

To-day the rain god is also supporting us to help in their development. Kindly frame schemes for 100% utilisation of water. State governments and municipalities have not got necessary funds for development works. You framed a scheme for integrated development ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have to make an announcement you please speak thereafter.

15.20 hrs

ARREST OF MEMBER

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have to inform the House that the following communication dated 5 September, 1996 was received on 6 September, 1996 from the Superintendent of Police, CBI : SPE : ACU VIII, New Delhi :—

"I have the honour to inform you that in connection with the investigation of the CBI case number RC.5(A)/96-ACU.VIII under section 120-B IPC and Sections 7, 12 and 13(2) read with 13(1)(d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, Shri Shibu Soren, Member of Lok Sabha has been arrested by the Deputy Superintendent of Police, CBI, ACU.VIII and the Investigating Officer of this case today *i.e.* 5 September, 1996 at 1815 hours. He will be produced before the competent Court tomorrow in accordance with the provisions of law."

* [Translation]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR (BEGUSARAI) : Who is the person in it who gave the money ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It will be known after the case is presented in the Court.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : I was saying that the Govt. should think about this missing grant. Secondly, they have stated that we...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, it has become a one sided affair. The taker has been arrested, but the giver has not been apprehended. Will you pay attention to this point or not ?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Law will take its own course.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : You sit on such a seat, whose scales are even. The taker has been arrested, but the giver has not been arrested.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This decision has not to be taken by me. Court will decide it.

15.22 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET, 1996-97 DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment and Ministry of Agriculture—Contd.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : I was speaking about the tribal areas and self-employment scheme. We had earlier taken limited blocks but they are now taking all blocks in the whole country. When a person goes to a temple for worship and gets Prasad from the priest, he eats it with faith, though it does not fill his belly. I request the Hon. Minister to identify such blocks which are inhabited by people living below the poverty line and tribal people and which are backward and then give them full dose of Govt. aid. When Rajeev Gandhi became the Prime Minister in 1985, he gave second dose to the people. Unless you make the people to be a viable unit, it will not work. You gave money for digging wells but you did not give money for motor, and did not give bulls, seeds, fertilisers, insecticides. How can the farmer become viable ? To make him viable, give him full dose. Such schemes should be framed for the whole country. You are certainly under political pressure to take this and that block. But we must have to decide our priority, which was and should be for lifting the poor living below the poverty line and backward classes, weaker sections and backward blocks, so that the lot of those people may be improved. If we break this priority, the result will be disastrous, poor will remain poor and the rich will become richer.

So long as you do not constitute review/vigilance committees at block, district and state levels, who will look after proper utilisation of money allocated for the purpose of these schemes and programmes, these schemes will not work properly. You have made one committee of Dr. D.A. of the whole State Govt. which does not do any assessment, as it has its own interest. You should have your own review or vigilance committees of Central Govt., otherwise no useful purpose will be served. Our committee also considered over it and recommended that unless you form such committees, it will not work. The district administration does not inform the elected M.P. about the whole scheme. Why don't you appoint M.Ps as chairman of such vigilance committees and make them responsible so that they may ensure execution of central schemes and projects with strength? Unless you make such arrangements at village, block, district and state level, the money being sent by the Centre will continue to be spent as at present and we shall receive such figures which will show that money is not being spent fully. I hope you will act on this advice.

15.23 hrs

(SMT. GEETA MUKHERJEE *in the Chair*)

About Panchayats, we had 73rd amendment made in the Constitution. We thought that elections should be held in the country and power may be entrusted to the elected representatives of the people. Our leader Rajeev Gandhi wanted that power should not remain centralised but it should be decentralised and reach the people. Several states had elections and some states did not have elections. The same was the position in respect of the cooperative movement some states had elections while some did not have. Why do you not want to have elections? Have the elections conducted like Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, within six months or one year, which are compulsory. Similarly have elections for local bodies also and hand over the power to them. Action should be taken against the states which do not get it done. The law provides that state governments should frame rules in regard to tribal areas. But no state government has so far made any laws in this regard. Adivasis are struggling for it and want sixth schedule as also changes made in the fifth schedule because under it the Governor acts on the advice of the Cabinet. No action in this direction has yet been taken. So, the Adivasis belonging to hilly areas or forests or lives are hanging in between. At the time of construction of the dam the displaced people were assured of facilities of all kinds but nothing of the kind takes place. When the dam was constructed on the Narmada river, 40 thousand persons were displaced, but there is none to look after their fate. The Central Govt. passes on the responsibility to the state government, while the latter turns the problem to the Centre. The displaced persons remain where they were. This kind of thing enhances problems. We do talk of Mahatma Gandhi today. But why do we not transfer power to the people and conduct elections in states?

A committee was formed under my chairmanship in this connection, in which we took up the Minimum Programme and stated that tribals should be given rights, whether rights relate to forest or land or water, and till you take necessary action in this direction, nothing good will come out. You should form district councils which should be allowed to frame rules, then the problems of forest, land or water will be solved. When such a thing happens, they shall not look toward the State Govt. or the Central Govt. for such matters.

Madam Chairperson, in our country, 78% population was dependent on agriculture in 1950-51 and their partnership in agriculture was 56%. Thereafter the budget of agriculture was reduced. Side by side reduction in production has been recorded. We are no doubt enhancing production, but looking to the world figures we find that income of our farmers is gradually decreasing and problems of farmers are increasing. Mitraji should look into all these things. Discussion was not held earlier

on rural development ministry, we are having this discussion now only for the first time in this House, 75% M.Ps are connected with villages. When I was elected to Lok Sabha in 1980, I had thought to launch a struggle for development of villages and to take them to the level of cities within five years' period. But 17-18 years have since elapsed but the condition of villages has remained the same. On the other hand, if you look to Delhi, you will find improvement in its position. That is the cause of growing inequality. My predecessor Shri Shiv Raj Singh rightly stated that even to-day ladies have to face hardships for easing out. So, I say that we should have a very strong organisation for rural development, which may convince and enthuse the countrymen to feel that the Govt. of the country is with them and it would lend all support for rural development.

There is corruption in the grant of subsidy also. Unless we exercise strict vigilance over it, the money given for rural development works by the Govt. would not reach there and villages will not see development. Now the proceedings of Parliament are witnessed by people on T.V., so we should inculcate patience and faith among them about certainty of their development in due course of time.

With these words I support the demands for grants relating to the Ministry of Rural Development and Agriculture, and I thank you for affording me an opportunity to speak on it.

SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI (KATWA) . Madam, Chairperson, I am very happy to see that to-day at least the Hon. Prime Minister is son of the soil, and he has to greatest relationship with farmers. Besides, the Agriculture Minister is greatly connected with farmers and he understands the sorrows and pleasures of agriculturists. Our Minister of Animal Husbandry is also connected with villages. Much debate was held here and some members have already expressed their views here. Question is who will develop villages? If we say that people of the bureaucratic system will develop villages it will not be so. Better it will be that villagers should themselves take angles to improve their lot and position. Untill and unless they resort to work on these lines, rural development will not a practical proposition. About Panchayats I want to say that after reading a few lines of the findings of the Balraj Mehta committee, it will be clear what type of Panchayat was envisaged by Mahatma Gandhiji. About the nature of Panchayat he had said.

[English]

"Panchayat is nothing but a manifestation of force of rural people."

[Translation]

Several members spoke on it. But I ask, who will change their fate? If consciousness is missing, there is

no hard work, if the poorman after becoming a member of a Panchayat does not join himself in hardwork and industry, that theft will remain a theft. If there is corruption, higher people will do that. But if a poorman does not go to a Panchayat, if he is not engaged in its work, nothing will be done for rural development.

The Hon. minister is here, he is not responsible for the entire 8th Plan. Four years have already passed and only one year is left now. This United Front Govt. has been ruling for the last four months, what have they done so far and what is their future planning, they should tell I support the budget before saying something. The debate on the budget on rural development is for the first time only, but the time for it is very short. Majority people of India live in villages and the soul of India lies in villages. As such, the time fixed for its debate is much less than the required one, it should have been more.

We shall hear new M.Ps and their suggestions and communicate the same to our villages and people there, figures cannot present true picture. Did we achieve our target or not, and if not what are the reasons therefor, we should know about it.

If you give money, work and all things to a villager without giving him land, nothing will come out of it. Where shall he invest money without having land ? So, for progress of villages and improvement of agriculture you should provide land to farmers. Without land he will continue to remain poor. Regarding land reform, the position is that the Govt. has distributed very small land. Ten years' figures are with me. Out of 25,13,994 acres of land taken, only 10 lakh acre land was distributed during the last 10 years.

Our population as well as poverty in villages have been increasing at a fast speed, while land distribution work is going on slowly at a snail's pace. On 21 March, 1980, Govt. acquired 287.45 acres of land, distributed 175.32 acres on record, but actually only 151 acre was received by people.

Agriculture is responsible for feeding people. We have to do three things essentially for it. Firstly to provide maximum amount of food to people, secondly, to make available food articles, and thirdly to provide a market for the commodities produced. Our population in 1997 will be 941 millions, for which we will require 208 million tonnes of foodgrains. By the year 2005, our population will go up to 1102 millions, for which we will need 283 million tonnes of foodgrains. I do not hold the Agriculture Ministry responsible for it. But I must say that the budget for agriculture is much less than the requirement.

For Agriculture 2590.75 crore rupees were allotted and Rs. 1725.75 crore have been allocated by the Finance Commission. In the allocation made, agriculture has only 1.69% share. Too short a budget has been kept for agriculture and rural development in India. I heard

the Finance Minister speaking yesterday. He said that work could not be done, but the same thing has happened. Our Prime Minister also stated that more money would be given for agriculture. The same thing has been stressed upon in the common Minimum Programme. We also demand the same. Water with land and seed with water is needed. Good quality seed should reach at farmer's door to enable him to produce more. You adopt new scientific methods. Seeds should be available on time. What are the seed producing organisations doing ? We are unable to meet the demand for seed. I requested the minister to set up seed farms to enable farmers to get good seeds on time and at cheaper rates.

Our Prime Minister said in Bihar that dam would be constructed. First of all the incomplete works should be completed. Works of barrages and canals should be completed first. Water should be divided properly and water should not be allowed to go waste. Central Water Commission should function well and the state governments should follow suit. Govt. said that for carrying seeds trucks should reach on time, then subsidy of three crore rupees will be given. You know foodgrains, rice etc. are not produced everywhere. It is produced in accordance with the quality of land you can undertake horticulture. In how much land it is being done, if you go and see you will find that fodder is not available.

In the work of setting up small nurseries, out of 522 only 249 are set up. Bigger nurseries are only 30 out of the target of 69. More funds should be available for horticulture and more stress should be laid on it in north-eastern areas. An allocation of Rs. 1000 crores was made. We had to spend 590.90 crore rupees, but only about 497 crore rupees were spent. For 1996-97 the allocation is 191.95 crore rupees. We got a glimpse of the functioning of the Horticulture Board. In 1994 a case was sent there for approval, but approval has not been granted so far. The minister should set the Board right, if so needed. I am a member of the Standing Committee on Agriculture. I was astonished to see that several higher posts were lying vacant including the post of Animal Husbandry commissioner being vacant for the last three years. How will the work go like this. Please fill up vacant posts.

I had said about soil conservation. I want to say about water conservation also. You know that silt gathers in rivers, rivulets and canals after the rains, which blocks their smooth passage. The Govt. should think to take some action for its clearance. Govt. provides subsidy for fertilisers and says that its rates will remain the same as existed last year without any increase. But the benefit of subsidy does not reach the farmer, it is devoured by the middleman. The Prime Minister had stated:

[English]

I cannot allow any middleman to do this.

[Translation]

Govt. should devise ways and means to ensure that benefit of subsidy or any increase in it reaches the farmer. You know that D.A.P. and M.O.P. are available at concessional rates.

State Governments should do it themselves and after having deliberations with fertiliser factories and agencies, fix such rates so that benefit of subsidy reaches farmers. If more and proper arrangements are made for providing irrigation facilities and agriculture is carried on properly, production of foodgrains can be further increased. Cooperatives is also very important factor and through it you can remove middle man, and it should be started as a movement. We shall all have to come forward and not allow middleman to reap the benefits of cooperatives to the detriment of farmers. In West Bengal, poormen are reaping benefits of cooperatives. Under cooperative movement out of 100 share, 25% is contributed by farmers and 75% is given by the Govt. Poormen by joining the cooperatives can better their lot and get help from the cooperatives also in respect of marketing. There is a plan of Rs. 900 crores and actual allocation of Rs. 550 crores has been made in the plan and allocation of cooperatives was Rs. 49 crores and now it is Rs. 27 crores. We know marketing trade. In West Bengal potatoes are produced in large quantity and elsewhere also potatoes are being produced. But storage facility and market for sale of potatoes are not available. In hilly areas potatoes have a disease-wat-on a small hill-top. I requested for stopping it by quarantining and sought permission and lifting of ban so that farmers of downward area do not sell it here and there. I want to speak on 4-5 subjects more...*(Interruptions)* If the non-Bengali people eat fish, how will it be available for Bengalis to eat? Alright, we leave fish for you, we shall eat meat. I am happy and proud to see poultry congress in India. We had a discussion with the Hon. minister when he came in which Mahatma Gandhi's name was also mentioned that individual things should not come in the way of mass production.

Madam Chairperson, Mahatma Gandhi said that mass production by masses—masses should be made to produce. Backyard poultry, backyard cows, rear them and you as well as they can earn from thousands of poultry, and have self employment generation and it will remove unemployment. Do this as well as that.

One thing more about rearing, have three bufaloes in your house and have plenty of milk to drink and ghee to eat. Now change the meaning of rearing to resource. If egg and meat are exported from here, it will create resource.

Yesterday we saw poultry exhibition and read in the newspaper for producing more eggs to occupy the first

position among the egg producing countries in the world. One lady, daughter of Shri V.V. Rao become Chairperson. At present one view behind rearing of creatures is very bad. When I became Minister, one lady asked me about my portfolio. I told her that I was given animal husbandry, whereupon she remarked that such a bad department has been given to you by Jyoti Bosu, you rear cow, bufallow and boar, the worst thing is of becoming minister of boars, being a muslim and dealing with boar, that is the worst thing. You rear it, and if there is some disease, what will you do? Will you treat, goats may fall ill in our village, cow or bufallow may catch disease, you being a minister of this department can at least send a doctor in our village. I told that no doctor will be sent to the village but her daughter of 17-18 years of age, who was studying would be taught how to inject. We did it in our state, children of 17-18 years age do it there.

Not animals, but humans. More and more money is given in animals, see how much money is taken, and how much money is received back. But it is rearing of animals. But Budget amount is small. Everywhere budget allocation is less, in education the budget is less, even in biological production, money is less. I congratulate the Hon. minister that in Calcutta a new university has been established for Animal Husbandary and fisheries, which is unique in the entire country. The first such university existed in Madras and the second one is now set up in Calcutta. I congratulate the minister for it and wish progress of agriculture.

16.00 hrs.

One important thing I want to say that there is a limit of extraction from land, beyond that we cannot get, we shall have to stop at a point. Put one cow, one animal can give us more. Our land is not like rubber to expand. But an animal can expand and provide us more and more, this is a reality.

Same is the position of budget. The biggest laboratory of central disease is at a few places only. Out of the target of 130 million vaccinations only 101 million vaccinations have been achieved. We told that money will not fall short, I shall request some minister of animal husbandry, animal resource minister, I requested the Prime Minister also that this is the place, these are the three things for eradication, first of all unemployment, and providing place of employment, nothing more please set is right.

We did adopt a new method about disease eradication, but we do nothing with the old natural bull. We resort to only artificial insemination, the result is not so good. You should have bull, ox, but we have less number of bulls, while we require more and more semen for the purpose. I leave agriculture for others to speak

on, but please keep your promise and word for agriculture to ensure its progress and provide necessary funds for it. At least our minimum proposal for agriculture should be met and funds provided for it. We proposed more colleges and university for animal husbandry. All these things should be done and due attention be paid toward it.

16.03 hrs

[SHRI CHITTA BASU *in the Chair*]

I will now urge upon proper outlook to be adopted. Will more attention continue to be paid on family planning? Will you not pay adequate attention on nutritious food, protein etc. Providing employment and removing the unemployment. What rural development work will be done with the small amount provided for it. Can rural development take place without animal wealth, fisheries, animal husbandry and fisheries are allied subjects of agriculture and rural development. How many tanks are in Delhi? There are ponds of sweet water in villages and good quality fish can be reared there. This can also be done under rural development. I congratulate the minister for crossing over 3250 crores, more than three years account, more money has been provided for rural development work, but all that provision has fallen short of the actual requirement and need. About rural development, I will say that live, live has two meanings. One gentleman asked me about it in a meeting of forestry.

[English]

There was an Environment Convention sometime back which was also attended by a UNO representative. On that day, I delivered a speech in which I mentioned about G O several times. Later, he asked me, what does G O mean. I asked him, whether he was from Ireland or from England, and he said that I hate Englishmen. I further said that when you left this country, you had presented two beautiful rose buds. One was crimson red and the other was white. Crimson red represents administrative system and white represents G O. What is G O? G O naturally means, Government Order. But in my country, it is separate. What is that? G' means 'Great' and 'O' means 'Obstacles'. So, 'G O' means, great obstacles. This tendency should not be there. If G O will be interpreted in this manner, the entire meaning will be reversed. Let there be a Government Order. But it should be allied with rapid progress and not with bureaucratic tendencies. Bureaucracy is a disease and it is nothing.

[Translation]

You have provided only Rs 75 to be given in rural areas for maternity. What can be achieved with such a small amount? It should be enhanced. Under the National Maternity Benefit Scheme, you have provided for payment of Rs 300 only. In my opinion this amount should be

increased. Even in old age one will eat, may be a little less, but how can one manage within a meagre amount of Rs 75 given by way of old age Pension. So, it should also be enhanced.

MR CHAIRMAN (SHRI CHITTA BASU) You have taken more time than the allotted time of 13 minutes. Please conclude.

SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI The amount of Rs 75 should also be increased. Programmes of Agriculture rural development, Animal Husbandry, fisheries etc generate more employment. So, you should pay more attention to all these programmes and provide more money for them in the budget. Don't withhold money on development works. Please go on providing funds for rural development to states.

With these words I conclude my speech with thanks to the Chair.

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI (DUMARIAGUNJ) Sir, I rise to support the demands for grants of the ministry of rural development, employment and agriculture presented in the house.

No doubt, the matter of rural development had always been ignored although it is an admitted fact that progress of the country depends on progress of villages. Unless our villages are developed, agriculture cannot be developed, and so long agricultural production does not increase, the poverty prevailing in villages cannot be uprooted. Our United Front Govt is only four months old. I support the steps taken by it. It first of all doubled the budget provision for rural development. The Hon Prime Minister made the announcement in public that we may not be able to achieve other things, but we are committed to provide the basic necessities of life to the people. In this connection he summoned a conference of chief ministers in which it was decided that pure drinking water facility will be provided for all on 100% basis within a period of five years. Several hon members mentioned about it. Leave aside today the talk of milk, curd, calories in villages, even the drinking water facility is not there. More than fifty percent villages have no arrangement at all for drinking water. I hear complaints from my village people also. The biggest need of the villagers is of drinking water. From the target fixed and the amount earmarked for it, it is clear that we would not be able to meet the target. So, I welcome through this House, Hon Prime Minister's announcement made in this regard. He has taken a vow that no village will be left out, where pure drinking water arrangement is not made. Second thing is about setting up health centres in villages, where there is no hospital, nor any medicine available. Health centre is, therefore, a vital necessity of villages and these must find a place in villages. Provision of Primary

education and construction of school buildings is also essential for villages. Providing habitable houses to the poor living below the poverty line in villages is also a basic need of rural areas, regarding which our Govt. has made announcement that the so far neglected areas and people's needs would be given due attention and proper care by this Govt.

16.11 hrs.

[SMT. GEETA MUKHERJEE *in the chair*]

I may say that so long as the villagers are not involved in and attached to the schemes of rural development, whatever scheme you may frame their benefits would not reach the villagers, because presently these schemes are framed and executed by such people who have no attachment with or commitment for welfare of villages and their population. Our friends here have rightly said that the officers connected with rural development works are not aware of the problems of villages and their people. Similarly those who execute those schemes have no commitment for those schemes. Secondly, the schemes are framed and executed on the bases of ad-hocism and these are not integrated schemes to ensure village development. So we do not reap their results. I attended a meeting of DRDA in my constituency and was astonished to see the figures presented there and targets fixed. Even 10% at the target fixed has not been achieved I asked the District Chief about its causes. He told me about I.R.D.P., Indira Avas scheme and other rural development works which are mentioned here.

The district collector told me that money was not being received from the state govt. Commission had to be paid for getting the funds released. When 30th March reaches near, the funds are released. How can you then achieve targets ? Thus corruption takes place in the allocation of funds. Money allocated for 1992-93 was not spent out of the Poorvanchal Vikas Nidhi (Eastern Zone Development Fund) of the U.P. Govt. set up during the Chief-Ministership of Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav in the state. The reason was that the officers executing the scheme did not have faith in the programmes. I, therefore, demand that the district councils and the area Panchayats should be made partners in all the development works. Only then we can check corruption and achieve targets fixed. The bureaucracy and the political leadership so far did not give rights to Panchayats to the extent these should have been given. So, I demand from this House that for ensuring proper execution of rural development schemes you should give rights and powers to Panchayats.

Employment is not on the increase. Poverty has been spreading most in the field of agriculture, and number of labourers is increasing in rural areas, which is approximately 2.37 or 3.75 whereas population increase is only 2.2 per cent.

Secondly, farmers' sources of earning are decreasing and his purchasing power is declining. Their purchasing power is constantly downward and his income is falling. To-day the position is that he is being reduced to the level of a labourer. So we should make agriculture a profitable vocation and also start industries based on agriculture.

Jawahar Rozgar Yojana or Self-employment Scheme started by Government are not permanent schemes. If you seek a report thereon after getting their valuation done, you will come to know that all these schemes are being completed by contractors. If you provided some work to some labourers for a few days in one year, it will not work. Kindly augment industries and convert agriculture into a profitable vocation. The reason for non-increase in the income of farmer is that village is totally devoid of marketing facilities. If we produce tomatoes or set up dairy industry or if we produce milk, vegetables or such like things in such good seasons, on such good land by hard working persons in large numbers as available with us in the country, but without having a good chain of cooperative societies, without full arrangements for marketing of our produce, we are not able to give those benefits to farmers which they should genuinely get. We lack storage facility. We have foodgrains, but where to take it for storage ? Majority of our farmers are marginal or small in position. The main reason for govt.'s policy of neglect toward agriculture has been lack of development of infrastructure like roads, electric supply, water, housing availability good quality seeds at cheaper rates to the farmers to the extent these facilities should be arranged and provided. That has not been done. Dishonesty was constantly practised in the matter of fixing prices of agricultural produce. Trade terms have always been anti-farmers. For that reason agriculture could not become a profitable vocation. A farmer after selling his produce, purchases cloth, medicines during illness and other goods. But the Govt. has always remained silent in regard to policies and principles which should determine prices of agricultural produce to be paid to farmers.

Madam chairperson, the previous Govt. had appointed a committee under the chairmanship of Shri Bhanu Pratap Singhji in regard to conferring agriculture the status of industry. He is a good farmer and a learned person. I was reading that report, which has been lying unattended and as it was presented and has not at all been taken into consideration. Shri Devi Lalji is an agriculturist, on his insistence this committee was formed. That committee made efforts to consult all authorities, on senior scientists, responsible officers in regard to deciding principles for fixation of prices for agricultural produce. Cost accountancy work is done, one criterion is fixed in regard to the extent of profit, while fixing prices for industrial goods. But no such thing is done in respect of agricultural produce. Thus there is a grave anomaly in between the two industrial goods and agricultural produce. As a result the farmer always lags behind the industrialist. Govt. shall

have to decide to provide remunerative prices to farmers for their produce and also to increase agricultural produce. The attitude of neglect toward agriculture so far adopted shall have to be abandoned with a view to making agriculture a profitable vocation by providing remunerative prices for farmers produce and ensuring increased agricultural produce by providing necessary facilities for agriculture.

Madam Chairperson, looking to all the previous five year plans, it is apparent that industry has always been given precedence in the matter of capital investment or financial provision and constant decline in agriculture has been witnessed. Please look to China and Ceylon. I am not referring to European countries. We are far behind China in per acre production. Why can't we increase our agricultural production, when China and Ceylon have been doing so? All factors here are in our favour. But the way is not proper in which capital implements and other inputs needed by farmers are provided. These facilities are not being made available to them and on time. We do not have small tractors. When the previous Govt was formed, a delegation went to China and had discussions there. China has invented small tractors. Now, our Prime Minister has announced that 30-35 thousand rupees exemption would be granted tractors of 25 horse power. But the farmers are being exploited. Tractors are being purchased by them by taking many on loan, and the areas of the fields are constantly shrinking. So the tractors which cannot be used in small farms are mostly put to non-agricultural uses. We so are in need of inventing small tractors to be made available in small price to small farmers at cheaper rates.

Diesel pumping sets are also very costly. Their prices should be brought down. How can we increase production and fulfill our targets of production so long we do not provide electricity and irrigational facilities to the agriculturists? Food production is not keeping pace with the speed of increase in our population. Per capita availability of foodgrains has gone down in contrast to the year 1990-91. One person needs 500 grams of foodgrains everyday to live. But we can make available only 480 grams or 490 grams so far. We have been failing in providing even the minimum required foodgrain to a person to keep his body and soul together. We produced 191 million tonnes of foodgrains last year. The figures for the current year show a declining trend of about 190 million tonnes. Instead of increasing, production is decreasing. The position in regard to pulses is very miserable while the production of coarse grains being eaten by poor people is also much less than before. So, we shall have to think about export in respect of our agricultural products. One value added export has been increasing. Which benefits only a few limited groups of people. With a view to benefit all, the maximum need of the hour is to pay maximum attention toward agriculture, on rural development works and providing regular

employment potential, apart from increasing the capacity of agriculture to produce more, otherwise we cannot save our populace from starvation deaths. The way in which poverty, compensation are on the increase in our country, it is disastrous for our country. You may be aware of drought conditions which had engulfed Bengal, but foodgrains were already stored in godowns there. Even the thousands of people died in dire conditions and their dead bodies were lying on the roads. In case we produce more foodgrains and fail to augment the income and purchasing capacity of farmers and other people, the position will be that only a few people will benefit out of the situation and the rest will suffer unemployment, starvation and poverty.

I will urge upon you in regard to flood situation about which some members spoke earlier. But our eastern part of the country is every year a victim of floods' fury. The greatest problem there is of water-logging. All the rivers came from Nepal side. Several schemes should have been framed and executed from Nepalside by that Govt and our Govt should have provided help, so that floods fury could be checked on a permanent basis and every year's loss of crops, human and animal life and huge damage could be prevented by ensuring proper management of rivers and flood water, and we would have been able to irrigate every inch of our land. We have so much water resources that by properly tapping it, we could produce electricity also which would have resulted in ushering in an era of bounty and allround progress. Other states in the country would also have benefitted from it and our country would have become very strong country like USA which has a huge food storage, other goods and a mountain of butter. There is a mutual connection. All highly industrialised countries including USA have developed their techniques and technology and also paid too much attention toward their agriculture. But we like monkeys went on adopting some time this and sometime that, without any good result because our priorities went on changing. The utmost need of the hour is and I am happy that such a man is presently spearheading our country's destiny, who himself has been a farmer and has full affinity with villagers and great love for agriculture and for over all rural development. We shall have to deal sternly with the so-called elite groups which had been eating the fruits of the hard labour of farmers, labourers and others and keeping them deprived of the results of their hard work. We shall have to look after the interests and well being of our toiling masses and make them strong.

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRY DEPARTMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) The earner should eat

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singhji is saying that 'earner shall eat' I am with

his slogan. Only then can we make our country strong and well up. With these words I welcome the minister for Agriculture as also the minister for Rural Development and Employment for presenting a good budget. I am not very much satisfied with it as it needs many more amendments and improvement provisions to be made. With these words I conclude my statement by supporting the budget provisions.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : May I request all the hon. Members who will be following now, to be brief because Guillotine is to be applied at 6 O' clock. Now, I call Shri Anant Gangaram Geete.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (RATNAGIRI) : Madam Chairperson. It is budget of the Ministry of Rural Development and Employment and Agriculture is under debate in the House. 88% people of our country live in villages and our country is well known as an agricultural country. So naturally every member of this House wants to speak about farmers and their problems, including members of the treasury benches who out of emotions have spoken just like members of the opposition and it is a reality...*(Interruptions)* I am saying the same thing, I welcome truth, I am not opposing it...*(Interruptions)* I support and welcome their speeches, I do not oppose. The reality...*(Interruptions)* has been stated by them in the House. There are several methods of development and rural development is mainly connected with employment generation.

Several M.Ps made statements here on farmers' problems. If we are really interested in the development of villages and villagers, we shall have to provide them employment opportunities. Central Govt. has made several schemes and made several announcements for removing unemployment, for providing employment, like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Employment Assurance scheme, Indira Avas Yojana, Old Age Pension, Maternity Benefit Scheme. Similarly several irrigational schemes are there. Central gov't. has put into action these schemes. But we have to see whether all these schemes are really meant for development of farmers and the poor and the people belonging to backward classes, and whether these are actually being implemented properly.

Some schemes are very good, like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. But while framing a scheme we should lay more stress upon the point whether the people, for whose benefit the schemes are framed, are really benefited thereby or not? The schemes are just on paper, and when we go to a village, we do not find any person starting his own industry under the benefit received from the Central Govt. schemes. So, first of all we shall have to review and reconsider all, our Central schemes, because whatever scheme we frame or announce, we do so in the form of budget presentation in the House.

Our Prime Minister and ministers also make many announcements before the public. We allure the people. But the common man and farmers do not get anything by virtue of those announcements. We do not get any kind of employment due to those schemes. So reconsideration thereon is very necessary. Whatever scheme might have been framed and the rules made in regard thereto both should necessarily be reconsidered.

Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana we give to-day 2000, 3000, 4,000 or 5,000 rupees. Looking to the steep rise in the prices of commodities in the market, we shall have to consider whether the amount of loan or subsidy being given in the form of seed capital subsidy or any other kind of subsidy under these schemes, is sufficient these days? If we feel that these schemes are not being implemented, we shall have to reconsider over them. The worst thing to-day is that good schemes of the central gov't. are not reaching the common people and poor farmers, and those schemes are not given due publicity or propaganda to reach village and rural populace.

Position to-day is that all our schemes are limited upto the level of District Parishad office and some upto Tehsil office or Panchayat office level. The schemes do not reach even upto Village Panchayat, and if any scheme reaches there, the Village Panchayats are not competent enough to execute and make them reach the common man.

We should make are village Panchayats competent and give them adequate training, which is presently missing. When we discuss the budget of an year after the close of the previous year, we look at last year's work and we find that only 5 or 6% out of the total provision made for the scheme was spent and at the most 10% or 20% was spent. We have to see that non-spending of the last year, while considering current year's budget. We need to give training more to-day. The schemes and the rules and conditions we make in that connection should be so simple that even an illiterate farmer may understand it.

We make houses in villages under Indira Avas Yojana, at such places outside the village where nobody likes to live and where no drinking water facility or road connection is available, with the result that those houses remain unoccupied. You will find that at some places in those houses, people of backward classes, poor people and those below the poverty line do not live, but good people and gov't. employes live. In fact, Indira Avas houses should be built in the village itself where facilities of drinking water, school, dispensary etc. may be available. Benefit of Indira Avas Yojana, which is good, is not available to the poor, those below the poverty line, backward classes and farmers due to its faulty rules, which should be improved.

Some states have taken steps to confer on agriculture the status of industry. But in many states agriculture is not being paid that much attention, which it deserves. To-day farmers are engaging themselves on fruit production and get better prices in the market. I hail from mountainous region of Maharashtra. Rules in hilly areas are different. We count from sea level, so 100-50 meter being a small height, is not treated as qualifying for a hilly tract. In one part of the land there are such villages which are treated as hilly areas, and areas at a distance of 10-20 kilometers from there are not treated as hilly areas even though we live in hilly area. We have to face all sorts of difficulties. So, we should pay more attention to revision of rules. It is absolutely necessary to reconsider the rules in regard to hilly areas. I belong to Konkan region, which is totally hilly. Farmers have to face many problems there, their land is not surface, so farmers have to break hills to convert it into surface land, and they have to depend entirely on rain god. When it rains they get crops, otherwise they suffer a lot. We should ponder over their problems and hardships and ensure rural development there. Relaxation in the rules is absolutely necessary for effecting development in rural areas.

The amount of Rs 300 being provided under the Maternity Benefit Scheme is too meagre to serve any useful purpose. It should be enhanced and it be given before maternity, because then for getting it one has to spend Rs 500/- This scheme is good in respect of poor and those living below the poverty line and belonging to backward classes, Adivasis etc for whom this amount of Rs 300 is adequate, but it should be paid before maternity.

In old age pension the prescribed age is 65 years and amount is Rs 75/- under it one has to go to Tehsildar, still he does not get the required certificate, and cannot get pension. The powers have been given to states who have framed different kinds of rules. Central govt should pay attention toward it. In states DPDs are formed under the chairmanship of ministers. The Central Govt gives many schemes to the states, but it does not take into consideration MPs for those scheme. I have to suggest that the state governments should invite suggestions from MPs also while framing rules and such a direction should be issued to states by the Centre.

For effecting development of villages and poor and backward people of villages, we shall have to pay adequate attention toward it. The Central govt shall have to ensure that all its schemes reach villages and for it necessary publicity and propaganda should be carried out and Panchayats should be made competent units. Village youth are to-day unemployed and they run to cities to get employment, where they lose their charm of life. Such youth should be retained in villages for which employment potential should be created in rural areas.

for them Govt should pay utmost attention to provide employment to villagers in rural areas. With these words and thanks to the Chair I conclude my speech.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (PADRAINA) I want to make two-three suggestions in regard to the demands for grants relating to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Employment.

All are of the considered opinion that rural employment should be provided, but how it can be done, should be thought over by this House. All the governments which came in power did make some efforts in this direction and some schemes and rules were framed to help villagers, but all that remained merely on paper and nothing concrete reached the common man in villages. I suggest that the rules framed should be effectively put in implementation to ensure rural development. It should be thought that if the efforts did not bring the fruitful result, where lies the fault? Alongwith the provision of employment in villages, they should also be given subsidy in actual practice as against mere paper work.

It is notice that buffalo and cow are not really purchased but only papers show the transaction. It should not happen. The minister should ensure that the work of Govt employees is properly supervised and it should be seen that subsidy on cow and buffalo's purchase is actually given to the beneficiaries. Similarly, whatever is paid for poultry on paper, that much amount is not actually paid to poor villagers. In U P one minister of Agriculture got a goat farm set up, where villagers rear goats. They eat its meat they brought goats from Haryana. Some progress was witnessed, but the same was later on closed. Govt provides loans and subsidy on rural employment works like milk, dairy farming etc. But milk is not available in villages. If villagers are encouraged for dairy farming work, proper arrangements should be made for it, so that they may earn money and get employment, and thereby villages will be gainers.

Villages are lacking in industries as compared to cities. Big industries are not possible there. Small industries can be set up, but these are not being set up and no incentive is provided by govt for it. Such a rule should be framed that all small industries should be set up in villages or nearby places and be shifted out of big cities like Delhi. Small industries like basket making, lock making etc requiring small capital upto one and half to two crores of rupees can profitably be setup in rural areas, which will also double employment opportunities for unemployed rural youth and poor people. An hon MP was saying that farmers produce vegetables, foodgrains etc, but markets are not available for their produce. In villages roads are negligible and no link is provided upto main road. Even Mandi Samities were formed, but they also failed in their duty of linking villages with roads. If roads are not provided there in villages, how can the farmers and others producing vegetables,

milk, eggs, poultry etc. send their produce to markets for sale ? Improvements to be brought in it will result in employment generation in villages.

About Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, it is correct that the scheme is framed, but it is not executed properly and no inquiry is conducted or vigilance exercised. The govt. should pay due attention to it and see whether its benefits accrue to poor villagers. How many persons in villages are given old age pension, it needs to be seen. In a village there is a Patwari and some govt servants, but none works. If we deliver lectures in this House and it is not acted upon, it will just amount to a formality. Only out, implementation can bring some improvement. There are persons of 60, 70, 80 years of age living in villages and having none to support or look after them. You have framed rules, but those are not being translated into action. Why don't you ask Patwaries to get the Pension papers of such old people prepared and sanctioned and let them enjoy Pension.

Now I come to agriculture, which needs fertilisers, electricity, water etc.,

16.54 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

without which agriculture cannot work. I, first of all thank agricultural scientists, although some may not like it. We should remember those days when our population was very small and still people used to starve, wheat was grown and bullocks worked and out of cowdung grains were picked up and eaten by people, such were the conditions.

But today that situation has changed. Today the fashion is to say that people are dying without eating. We are proud to-day that we are feeding not only our countrymen but people of other countries also. But we are still backward looking to the present age. Govt. should enhance the provision to enable our scientists to carry on further new researches whereby our production may go up further. Scientists deserve to be thanked on account of whose labour and work we have been able to get so much production.

The agriculture minister once stated that he was just a producer and after harvesting other department becomes owner of the produce. I shall draw his attention later to it, and I want to say first that farmer is not a scientist. On paper he is shown as educated. I wish that in every block there should be a scientist and equipment for conducting research on land so that he may be able to tell how much and what type of fertiliser or manure should be put in the land and in which season.

There is a great need of irrigation. Lack of irrigation and fury of floods both cause great trouble to farmers. A scheme was started to give pumping sets after boring to small farmers. How unfortunate is it that a pumping set

available in market at a price of seven thousand rupees is given to the farmer through the block at higher price of nine thousand rupees ? If it is true, please get it examined and inquired into. Subsidy of two thousand rupees on pumping set given by the govt. is thus eaten away by bankmen and officers. The govt. decides the firms from which pumping sets are to be purchased. He gets on market rate and cannot get the benefit of subsidy, because its actual price is only seven thousand rupees. Subsidy is given on machine etc also. But the officers take away that subsidy also from the farmer.

Floods cause havoc in villages, where ponds are filled, and there is no drain for outlet of their water. As a result of over flow of water, crops worth crores of rupees are submerged and destroyed. To ensure farmers welfare we should provide for them proper irrigational facilities. With provision of Proper drainage of excess water, farmers can give you good crops.

Our friends here were saying that Tiwariji should raise the slogan that 'earner will eat and looter will get out'. But the times have now changed. To-day the looter will eat and earner will get out. We plant trees and when we need wood for marriage etc. We can cut trees from our garden only when we pay Rs. 200 to the policeman. Otherwise we cannot cut tree from our own garden. Minister is advocate of farmers. Please get the law changed and the farmer who plants trees in his garden should be allowed to cut trees from his garden in accordance with his need. If such a law is not framed, farmer will not plant trees. That is what is happening in villages to-day.

17.00 hrs.

About barren land you say that it should be made fertile by organising a group or team of farmers. The foremost thing is that in our country, in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, land ceiling was made applicable providing that none shall have more than 18-27 acres of land. All this is on paper only. Even to-day, genocide is being committed in Bihar by big Zamindars land lords because ceiling there is on paper only. Big landlords are getting their excess land transferred in the names of their sons, grandsons, brothers-in-laws (losers) and even in the names of horses and dogs. The possession of the land is theirs, and all persons have got lands above the ceiling with them. This needs to be inquired into, and land in excess of the ceiling should be taken away from them and distributed among the landless people to benefit them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, some thing was said about sugarcane and the minister of agriculture stated that he being a farmer produced good amount of sugarcane. After the crop is harvested, sugarcane goes to the food ministry. You are our advocate or pleader. If property is earned and it is looted, will you protect or not ? Our Prime Minister made a statement last month that the arrears of

the farmers of U.P. in respect of sugarcane would soon be paid to them. But if you have courage, please go to ask sugarcane producers, they will tell you that nothing has been paid to them and that their arrears are in hundreds of crores of rupees. For example, Kanpur Sugar Workers Mill has to pay 20 crore rupees to sugarcane producers of Padrainia, Kuthkunia, Gauri Bazar. If their arrears are not paid, they will not allow the Mill to function. Similarly, what will happen in respect of others ? I and other members say in this House, but no remedial steps are taken. So I shall request the hon. minister to ensure remunerative or proper price of the sugarcane produced by farmers. Minister should reply to this problem of farmers whether you will ensure or not payment of their arrears and functioning or not of sugar mills as more than 50% farmers of U.P. live on sugarcane and more than 100 sugar factories are working in U.P., out of which 35-40% mills receive sugarcane from farmers and the remaining sugarcane goes to cane crushers. What shall we do by producing sugarcane, if proper price is not paid to us ? Whosoever may rule here we urge upon the minister to plead our case, cane growers are yours and you should ensure them their due payments.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, some friends have said that we belong to terai area (foothill), but do not get drinking water. Even after 50 years of independence it is sad that pure drinking water is not available in many areas in the country, which causes several diseases like goitre. The minister should make arrangements at least for it. In the fields of rice and wheat, we find worms like 'Deera', 'Gilharua' respectively, which you may not be able to identify. I expect your sympathy as you are agriculturist. I have specially to urge upon you that if in your regime sugarcane growers are not benefited, they will never see good days.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (OTHER THAN ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRY DEPARTMENT) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Please don't say so. Does it mean that with your coming it will not be done. If I am, that is alright.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : I am not saying that. I shall not speak much. There is a song in Bhojpuri, which mentions a gathering of farmers in such like circumstances who are discussing among themselves. The calamity being mentioned by me is being mutually talked about by them also like this—

All demand from us, from whom should we demand, Lord of we unfortunates is Almighty, Siya Ram.

"Unfortunate are farmers of our country, O, dear brother Muslim priests demand chicken, Hindu goddess Kali demands ornaments, unfortunate are farmers of our country O, dear brother, leaders demand votes, govt. demand revenue, Administrators and lawyers demand leaving of honesty.

So, the Agriculture Minister Shri Mishraji, it is now obligatory upon you to protect and save the farmers.

With these words and thanks to the Chair, I Conclude my Speech.

[English]

SHRI SANAT MEHTA (SURENDRA NAGAR) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands of the Agriculture Ministry because I feel that after a long time, in the Finance Minister's Budget, Agriculture has got again the priority and sizable and more allocations have been given to the Agriculture Ministry. But, Sir, I want to point out some of the facts regarding the cotton growers because I come from that area. Gujarat has become, in recent years, one of the main cotton growers of the country and the area from which I am elected, I may point out to the hon. Minister, most of the area is that of dry-farming and the cotton growers are very poor and are growing only the short staple variety which comes to the market late.

When we talk of the welfare of the agriculturists and the farmers, the main point is that the farmers have always suffered in this country because the terms of trade have always adversely affected the farmers. So, I would appeal to the hon. Minister of Agriculture to take some steps so that the terms of trade do not adversely affect the farmers. Here, I would like to quote one thing. The renowned economist and a former member of the Agricultural Prices Commission, Dr. Tyagi, has made a detailed study regarding the behaviour of the terms of trade in India. He said and I quote :

"The terms of trade remained against the farmer during 1952-53 to 1963-64 but later on from 1964-65 to 1974-75, the terms of trade became favourable to agriculture."

This was, perhaps, the era of the Green Revolution but the Government could not see beyond the Green Revolution with the result that from 1975-76, the terms of trade went against agriculture. So, the main theme of the improvement of agriculture should be to keep the terms of trade in favour of agriculture. I do not think that this will happen by this Budget.

Another point which I want to point out is : In the current cotton season, what were the factors which adversely affected the cotton growers ? The first factor is the crop estimate. Even after 49 years of freedom in this country, we have not been able to evolve a proper crop estimation in the country. Look at the figures. The Cotton Advisory Board—which is called the CAB, and all the policies of the Government are based on the estimates of the CAB—in its meeting on the 26th August, 1996, has put up the production of 156 lakh bales. The carry over stock at the end of the season is put at 36 lakh bales. Surprisingly, the same CAB earlier had

estimated 149 lakh bales in the earlier meeting. Between the two meetings, the crop estimate estimated by the CAB has gone from 138 to 156 lakh bales. Here I would say that we need improvement in our cotton estimates system. I would say that there is a viewpoint in what the CAB has said that instead of estimation of cotton production based on the sowing of the crop etc., it should be made at the time of flowering. That will bridge the gap between the estimates which are being made. If the crop estimates are not being made correctly, then all our policy steps will go wrong. Take the example of the export of cotton. Export of cotton in this country was first done ten years before when the state of affairs in the country was such that the country had produced sizeable cotton and the scene in the market was such that it had become glut in cotton market and thus farmers were to perish. At that time, cotton growers agitated in the country and the Government of India was compelled to accept in principle saying whether there is a demand in the country or not, a minimum of five lakh bales of cotton would be exported every year. Thus it was started. Last year was the year when large amount of cotton was exported. The quota that was given was very large. It was a record quota for the export of cotton. But in reality half of the cotton is not even exported. What is the reason? First was that we had a wrong estimates of the cotton. As the months were passing by, we went on improving upon the cotton estimates and went on releasing the quota for cotton export. I do not want to go into the details about whether the quota was allocated to the right people or not. That is a separate question. But as the time is short, I will not go on those issues. But if you see the trend of international price of cotton as to how our cotton export behaved, looking to the cotton outlook, the price index of 6th November, 1995 of US cents for pound on c.i.f. was 89.60 cent per pounds. When we started giving quota, we did not look at international price and we started giving more and more quota when the international price went down. And what was the result? The result was that ultimately, the last quota we allocated was when the international price went down even below 74 cents. This means that international climate was in our favour when we could have benefited the farmers in this country, when we could have got our foreign exchange requirement, but we had a wrong policy of allocation of quota. We did not look to the international market and went on allocating quota in a manner that we did not allocate higher quota when the cotton farmers would have benefited. We only allocated the quota when international price went down and then came telling the farmers that we gave large quota but could not export. This is the second point which I want to make.

In any country of the world, as far as Egyptian cotton is concerned, the hon. Minister must be knowing that the whole export of Egyptian cotton is finished within two, three days. It is decided all over the world. When the prices are good, they decide the quota and finish it within

no time. Here in this country, we have no proper system of crop estimation. We ask the cotton growers to grow more cotton. And when they grow more cotton, we come to a stage where farmers do not get proper price and they are ruined. So, this is why I bring this point to this House. This time the cotton system is delayed because the rains have lasted for a longer period. Now, as the new season is going to start from October, I appeal the Government to see that this mistake is not repeated.

Sir, this United Front Government in their Common Minimum Programme have announced that they are going to remove most of the restrictions. These are the words: "All controls and regulations that are in the way of increasing the income of farmers will be reviewed immediately and abolished wherever found unnecessary."

How many restrictions are today on the cotton? Firstly, to please the mill owners, the Government of India decided to have an Import Policy on the OGL system of the cotton. So, if the cotton mill owners want to import cotton, today there is an open general licencing; there is no restriction; there is no quota system. But in the case of farmers, when the Government decided to give export of cotton, we started giving it in pieces; we never looked at the international market.

So, I feel that if the Government is really serious and want to abide by their Common Minimum Programme, let them remove the quota system and any restriction on export also. I am sure that the farmers of this country who are growing cotton would like to compete the world market. Everybody knows that after we have signed the GATT agreement, some of countries requirement which they were getting—food grains at subsidized prices—that is going to be slashed slowly. So, we are now going into the international market.

We have been able to export rice to a very large size, it was a record export last year. We could not export more rice because there was no loading facility on the port. So, on the issue of rice, the international market is available but there is no loading facility and the farmers suffer. As far as cotton is concerned, the quota system was there in spite of my appeal. I appeal to the Government for adhering to the policy statement of the Common Minimum Programme.

All things whether it is import or export, should be made OGL and let the farmers earn whatever more they can earn. This is my point.

Sir, there are other restrictions also on the cotton. Even the credit restrictions are always imposed. Whenever the farmers grow more cotton, the Reserve Bank of India imposes more credit restrictions. So, there is no money available in the market. In the last season what happened? The cotton was available and it was coming to the market. The farmers had their house full of cotton but there was no storage; there was no ginning facility in

Gujarat and there were no buyers because of the credit restrictions. There was no money available.

So, these credit restrictions should be reviewed immediately. The worst restriction on cotton is that there is a Cotton Control Order and the Essential Commodities Act which cover cotton and *kapaas* both. I have seen before my eyes, that farmers were prosecuted under the Cotton Control Order for keeping more cotton in their houses and also the cooperative societies were prosecuted. Even today, those prosecution cases are going on. Why are we allowing the inspectors to ruin the farmers and the cooperatives like this ?

So, I urge upon the Government that as far as the export is concerned, let it be OGL for export and also let it be OGL for import. If the mill owners are able to get cheap cotton from anywhere in the world, they may be allowed to do so. There should be no restriction.

Sir, the idea is very clear. In Gujarat, there is one Arvind Mill. In spite of all high prices of the cotton, this mill has never suffered any loss. This is because they say that the cotton amounts to a very small percentage in their whole production and their research section is so powerful that if the cotton prices are rising, they adopt certain varieties of the cotton, cloth, jeans — you know the jeans which we are putting nowadays in our country — and divert to a new system of the cloth so that the cotton requirement go down. This is the type of approach they are following.

I was very glad to hear once Shri P. Chidambaram, when he was the Commence Minister in the last Lok Sabha. He said to the Cotton Mill Association that 'how long you people want to run mills and make profit remaining on the back of the cotton growers?'. You reduce the other expenses. If the power cost rises, nothing happens to them. But if the cotton price rises, then they have a big lobby in the Government. They control the Textile Ministry. I am sure, when the hon. Agriculture Minister will stand up to reply, he will say that this export etc. is with the Textile Ministry and he cannot decide about it.

Thirdly the correlation between the Textile Ministry and the Agriculture Ministry should be planned so that the cotton growers in the country are not made to suffer. We have become one of the major cotton exporting countries and the next season is likely to be in our favour because of some international factors.

Only today morning I got a reply to my Unstarred Question. I raised a question about the Gujarat Cotton Cooperative Federation of the farmers. They have sold cotton to the NTC mills and the NTC mills are not giving them nearly Rs. 14 to Rs. 15 crore for the cotton which has been supplied to them. Once I approached the Textile Minister. He said he has no money and asked me to

approach the Finance Minister. I then approached the Finance Minister, Shri Chidambaram. He said that this is not his subject and that I should go to the Textile Minister. This cotton cooperative federation of the farmers is helping the cotton growers. During the season if there is a glut, this federation enters to the market and helps the farmers in purchasing the cotton and exporting it. But nearly Rs. 15 crore is not being paid to them by the NTC. Today I have been told that this cotton must have been supplied to the different mills of the NTC. But this is the farmers' money and the farmers in the last two-three years had to incur an interest burden of Rs. 6 crore. I have also appealed to Shri Chaturanan Mishra and he said that he would also take up the question. I want this to be cleared. I hope the Finance Ministry and the Textile Ministry both will see to it that this arrear is paid. If some traders' money is held up, people immediately go to their rescue. But if the farmers' money is held up, nobody is going to their rescue. If this ten to fifteen crores of rupees is given to them, it will be a help to the Government of India only; it will not be a burden on the Government of India.

The Agriculture Minister, during a discussion in the Rajya Sabha on the Calling Attention Motion about cotton, had announced that he would form a Committee to help in formulating the cotton policy for the ensuing season. I ask the Agriculture Minister as to what about us. The Members of the Lok Sabha must also be there because of the kind of policy that you are making. I was told that this is not possible because the Rajya Sabha Committee which has been formed has seven Members of that House and if this House has to send its Members, then we should send 14 Members and the Agriculture Minister feels that it would then become a 21 Member Committee and that is a very large number. But I would say that if you can appoint 50 Member Committees in the form of Standing Committees and if they can discuss so many problems and continue for the whole year, why are you not giving an opportunity to the Members of the Lok Sabha in framing the policy of the Government? If this is not done, I feel that the next year would be the worst year.

I represent a constituency where there is black soil and there is no irrigation. I remember there was one Union Agriculture Minister when I was fighting for the cotton policy. He asked 'why the farmers are growing cotton in your area, ask them to grow something else'. I said, if the soil is black, if there is no irrigation facility, the only alternative for them is to grow this short staple variety of the cotton. So much of importance has been given to agriculture in this Budget. I welcome it. When the Prime Minister claims that he is the son of a farmer and he wants to have an agriculture-oriented policy, here is a litmus test. If, in the next season, the cotton growers are allowed to suffer, no farmer in the country will believe that Shri H.D. Deve Gowda gave them a proper agricultural policy.

With these words, I again appeal to the hon. Minister of Agriculture to look into the cotton policy next year. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH (JAHANABAD): None from our party has spoken...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am sorry. We have to finish up. Two ministers have to reply and at six o'clock guillotine has to be applied.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Guillotine will take place at six o'clock, two ministers have to give replies.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSHI (HOWRAH) : Sir, you take so much interest in farmers, we are talking about agriculturists, so, please give chance to all...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is the decision of the Business Advisory Committee, B.A.C. has decided that guillotine has to be applied at 6 o'clock.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR (KATIHAR) : Some Members have spoken continuously for half an hour each.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : My name is included in the list...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[Translation]

I have several names with me.

[English]

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Sir, we can extend the House.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will five minutes time not be given to us ?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have accepted the decision of the Business Advisory Committee.

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : To-day we talk about rural development and farmers and here we are not permitted to speak. We were awaiting...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : My name has been given. None from my party has spoken.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, hon. Members Shri Shivraj Singh, Shri Bhuria, Shri Mehboob Zahedi, Shri Brij Bhushan Tiwari, Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Shri Ram Nagina Mishra and Shri Sanat Mehta have spoken on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment. They have given their valuable observations regarding my Ministry...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. Business Advisory Committee's decision was accepted by the House. Guillotine has to be applied at 6 O'clock. Two ministers have to reply before that. There are cut motions also.

[English]

How can we finish up by six o'clock.

[Translation]

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Ministers may table their replies.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You will not like to listen minister's reply, will you like to speak out your mind ? At least ministers should reply to what has been said by other hon. M.Ps. If one person speaks, then something can be understood.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (DUMDUM) : Sir, I would suggest a formula.

It is not possible because the Minister cannot reply tomorrow if there is a guillotine today. The only thing that can be done, perhaps, is that if there are several parties or groups which are left out, then, instead of having the guillotine at 6 p.m., we can shift it to 6.30 p.m. If there is a guillotine, the Minister's reply cannot be had after that. The only way it can be stretched is this. If the House agrees that the guillotine can be applied at 6.30 p.m., it can be done.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It will not be solved by shifting from 6 O'clock to 6.30 O'clock. Nobody is prepared to speak for less than 15-20 minutes.

[English]

There will be no end to it.

[Translation]

Please listen for a minute. I shall not be able to pick and choose. I have a list of 20 persons who want to speak.

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Please give chance to them whose party men have not spoken...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I cannot pick and choose from the list. How can I choose one and ignore the others ?

[Translation]

It will not be over even by 6.30 o'clock. Nobody takes less than 15-20 minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (DUMDUM) : Only Member of two or three parties or groups have not yet spoken.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I asked this question. But they say that at six O'clock the guillotine has to be done. This is what I am told. I myself enquired this.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (SILCHAR) : The meaning of guillotine is to cut. You cannot change it.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have myself told that D.M.K's no member could speak. None from the Akali Dal has spoken. Guillotine means, cut

...*(Interruptions)*

Whatever is written in the rules, I may read out and you may listen.

[English]

It cannot be beyond six O'clock.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : If Members of only two or three parties have not spoken, they should be allowed to speak...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let me read the Rule. It says :

"When guillotine time is reached, Chair must put to vote of House any motion or motions for reduction actually, under discussion at that time and the demands for grant."

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That does not apply here...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Time has already been fixed at six O'clock by the BAC and the House has accepted it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK (ASKA) : The House can now change it. The House can extend it even upto eight o'clock in the night.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The BAC has decided it and the House has accepted the decision. What else do you want ?

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, my submission is either guillotine must be applied at six o'clock or other hon. Members should be allowed to speak. Then, you cannot extend the time.

[Translation]

One will be given a chance and others will not be given chance to speak, it will not be correct. So, you please give chance to all to speak.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have got the list. It contains the names of 20 hon. Members. That cannot be done.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am sorry to say that I cannot change the decision.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : That Rule does not apply here.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are a senior Member. BAC itself is a House. BAC took the decision and the House has endorsed it. What else can I do ? I know the Members from Akali Dal and DMK did not speak...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : The Members from CPI has not yet spoken...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are reducing the time of the Hon. Minister to speak. He will not be able to say what he wants to speak in so short a time and guillotine has to be applied at six o'clock.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : My first submission is that it does not mean the House cannot revise its decision. The second submission is that the meaning of the Rule which you have read out is that at that time, when the guillotine is taken up, everything will be put to vote...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have just read out the rule for you. In that it is written that when the time comes, guillotine has to be applied.

[English]

The guillotine has to be done. The decision cannot be revised. I have already read the Rule. I am sorry to say that I cannot revise the decision. Please bear with me. Now, the hon. Minister of Rural Areas and Employment may reply.

1734 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : Sir, the basic function of the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment is to realise the objective of eradication of rural poverty and ensuring improved quality of life for the rural population, especially of those who are below the poverty line. These objectives are vigorously pursued by the three Departments, viz. (i) The Department of Rural Areas and Employment, (ii) The Department of Rural Development and (iii) Department of Waste Land Development. The United Front Government gave a lot of thrust on this rural development programme. As you all know, when the United Front Government assumed Office, it convened the Chief Ministers' Conference on 4th and 5th July, 1996. We have designed seven basic minimum services to eradicate the problems faced by the rural people. Out of the seven basic minimum services, this Ministry has three programmes. One is 100 per cent coverage by provision of safe drinking water in rural and urban areas.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, Not at all. The Minister is replying now

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Second is the provision of assistance to all shelterless poor families. Third is the provision of connectivity to all the unconnected villages and habitations.

For achieving these programmes in the seven basic minimum services, the United Front Government has given Rs. 2466 crore. The Budget provisions of the last year and this year are the same as all the hon. Members are aware. For these three programmes, this year we have got nearly Rs. 1500 crore. This Government is committed to eradicate poverty in the rural areas by the year 2005 AD.

Regarding supply of drinking water in this country, we want to achieve the target by 2000 AD. As on 1.4.1996, there were 75,782 no-source habitations and 3,32,454 partially covered habitations which have between one to 40 litres. We want to complete the target in all these 75,782 villages by 2000 AD. For this year, we

have provided Rs. 1100 crore. The States under MNP are providing Rs. 1200 crore. So, both together, we are spending nearly Rs. 2300 crore for achieving the target in 75,782 villages under the no-source villages in this country.

It is also proposed, in the first phase, to cover all no-source habitations and partially covered habitations, with one to 10 litres per capita per day. All the hon. Members are aware that all these programmes are routed through the States. So, the implementing machinery is the State Governments. We, the Members of the Legislative Assemblies and the Members of Parliament, are all members in DRDS. This House passed the Seventy-third Constitution (Amendment) Bill. By that Amendment, we have given a lot of powers to the local bodies, and so, the gram panchayats, the zilla parishads and the DRDS are the implementing agencies. Therefore, we are giving moneys to the State Governments. All of them are not 100 per cent sponsored schemes. In some schemes, the ratio is 80 per cent and 20 per cent. For example, in the case of JRY, Employment Assurance Scheme, etc., the share of the States is 20 per cent and the share of the Centre is 80 per cent. Regarding IRDP, the State's share is 50 per cent and the Centre's share is also 50 per cent. Regarding the tool kits programme, we are providing 90 per cent and the rest 10 per cent is borne by the beneficiaries. So, all these schemes are implemented by the State Governments and the local bodies only. We have given powers to the local bodies by the Seventy-third Constitutional (Amendment) Act. Even in the selection of beneficiaries in EAS, powers are given to the gram panchayats, by this House. MPs and MLAs are members in DRDS. The Central Government has asked the State Governments to set up monitoring committees at the State level, block level, village level and at the district level....(Interruptions)

So, there is a lot of difference...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it was earlier also stressed that under the Indira Avas Yojana, Members of Parliament should be given special position of importance, and similarly under D.R.D.A. schemes they should occupy position of special importance.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU: Please listen...(Interruptions) for the last 5 years, I am also an M.L.A. in A.P. Legislative Assembly...(Interruptions) just listen to me...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : The entire House has said it....(Interruptions) Under the Indira Avas Yojana and decisions of similar other schemes, in which money

is granted by the Govt. of India, Members of Parliament should be accorded a place of special importance. We would like to say through you that M.Ps should be provided special rights in the schemes of rural development run by cent per cent Central Govt. Grant.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : I will clarify the position. Then you can put questions...*(Interruptions)* I will clarify first, then you can put questions ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : We want that for the schemes of rural development for which Govt. of India provides cent per cent grant, the local Members of Parliament should be made full partners at the level of taking decisions.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : I will give my reply...*(Interruptions)*

I was an MLA for 15 years in the Legislative Assembly. I have been elected as MP for the first time. So, what is the controversy ? This House passed the Seventy-Third Amendment. We have given 21 subjects to the Gram Panchayats. They enjoy the powers. Then, we are demanding more. We have powers like this. In the DRDA, everybody — MP and MLA — is a Member. They are preparing the plans...*(Interruptions)* You listen to me first...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : MP has got no voice...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : We have already given clear-cut instructions to all the States. Some MPs from West Bengal have written a letter. They also hold meetings during the period when the session is on. We have now given instructions not to hold any meeting when a session of the Parliament is going on.

Like that, we are all Members. So, all programmes and plans are decided by the Governing Bodies of the DRDAs. Then, you say, this scheme is not good and that scheme is not good...*(Interruptions)*

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (PALI) : The Chairman of DRDA is the Collector...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, it is the Government, that is, bureaucracy ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : The United Front Government has given a lot of funds. In the Ninth

Plan, we are spending Rs. 60,000 crore. In the Eighth Plan, it was Rs. 30,000 crore. We have doubled it in the Ninth Plan.

I have visited many States, namely, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Many States are not spending the money properly. During my visits, in many States, it was found that in April this year, there were opening balances to the extent of Rs. 500 crore to Rs. 600 crore. Whatever amount is spent by them, they send a utilisation certificate about that. Then, we release the money.

Some MPs have asked: "Why are you not releasing the money ?" Those people have not sent the utilisation certificate. That is why we are not releasing the money. There is no delay in our Ministry. As and when Audit Report, that is, utilisation certificate, comes, we release our money.

The Prime Minister also announced that in his speech on the Independence Day. So far, there are 3,206 blocks under the Self-Employment Scheme. We have decided to include the remaining 2,200 block within two years. We want to include some blocks this year also. So many MPs have requested about it.

Now, some MPs have also given their letters about backward areas. This year, the first priority will be given to identify the backward areas and to those areas which are having more poverty in that particular block. We want to include those blocks. The remaining blocks will be included next year.

Regarding Employment Insurance Scheme, there is no problem. There is our Common Minimum Programme. The commitment of the United Front Government is to give employment for hundred days to those people who are below the poverty line. We are planning like that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Sir, first, I want to say something. Regarding my Cut-Motion, the hon. Minister has not replied anything. Perhaps he has not seen the Cut-Motion.

MR. SPEAKER : He had no time!

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : My request is to the hon. Member who has given this Cut-motion.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Then, you have to consider this point. You have just now said that you would be considering the most backward areas.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Yes, I know...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : About drinking water, there is an acute problem. And you are not giving adequate funds.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Regarding the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Shri Manoranjan Bhakta has given a Cut-motion. We are giving special thrust to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House that cut motion Nos. 18 to 23 moved by Shri Manoranjan Bhakta be withdrawn ?

The cut motions were, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment to the vote of the house.

The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to *complete* the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1997, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 71 to 73 in respect of Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, I heartily thank all those Members who have participated in the debate on the demands for grants of this ministry. I am also obliged to them who have made suggestions or pointed out deficiencies or faults. Due to shortage of time I may not be able to reply to their questions here, but I shall send replies to them in writing in regard to the matters raised by them here.

Mr. Speaker, one question came up here about which I had thought from a new angle and then wrote to hon. members. More than one hundred M.Ps wrote to me for opening Agricultural Science Centres in their areas or districts. I told them in reply that we were also thinking on that line. By the time their reply comes, I shall make efforts to contact the Planning Commission, and to the extent possible and within the shortest time, Agricultural Science Centres may be set up in all districts in the country. I also made efforts for reducing the rate of interest on loans to be granted to small, marginal and poor peasants, to see that they should be covered under the Crop Insurance Scheme. I have written about it. I do not want to repeat it.

DR. ASIM BALA (NAVADWEEP) : For the farmers who grow old and get retired, ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : What has to be done for it ? We ourselves have grown old. We shall consider it simultaneously.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Do you treat one block for crop Insurance Scheme ? It may not be put off ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He says that he will reply to all your points... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I have suggested, you have written, so I shall reply. I have it in my mind. We have written to you, you may please send your reply.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI (GHOSI) : You did not tell about K.V.K. ?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : I told once. I don't want to repeat. I am discussing the matter with the Planning Commission for providing it in every district. I want to invite your attention to a thing that West Bengal has increased production of jute. In Bihar also production has gone up sufficiently. Centre does not take from Bihar. Same is the position of West Bengal. From our point of view, our country is moving in this direction. If we bring those areas under it, which are not included in green revolution, we shall be self-reliant not only with matter of foodgrains, but we shall also be able to make efforts to capture international market, which can be done by sustained efforts for increasing production. Inviting your attention to it, I shall request you to cooperate in this effort to ensure sustained production and to capture international market. We also share the concern which you people have expressed in this regard. To-day farmers are being greatly penalised. There is no community which does good work and gets punishment. If a labourer or an industrialist increases production, they are praised by all. Similarly a student securing good marks in the examination is appreciated. But if a farmer produces more, his crop has to be burnt. This is the condition of our farmers. I am aware of it. Due to shortage of time I am not saying more on it. I am inviting your cooperation in this direction. We shall find out one or the other solution for it...*(Interruptions)* We say our point. If you raise any point, I shall reply to it. First thing is the concern you have expressed about non-spending of the money given in the budget. I have come to this department only recently. I have tried to make arrangements for putting all those schemes on computers, which are run in states by Central funds or with the money got in collaboration from I.M.F. or World Bank, and we shall have their quarterly review, and I have started writing letters to chief ministers of states that money is not being utilised fully.

One question about more profit of middle man has been raised here, which is much more than farmer's income. Hon. member Shri Mehtaji raised the very legitimate question in regard to cotton. I am in agreement with him. This question was raised in Rajya Sabha also.

So I later on requested the Chairman of Rajya Sabha, and he set up a committee. I have no objection to the Lok Sabha members joining that committee, but the fear is that the committee may not become unwieldy. So I leave it upon you and whatever suggestions you make those will be acted upon by us. There can not be two opinions about attaching Lok Sabha members in that effort.

In the end I want to say to you that many questions have been raised. I cannot reply to all. Shri Pilot was asking something from me. He may ask...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (SHIMLA) : Our apple comes in Azadpur Mandi...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : We have a separate scheme for vegetables and horticulture or fruits. That money was not fully spent, we are taking action thereon. You may also send a scheme. Money will be given for the scheme, not to the M.P. We shall help you after you send the scheme.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (DAUISA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, one thing we could not do even by efforts, inspite of remaining in the Govt.

[*English*]

And we accept that.

[*Translation*]

We had stated that the farmer should also be given a limit on the lines of industrialist. If an industrialist has a business of 100 crores, he is given a limit of 90 crores by you. We made efforts with all state governments and their chief ministers, so that the farmer may get a book. If he has 25 Bighas of land and its price is 25 lakhs of rupees, he should be given a bank limit of one lakh rupees, so that he may have the power of self-confidence and he may be able to start a new enterprise alongwith agriculture. What happens to-day. A son of a farmer studies and he runs after employment. His economic condition is weak. I said in my party that if you have money in your pocket, you may roam in the market throughout the day but you will not feel hungry, and when your pocket is empty, you will feel hungry even sitting in your home. You should fix such a limit for the peasant that if he has a land worth Rs. 50 lakhs, he should be given a book for one lakh rupees. He should not run for loan from door to door, after commission agents and from place to place. Children of 10 farmers will be able to start a small industry jointly. Please give me this assurance.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, sir, we are thinking in a systematic manner about credit. We shall take your opinion also in that connection as to what should be provided in regard to credit. Peasants may take loan and also give their money on credit.

Industrialists take loans of big amounts and that goes in bad loans. In banking also there is such a rule that we can do nothing in regard to them. But such is not the position in regard to farmers. Peasants have to pay compound interest also. I am aware of all these incongruous things.

I am saying this to you that after taking your suggestions in this connection we shall try to devise some way out for credit. I have an appeal to make that if famine occurs, draught or floods come, loans of farmers should be exempted. But I urge upon all political parties to urge upon the govt. to do it. But don't say that thing in respect of cooperatives. Cooperatives are getting spoiled. They exempt loans, govt. does not give them, interest goes on increasing. Cooperatives have no way out, you and we people are there. So, we people may give money from the govt. coffers and if loan of cooperatives remains, do not raise this slogan "our demands should be fulfilled whatever may be the helplessness" leave it an the Govt. we are with you, we shall cooperate. Cooperatives are facing crisis Mr. Speaker, -so I will say this much...(*Interruptions*) that about cooperatives it is not our time now, you may give time for animal husbandry...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker our country's budget is of 2 lakh 4 thousand crores of rupees in which the budget of Animal Husbandry and Dairy Department is .2% i.e. about 404 crore rupees. Even then, contribution of agricultural production in the country is about 31% of G.D.P. of the nation, in which about 26% is contributed by animal husbandry and dairying. In the total G.D.P. of our country, animal husbandry and dairying contribute about 8%. We have worked out these figures.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Then give some slogan.

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Production in animal husbandry contributes 1 lakh 83 thousand crores of rupees to the nation's economy. Milk worth 109 crore rupees is produced daily and cow dung production is worth Rs. 81 crores. From animal husbandry we get energy worth Rs. 100 crores in the form of cart load carriage and ploughing by bulls. Meat worth Rs. 75 crores is produced and eggs worth Rs. 8 crores are produced, while production amounts to Rs. 100 crores daily. Daily income of 509 crore rupees comes from animal husbandry and dairying. It has been estimated that maximum employment can be generated by this department. Therefore, Govt's more contribution should be in I.R.D.P. and D.R.D.P. and Govt. should contribute more toward removal of unemployment, poverty eradication programmes. For this purpose, policies and schemes have been framed by the Govt. The United Front Govt. has decided that India which occupies second place at present will occupy first place in milk production by the year

2000 in the world. India occupies fifth position in egg production, but we have resolved to take it to first position in the world by the year 2000. Mr. Speaker, poverty cannot be removed without developing animal husbandry and dairying. The United Front Govt. has, therefore, while formulating development oriented and poor-oriented policies and programmes, laid great stress on the common Minimum Need Programme formulated by the United Front, so that poor farmers of villages, hard working rural persons, labourers, numbering about 40 crore people living below the poverty line, and about 30 crore small farmers or marginal peasants, whose additional resources are by way of animal husbandry and dairying should be adequately benefited thereby.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSHI : Mr. Speaker, sir, is it a reply to the debate on Budget ?

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Sir, it is our country's culture, here Shri Krishna became God by rearing cows. We cannot separate ourselves from animal husbandry and India cannot achieve economic development without developing animal husbandry. Therefore, the United Front Govt. has decided to lay emphasis on spreading and developing animal husbandry and dairying in every village, and linking villagers with these programmes, with a view to increasing their income and prosperity by way of ensuring over all rural development in the country.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, the best reply that we have so far to this debate is from the Minister of Rural Development and the Minister of Animal Husbandry. We would like to congratulate them for it. They have come prepared. The other Ministers should learn from them.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Agriculture to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1997, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 4 in respect of Ministry of Agriculture."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (BARH): Mr. Speaker, Leader of the House is also not present.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has gone with the leave of the Speaker.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Prime Minister is also not present, and the leader of the House is also absent. What situation the House has acquired, you may see...(Interruptions)

18.00 hrs.

SUBMISSION OF OUTSTANDING DEMANDS FOR GRANTS* TO THE VOTE OF THE HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the outstanding Demands for Grants relating to the Ministries/Departments to vote.

The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President, out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1997, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the Second column thereof against:—

- (1) Demand Nos. 5 and 6 relating to Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.
- (2) Demand Nos. 7 and 8 relating to Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism.
- (3) Demand No. 9 relating to Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution.
- (4) Demand No. 10 relating to Ministry of Coal.
- (5) Demand Nos. 11 and 12 relating to Ministry of Commerce.
- (6) Demand Nos. 13 and 14 relating to Ministry of Communications.
- (7) Demand Nos. 15 to 21 relating to Ministry of Defence.
- (8) Demand No. 22 relating to Ministry of Environment and Forests.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.