

An able parliamentarian, Shri Lakkappa during his long parliamentary career lost hardly any opportunity to raise the problems faced by Kisans, labourers, youth and rural masses. He served on various Parliamentary and Consultative Committees attached with various Ministries.

Shri Lakkappa passed away at Bangalore on 8 November, 1991 at the age of 62 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families.

Friends, I have to make reference to a recent tragedy with engulfed Garhwal region of the neighbouring State of Uttar Pradesh.

As the House is aware, on 20 October, 1991, a severe earthquake rocked all the eight hill districts as well as adjoining districts of Uttar Pradesh. Hundreds of human lives were lost and large scale loss occurred as a result of this devastating earthquake. Thousands of families have become homeless and subjected to enormous miseries and sufferings. Already relief work on a large scale is going on.

The House would join me in expressing our deep sorrow and sympathies to the affected families.

The House may stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.

The Members then Stood in Silence for a Short While.

11.15 hrs

WELCOME TO THE MALDIVIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, at

the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and behalf of the Hon'ble members of the House. I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Ahmed Zaki, Speaker of the Citizens' Majlis of Maldives and the Hon. Members of the Maldivian Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other Hon. Members of the delegation are:-

1. Mr. Abdulla Farouk Hassan, MP
2. Mr. Ali Mohamed, MP
3. Mr. Abdul Haseeb, MP

The delegation arrived Delhi on 18 November, 1991 evening. They are now seated in the special box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to the President, Citizens' Majlis, the Government and the friendly people of Republic of Maldives.

11.16 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Alleged Misappropriation of DDA Funds

- †
- *1. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:
SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investigation into the alleged misappropriation of funds of the Delhi Development Authority amounting to Rs. 20 crores allocated for developmental work of East Delhi has since been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) A number of complaints have been received from Members of Parliament and from others alleging irregularities relating to award of contracts and payments in the works of East Delhi. The allegations are being examined by DDA and their detailed report is awaited.

SHRI. SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Sir, I would like to know from the Government whether it is a fact that the allegations of several MPs, including the charge regarding payment of crores of rupees for the award of earth filling contracts which never took place.

May I know whether the Government will refer the case to the CBI as demanded by the MPs.

SHRIM. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, we have sent it to the DDA for its comments. After receipt of the comments, we will definitely send it to the CBI.

SHRISHRAVANKUMARPATEL: While going round different parts of Delhi, especially the Eastern side of Delhi, one gets an impression of total disorder with encroachment of all types coming up, especially of DDA lands, in parks, in open spaces and even on road sides revealing corruption, afflicting the very roots and structure of administration of DDA in direct proportion to these encroachments.

Sir, may I know what steps are being taken to study and probe this aspect through a Parliamentary Committee in order to get rid of the corruption rampant in the administration of DDA by way of re-organisation and so on.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, our Ministry had exclusive discussion with the

hon. Members of Parliament from Delhi. Regarding the encroachment part, we need a separate notice. It does not relate to this question.

(*Translation*)

SHRI. MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, I had sent that complaint which is mentioned in this question. There have been in all three types of bungling in D.D.A. which relate to construction of roads, lifting of earth and drainage system. Firstly, no work was executed and still payment was made; the work was done on paper only and the payment was taken. Secondly, the work which had already been done and the payment for which had already been made, were shown as done now and the payment was claimed. The third misappropriation is that the figures of work done were exaggerated and payment was made on that basis whereas for less work was actually done. For example, suppose the 100 yard long road was constructed but payment was made for 500 yards. I am to say that these charges relate to Eastern Delhi only. Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are 8000 houses in Delhi constructed after spending crores of rupees have been lying vacant for the last many years due to lack of provision of electricity and water. These are yet to be allotted. Is the Government contemplating to get this matter and other cases of misappropriations of funds in D.D.A. investigated in the C.B.I., Parliamentary Committee or by some High Power Committee?

[*English*]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The hon. Member had raised the same issue when we had a meeting with the Delhi Members of Parliament. We have referred it to the DDA for its comments. As soon as we get their comments, we will definitely go into them and refer it to CBI.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: When was this letter sent to the DDA for its comments? What is the distance between the DDA Headquarters and the Urban Develop-

ment Ministry? The Lok Sabha sends two representatives on the Advisory Committee of the DDA. I happen to be one of the Members. But no meeting has been convened of this Advisory Committee by the DDA so far. I understand that the Advisory Committee meeting never takes place. Perhaps Mr. Madan Lal Khurana would enlighten us about it. I would like to know when was this letter sent and by whom and when it was received and how long the Government expects the DDA to reply? Will there be a reply or not?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: There are two letters: one from 11 hon. Members of this House addressed to the Prime Minister and another letter addressed directly to the Commissioner of Vigilance. We had received information day before yesterday only. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: From whom? When was this letter sent? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: A letter signed by 11 Members of Parliament addressed to the Prime Minister was received by the Ministry only day before yesterday. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI HARI. KISHORE SINGH: No, no; it is wrong *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: We have referred it to the DDA for its comments.

[Translation]

SHRI. CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been said in the reply to the question that the allegations are being examined by D.D.A.. Couldn't there have been any other means for it because it is sent to the same organisation against whom enquiry is to be made. It means that it is to be investigated by someone, who himself is guilty. If it would have been sent for enquiry by some other agency then it would have been a healthy precedent. Therefore, I would like to know from the honourable Minister

whether the Government propose to get it enquired through some other agency.

SHRI. M. ARUNACHALAM: The DDA has its own Vigilance Wing headed by an IAS Officer. We are awaiting for its comments; after we get the comments, we will refer them to the appropriate authority.

Allocation to States

*2. SHRI. VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States have expressed their fear about reduced allocations from the total divisible pool of Central resources;

(b) if so, whether it is due to modification of the Gadgil Formula of 1980, and

(c) the remedial steps proposed to be taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI. H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (c): The allocation of Central resources for States Plan during Seventh Plan was made according the criteria laid down in the modified Gadgil formula approved by the National Development Council in August, 1980. In the context of Eighth Plan, 1990-95. revisions in the modified Gadgil formula were made by the NDC in October, 1990 and the formula was called as 'consensus' formula. Keeping in view the concerns shown by several States with regard to NDC 'Consensus' formula, the Planning Commission has set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Chairman, with the Union Finance Minister and a Member of the Planning commission as Members, to examine the circumstances