that the

skies are absolutely pouring with Commissions: We have not got one Commission but we have got two Commissions...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you repeating it?

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: I feel that these are not Commissions, these are just Committees.

They are not statutory; they are not autonomous. So, let the Government not make a mockery of the term "National Commission on Women". That is my request. Let the Prime Minister make a statement in this House. We want a discussion on this.

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Birbhum) : Through you I want to draw the attention of the House to a most urgent and important issue concerning Tripura.

In Tripura particularly the tribal heartland of Baramura, Altharamura, Debtamura, Longtarat and Sakhai Tlang, the people there have been suffering from acute food crisis this year. Due to that hundreds of tribal people including children have already died. There is an out break of gastro-entritis. The 'Food for Work' programme has been stopped. The supply of foodstuffs through ration shops is also not there. so people have no use of ration cards. They are selling their ration cards to the moneylenders of the area.

I ask the Central Government to come forward to save these hapless Tribal people. I also urge the Government to send a Parliamentary delegation there to find out the facts for themselves.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI UMA BHARTI (Khajuraho) :