FEBRUARY 28, 1992

12.00 hrs.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You speak one after another, I will give a chance to ... of you.

SHRI ASTBHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA (Khalilabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the amount allocated for the annual plan of Uttar Pradesh. The State Government has asked for Rs. 4034 crore for its annual plan for 1992-93. but the Union Government has allocated only Rs. 2559 crore which is Rs. 1150 crore less than the State's plan outlay for 1991-92. The State Government had demanded Rs. 3710 crore for its 1991-92 plan, but the Union Government granted only Rs. 2848, crore. The State's economy has been put on the reverse gear as a result of these cuts. The Per Capita Income of the State is also among the lowest in the country. In 1988-89, the appropriation rate in the State was 8.6 percent, while it should have been 16 per cent. The special loan allocation of Rs. 787 crore made on the recommendation of the Ninht-Finance Commission as well as Rs. 700 crore assistance promised for the Anpara Thermal Power Project is also included in this. As a result of a decrease in Central financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 800 crore, during 1991-92, the State received only Rs. 2848 crore. Similarly, the State Plan outlay for 1992-93 was only Rs. 4034 crore and out of this the Union Government allocated only Rs. 2559 crore. The allocation of an amount lower than that of the previous years for the annual plan is perhaps unprecedented in the history of the State. A step-motherly treatment is being meted out to the State. Due to paucity of funds, no allocation has been made in the State's 1992-93 plan outlay for the Anpara Thermal Power Project, on which Rs. 2,000 crore has already been spent. I would like to draw your attention towards the fact that on the request of the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the

Union Government increased the allocation from Rs. 1486 crore to Rs. 1751 crore to meet the requirements of Tamil Nadu's revised plan. Similarly, the Government should concede to the request of the Chief Minister of U.P. to enable the all-round development of the State. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not able to get what you are saying.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will be able to understand only if you speak one after another. I am not able to understand what you are saying.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I said that I will listen to you also. You please speak one after another.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will hear you all. But I will allow you one after the other. Yes Mr. Bhakta.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman & Nicobar Islands): Mr. Speaker Sir, as you know, shipping services are the lifeline for the people of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. In the last two years, we have suffered like anything. Passengers were stranded at Calcutta and Madras and some of them have even died because there was no place for them to stay and there was nobody to look after them in those areas. We had four passenger vessels. Government of India has withdrawn three passenger vessels, MV Akbar and MV Ramanujam have been withdrawn and MV Nicobar is under orders of withdrawal. The people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands are facing a lot of difficulty. Under these circumstances, there is practically a total collapse of the passenger services. Since this is not a controversial issue, I hope all sections of this House support me for the sake of the people of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Government must take immediate action to see that MV Nicobar which is under orders of withdrawal is not withdrawn from the passenger services. I request the Government to take action and ensure that the passenger services are not disreputed.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We all support his cause.

MR. SPEAKER: Somnathji and Vajpayeeji are supporting Shri Bhakata. We all support him.

I think Members from Uttar Pradesh wanted to say something. One of you may please articulate it properly.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, passengers from the Islands to the Mainland and from Mainland to Island have to face this trouble because out of 4 ships, every year some ships are withdrawn......(Interruptions)......

MR. SPEAKER: Are you also supporting Mr. Bhakta? Everybody is supporting him and I also support him. I think Government will look into it. Please sit down.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: This year three ships are withdrawn. One ship is to be repaired. We demand that ships which are under operation should not be withdrawn and passengers from Mainland to the Islands and from Islands to the Mainland should not suffer because of the withdrawal of the ships.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonia): Mr.

Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government as well as the House to the fact that this time the Planning Commission has done grave injustice to Uttar Pradesh. This has been going on for the past forty years and we were told to silently bear it with he argument that as the Prime Minister belonged to U.P., any positive action on the part of the Centre would be seen as favouritism by other states. Thus, Central assistance to the State's Plan outlay was cut down considerably and the State didn't receive assistance in proportion to its population. But the injustice done this time is unprecedented. After mobilising all the resources at our disposal, we had formulated the annual plan and sent it to the Planning Commission. Subsequently, a team from the Planning Commission visited the State. The team lauded our efforts at resource mobilisation and asked the State Government to increase its plan outlay on the assurance that the State would be provided furtherer Central assistance, However, when we sent our revised scheme. Central assistance to the State Plan was reduced by Rs. 1500 crore, which was lesser that the Central assistance expected for the Pre-revise plan.

I don't want to give a long speech in the House on this topic, but I would certainly like the Prime Minister to come to the House and do justice to the State in his capacity as the Chairman of the Planning Commission and undo the injustice done by the Commission's Vice-Chairman.

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): It is not only in Uttar Pradesh, but also in Kerala.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: We demand that the cuts made in the Central allocation for Uttar Pradsesh's annual plan outlay be withdrawn forthwith. We won't be satisfied