

present. The Department of Environment, Government of India feel that by setting up the project at Kakinada, they will be destroying the crocodile sanctuary at Coringa village.

In view of the above facts, we urge upon you, Sir, to kindly ensure that the NTPC does not shift the project from Kakinada to any other place at this stage. We request you to advise the Environment Department not to object for petty reason of environmental clearance. Otherwise some voluntary organisations and the people of East Godavari district will start avoidable agitation.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA** (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I would like to submit that stepmotherly treatment is being meted out to Delhi as it has no proper set-up. For example, I would like to mention about the Budget of Delhi and I am not going into its details. I would like to give you three examples in this regard. First of them is that the present population of Delhi is 94 lakhs and there are 24 lakh ration card holders. According to this, the monthly requirement of wheat in Delhi is 2 lakh tonnes; but it is being supplied only 72 thousand tonnes. Secondly, a statement of Lt-Governor has appeared in the 'Dharmayug' magazine that Delhi is going to face acute crises of water in near future. Delhi is situated on both banks of River Yamuna. There is a rule that a State will have a share of water of the river through which it passes. But there is no such organisation like Yamuna River Authority in Delhi. Water of this river is given to Uttar Pradesh and Haryana and Delhi does not get any share of it. Thirdly, Delhi is suffering in the matter of grants today. The Home Minister had to give a grant of Rs. 27 crores to the Corporation in Delhi within these three months, but only a few days have left in the month of March and the financial year is coming to an end and it has been only given an amount of Rs. 9 crore just two days back and it is being said that there are no funds. The present situation of Delhi is that whereas

the Corporation should have a stock of 2 lakh cement bags, but it was having only 304 bags, yesterday, morning. As this is the last months of this financial year, therefore, I would like to submit that more funds should be provided to the Corporation, otherwise, all the development works will stop and funds will lapse. Therefore, I would request the Home Minister as all these departments are under his Ministry that he should give top-priority to the things I have mentioned and get them done, so that budget funds do not lapse and the pending works of Delhi are completed. I would also like to submit that the election of Delhi should be held at the earliest, so that it gets a proper set up of its own and someone is made accountable for Delhi....(*Interruptions*)....

**MR. SPEAKER:** All the representatives of Delhi will speak. You will also endorse the same feelings. All of you please conclude in one minute each.

**SHRI TARACHAND KHANDELWAL** (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a very serious question has been raised here. The development of Delhi has come to a halt for the last two years. Whenever we, the Members of Parliament from Delhi, talk with any of the departments, they say that they do not have funds, cement or other items. Delhi does not belong to only Delhities. It is the capital of the country. Every year near about 31 lakh additional people come to Delhi and settle here. In view of the price-rise and increasing population, one and half times more allocation should be made to Delhi than that was made last year. I would like to submit to the Central Government that if there is disorder and chaos in Delhi and no development work takes place, it will bring bad name to the central government. It is in the interest of the Central Government to develop Delhi.

Delhi's image gets tarnished in the eyes of outsiders and it is discussed across the country. Therefore, I would like to submit to the Government to allocate more funds to Delhi in order to refurbish its image.

**SHRI KALKA DAS** (Karol Bagh): Mr.

Speaker, Sir, the manner in which Delhi is being neglected is clear from the fact that the Budget for Delhi passed year is.....

MR. SPEAKER: A discussion on the Budget is on the cards.

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am saying that.....

MR. SPEAKER: If you raise it at that time, more time will be given to you.

SHRI KALKA DAS: What were the Budget allocations for Delhi previously remain the same today at Rs. 920 crore. As it has been pointed out, the Government itself has admitted that Delhi's population increases at the rate of three lakh persons every year and the prices rise at the rate of 12.5%. The Government has admitted that prices go up, but the Budgetary allocation remains the same with the result the allocation for Social Welfare programme aimed at ameliorating the lot of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and backward classes have been slashed. While problems are on the increase, the allocation for the solution of problems is on the decrease and the people of Delhi are being denied justice. This is mainly because unlike in the past when the representatives of the people could raise issues in the Metropolitan Council and Municipal Corporation and draw the attention of the Government, today these bodies are non-existent. At present, both these bodies stand dissolved and consequently, Delhi's development is at the mercy of the bureaucrats and there is nobody to check them. As a result, Delhi's problems are increasing by leaps and bounds, the Development has come to a standstill and social welfare programmes in particular have come to a grinding halt.

Earlier, machines were distributed under various development programmes, but ever since the dissolution of the Metropolitan Council not a single machine has been distributed. At present, there are no programme to uplift the Scheduled Castes. Thus, this decrease in the allocation for Delhi tantamounts to injustice. Out of a total

amount of Rs. 27 crore, that is to be given for a period of three months, only a sum of Rs. 9 crore has been given. They have further decreased the amount from the one which was considerably reduced earlier and development work in the capital has come to a stand still as a result of this. Through you I would like to submit to the Government to release the allocated amount to accelerate development work in Delhi.

SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM (East Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit only this much that we have forwarded 25,000 applications from widows for financial assistance so far, but not a single widow has received even a penny to date. When these helpless widows approach the Corporation for assistance, they are told that the Corporation does not have any money. What's more, due to lack of funds in the Government's kitty, contractors have left many projects incomplete.

Therefore, it is my humble submission that the Government should increase the present budgetary allocation for Delhi which is too little.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uuberia): Sir, I want to raise a very important issue concerning the jute workers' strike. More than two lakh workers are on strike for more than one month and every day we are losing six crores of rupees in terms of production. The talks of agreement were over last year and the Central Unions of the workers are demanding for a new agreement. Today, the external market for jute is very good and the owners are amassing wealth. Exports are going up. In this situation, the owners are getting super profits but they are denying a minimum wage of Rs. 2200 which the workers are demanding. The Government of West Bengal is trying to persuade the owners to come to a settlement, but the adamant attitude of the management is forcing the workers to continue their strike. I wrote to the hon. Prime Minister in this regard and he has written to me stating that he is instructing the Textiles Minister and the