

[Shri P.S. Gadhavi]

thank you very much for the opportunity given to me.

I would like to invite your attention and the attention of the hon. House about a very serious situation. In Gujarat, in the districts of Kutch, Banaskantha, Mehsana and Surendra Nagar, there is an acute shortage of water. In Kutch, we are facing this situation of drought for the last two years. There is not a drop of water there. In Kutch district, about 30,000 to 40,000 cattle have died. The people are migrating. There is no drinking water facility. If they want to make any provision of drinking water in Kutch district and in all these North Gujarat districts, the only possibility of getting water is from the rivers situated in South Gujarat. We can have pipeline from Navda river or Mahi river. If this provision is not made, I fear that in the coming years the people will be migrating from there and the cattle will perish. We have very good kind of buffaloes and precious cows which are there. They are being perished day by day.

My only humble suggestion, through your honour, to the Government is that drinking water facility requires to be made in the North Gujarat districts, particularly in Kutch and Surendra Nagar districts. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (BARH) : You please listen about the bird catchers...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : All the hon. Members have said that an hon. Member would speak on a single subject and not all.

(Interruptions)

13.00 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If they yield, I do not have any objection.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, I admit that environment should be protected. The traditions of this country have never led to the disturbance of environment. The people of bird catchers' society catch sparrows and other birds and sell them. People buy them and rear them and it has been going on for centuries. Their business has never caused any harm to environment. I would like to submit that if someone's business causes harm to environment then stern action should be taken against them. There can be no two opinions in this regard. There are many insects which are eaten by animals and birds and in this way they save our life. This is called the balance of environment. If in a profession there is no loss of life, and people catch birds and sell them to others and earn their livelihood such a profession should be kept aside. The way, the discussion is going on today on environment there should be an open discussion on this topic and a complete ban should be imposed on slaughtering of animals. Non-vegetarian food should be banned. On the one hand non-vegetarian food is in the increase and the people have been exploiting all these things which have been causing an obstacle in

safeguarding environment. Man is eating everything. There should be a ban on it, but there is no such restriction.

If a member of bird catchers' society catches 10-5 birds and through that he earns his livelihood then the issue should be considered separately. We have objection to one thing. If an Hon. Member raises slogans for the other like "Menka Gandhi Hosh Mein Aao" then it is not fair. Smt. Menka Gandhi should be welcomed. Her campaign to improve environment should be respected. But so far as the bird catchers' society is concerned, I support their cause.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister through you towards the verdict of the Supreme Court given on the 19th February. The Supreme court has given a verdict on 19th February, 1997 in which it has been decided that unless the candidates belonging to SCs, STs and backward classes do not achieve minimum marks, their seats in medical and engineering should be de-reserved and filled by general candidates. This case came up before the Court in the case of Dr. Sadhna Devi Versus Uttar Pradesh Government. My submission is that the persons belonging to SCs, STs and backward classes in our country can never be doctors or engineers. I would like that the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should amend it and should enact such a law which can enable them to avail the right of reservation. There is resentment among the SCs, STs and backward classes youth. My submission is that the Government should take the initiative in this regard and they should be given their reservation quota.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANT JENA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Members Shri Fatmi, Shri Sharad Yadav and Shri Nitish Kumar have raised a very vital issue. The Government has taken note of their concern. An hon. Member Shrimati Bhagwati Devi is on dharna. I would request her to withdraw her dhama.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have called all the names but not of Nitishji. What is there ? Is there anything special?

SHRI SRIKANT JENA : I have called his name.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sorry, I have not heard.

[Interruptions]

SHRI RAM NAIK (MUMBAI-NORTH) : I also support it.

SHRI SRIKANT JENA : It is being supported by Ram Naikji. I would like to submit this much only that Bhagwatiji, who is staging a Dharna should withdraw it. The Government would call a meeting in this regard and would ponder over it.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (MUMBAI-SOUTH WEST) : You, please go there, request her and bring her to the House.

SHRI SRIKANT JENA : I would myself bring her.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, although it is the time for lunch, yet it would be good if we can accommodate another four hon. Members with the proviso that they would take only two minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (RANCHI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I raised this issue earlier also. The National Front Government had announced that the loans upto Rs. 10,000 of the farmers would be waived. The Bihar Government too had announced it in the Assembly time and again that they would write off the loans of the farmers upto Rs. 10,000 but unfortunately 5-10 years have passed, loan of one thousand has accumulated to Rs. 10,000. Due to non payment of loans they are being sent to jail and are being beaten up. When they went to banks to repay the loans the bankers told them that their loans would be waived and they would not have to pay the amount. Today their interest has increased in multiples. I would like to urge the Central Government that the loans of the farmers should be waived. If their loans cannot be waived then at least their interest should be waived and they should be given six months time. In the meantime the farmers would repay the entire amount....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You speak everyday. Let the back benchers speak today.

[English]

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN (TRIPURA-EAST) : Sir, I am ambush on security personnel, 18 CRPF *Jawans* and one home guard were killed by the suspected National Liberation Front of Tripura extremists. The area where this heinous incident took place is under the Disturbed Area Act and is supposed to be controlled by the Army and Assam Rifles. But enough security force is not provided by the Central Government there.

I urge upon the Government to send immediately enough Army and enough Assam Rifles people to combat these extremists. (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (DUMDUM) : Sir, this is a very serious matter. The Army personnel have been killed in a disturbed area...(Interruptions)

Mr. CHAIRMAN : I am sure the Government is taking due note of this.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, this is very serious matter. Nineteen CRPF personnel have been killed...(Interruptions).

(SHRI SRIKANT JENA : Sir, I have taken note of this...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot ask the Government to respond to every matter during Zero Hour.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA) : Sir, he is ready to respond. This is a very serious matter(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I request you to sit down. This is not the way.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I want to give maximum number of Members the chance to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Sir, he is ready to reply...(Interruptions).

SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA (NARSARAOPET) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, God and nature have been very unkind to Andhra Pradesh. Last year successive cyclonic storms damaged the State.(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Government has to take note of it. I cannot ask them to react to everything

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I request you to please give a chance to other hon. Members to speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : No. This is not the way to raise issues in the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Hon. Members start making interventions because I accommodate them on every issue. No . I have called Shri Kota Sydaiah to speak and he will now speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There must be some discipline in the House. There are 25 Zero Hour points made by hon. Members. Maximum of them are to be accommodated, but if you want to the Government to respond extempore and immediately to every point, I cannot expect the Government to do it. The Government is bound to take note of every point raised by each and every hon. Member, but I do not expect the Government to react to every situation. Let the maximum number of Members have their say. There are still four or five hon. Members left and we can accommodate them if the House will kindly agree to sit for another ten minutes. But if you do not want to sit, let us adjourn for lunch. I will be quite happy to adjourn the House now.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will not agree to this questions of everybody getting up and shouting. Senior Members like Shri Rupchand Pal and Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee are getting up and shouting at me. This is not proper.