

. (Interruptions)

13.06 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE**

Situation arising out of damage caused by floods due to heavy rains in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and steps taken by the Government in regard thereto

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we would take up the Calling Attention.

I may announce here and now that today there will be no luncheon recess and at 2 PM, the discussion under Rule 193 on WTO will start. I would like to request the hon. Members to participate in this discussion. I would also request them to be brief and to the point without repeating the points so that we can conclude this very important discussion in a proper manner.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (TIRUPATI): Sir, I call the Attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The situation arising out of damage caused by floods due to heavy rains in Tamil Nadu and Karnakata and steps taken by the Government in this regard."

MR. SPEAKER: I think, all the hon. Members have got the statement with them and, therefore, the statement can be laid on the Table of the House.

*** THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):** Sir, during the current year, the State of Tamil Nadu has experienced heavy rains and floods in three spells in quick succession. The first spell of heavy rains and floods occurred in the second fortnight of October, the second spell in the first week of November and the third spell in the last week of November, 2005.

The state had received 291.66 mm rainfall in the month of October, 2005 itself against the normal rainfall of 187.1 mm during this month. In the first two spells, districts of Chennai received 172% of the normal rainfall, Kancheepuram 88%, Tiruvallur 111%, Cuddalore 58% and Nagapattinam 52%. Due to excess rainfall and releases from Mettur Dam, 18 districts were affected by floods.

In the first two spell of rains and floods, 3.90 lakh houses, 89,653 ha of agriculture crops, 15,627 Km of roads are reported to have been affected, besides loss of 137 human lives. About 3.28 lakh families were evacuated and accommodated in relief camps.

In the third spell, between 21.11.2005 to 24.11.2005, 262.68 mm rainfall was recorded which resulted in floods in 15 districts of the State. The Cauvery delta districts namely Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Thanjavur, Tiruvarur and Trichy were the worst affected. In the 15 districts, 3,738 villages, with a population of 34.14 lakh were affected. 179 persons lost their lives and 3.82 lakh houses (huts) were either fully or partially damaged.

The railway tracks in many sections in Tamil Nadu are reported to have been inundated and at several places washed away. The infrastructure damaged includes 29,000 kms of roads, approximately 6441 irrigation tanks and 3459 River banks and channels. There was also damage to bridges and culverts which has

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT 2979/2005.

disrupted normal traffic in the affected districts. 3.5 lakh Ha of agricultural land in the State have been either fully or partially damaged.

The State Government of Tamil Nadu undertook rescue and relief operations. About 11.51 lakh people were evacuated and accommodated in 1,349 relief camps. The State Government is reported to have distributed 46.52 lakh food

packets, Rs.325.60 lakh as cash dole and 3.31 lakh Kgs of rice to the affected families.

The Army, Air Force, Navy and Coast Guards assisted the State Administration in rescue and relief operations. Five helicopters (Air Force - 03, Coast Guards - 02) were deployed for dropping food packets to marooned population. Two ships of the Coast Guards were stationed near Cuddalore for relief operations. Four Columns of Indian Army were requisitioned.

I alongwith the Hon'ble Finance Minister, my colleague Shri Reghupathy and senior officers of the Government of India flew over 9 out of 15 affected districts of the State on 26th and 27th November, 2005. The members of Tamil Nadu Government also visited the affected areas.

In the memoranda submitted by the Government of Tamil Nadu, the State Government has sought financial assistance of Rs. 13,685.00 crore, 2.58 lakh MT of rice and an additional allocation of 43,200 Kilo-litres of kerosene for relief operations in the affected areas for all the three spells of floods. An Inter-Ministerial Central Team visited the State from 17-20 November, 2005 and again from 28-30th November 2005 to assess the damage.

Keeping in view the magnitude of the situation, for relief mainly the Government of India immediately released an ad-hoc grant of Rs. 500.00 crore on 29.11.2005 to the State of Tamil Nadu. The first installment of Central share of CRF of Rs. 78.40 crore for the current year has also been released to the State Government on 14.11.2005.

As regards the State of Karnataka, I would like to inform the Hon'ble Members that the State has also experienced three spells of heavy rains and floods during the year 2005. In the first spell in the months of July and August, 2005, heavy rainfall and release of excess water from the reservoirs caused flood

situation, mainly in five districts namely Belgaum, Bijapur, Bagalkote, Gubalarga and Raichur. The Coastal, Malnad districts and some interior districts were also affected. A total population of 29.05 lakh was affected and 130 persons lost their lives. The number of houses damages 88,548 and cropped area affected is 1.96 lakh ha.

The State Government had submitted two Memoranda to the Government of India indicating therein the damage due to heavy rains and floods in first spell in July and August 2005 at Rs.3640.07 crore.

Both the installments of Central share of CRF of Rs.86.00 crore has been released to the State. Keeping in view the magnitude of the situation caused by heavy rains and floods, an additional ad hoc assistance of Rs.357.00 crore was released from NCCF. These funds are expected to be used for relief mainly.

The Central Team had visited the State w.e.f. 17th to 20th August, 2005 for assessment of damage. The High Level Committee has approved financial assistance of Rs.255.05 crore to the State subject to the adjustment of balances in CRF account and a release of 0.72 lakh MT foodgrains under special component of SGRY for relief employment.

In the second spell of floods on 20th and 21st September 2005, all the major rivers were in spate and caused flash floods in three districts viz. Belgaum, Bidar and Gadag. In this spell, 13,067 persons were affected in 134 villages. While 950 houses were damaged, the cropped area affected is 56,584 acre.

The third spell was in the last week of October, 2005 on account of depression in the Bay of Bengal and a local vortex. Bangalore city, Bangalore rural, Mysore, Mandia, Chamrajnagar, Davangere, Hassan, Kolar and Raichur Districts of Karnataka received heavy rains. Bangalore city suffered extensive inundation, flooding of roads, disruption of road communication, collapse of

houses and railway bridges, resulting in a large number of trains being cancelled. Nearly 21,000 houses are reported to have been badly damaged. 2,130 cattle and 30 persons died due to heavy rains and floods. More than 500 tanks breached causing enormous damage to nearly 60,000 acres of standing crops. More than 500 bridges and culverts were washed away.

The Central Government deployed Air Force helicopters, Army Boats, Army Columns and Central Para Military Forces to assist the State Governments in rescue and relief operations.

The State Government has sought financial assistance of Rs.1256.90 crore for relief operations in the areas affected in second and third spell of floods. Another Central Team was deputed for assessment of damage during the 2nd week of November, 2005. The report of the Central Team, has now been received, and is being processed.

I would like to inform the Hon'ble Members that the assistance being provided to the affected areas in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka as well as in other flood affected States is only for immediate rescue and relief operations. As regards the request of the State Governments for long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction, the Government of India expects to receive the plans made by the State Governments, which would be examined by the Planning Commission and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), for appropriate and favourable action.

I would like to assure the House that the Government of India will provide all necessary required assistance to the State Governments to meet the situation caused by heavy rains and floods during current year.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN : This year has become a year of disasters. On the one side we already have had Tsunami and on the other side there have been floods. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let us all utilise this very important time of the House.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Sir, first time in my life I have seen floods in Chennai where people had to travel from street to street on boats. The huts of poor people have been completely immersed. They have lost their livelihood; they have lost their utensils and they are suffering without anything to fall back on. On the other hand, the farmers have lost their crops. There has been a total damage to their crops. In a matter of just 100 days, the State has been ravaged by floods four times. Now we are given to understand that there may be a severe cyclone in the Bay of Bengal which may cause another round of floods. That would mean that in a matter of just 100 days we would have floods for the fifth time. The life of the poor people, the farmers, the handloom weavers, the fishermen and that of the agricultural labourers have got completely shattered.

Sir, the hon. Minister has said in his statement that the Government has given a relief package worth Rs. 500 crore to the State of Tamil Nadu and also same amount of relief has also been given to States of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. Here I would like to ask a simple question. How is the Government going to assess the damage scientifically? The people are asking for relief worth thousands of crores but how is the Government going to assess the damage? How is the Government proposing to find a temporary as well as permanent solution to this problem? . *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No whispering and cross talking please. People of this country are suffering and we are having a very important discussion which has already been delayed by three days. Let there be a proper discussion. Let us pay proper respect to this issue.

13.09 hrs.

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Sir, this country is faced with this menace of flood every year and so now the time has come for the Government to think of a permanent solution for this and not just think of giving temporal relief in the form of Rs. 500 crore or Rs. 200 crore. This piecemeal effort is not going to help anyone. Today the farmers are expecting crop insurance. Farmers are expecting compensation for their crops. The agricultural labourers, who are entirely dependent on farming activity, are demanding immediate cash compensation for the losses suffered by them. They wanted 100 kilograms of rice as relief. But the State Government is giving only 10 kilograms or 20 kilograms of rice. This is not going to help them. Only five litres of kerosene has been allocated. How will this five litres of kerosene help their cause?

They need more kerosene. Sir, in his statement, he has not said as to how many cattle they have lost and how many houses they have lost. He has only said that he has given some relief and that this is at the request of the Chief Minister which he is trying to do. This is not the way the Government should react. Our Government is a progressive Government. They should come forward with more efforts and see that they should help the people. When Katrina occurred in USA recently, the entire US Administration got shattered. When compared to other Governments, our Government is doing a good job. When we faced Tsunami, earthquake and floods, the entire State Administration and the Central Government had come forward to help people. They have done excellent work. I congratulate the Government of India. I congratulate hon. Prime Minister that he came forward to give a ring to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and told them that he is sending his team and taking up relief measures. This is the way the Government should work.

Here, particularly the State Government of Andhra Pradesh is asking for relief worth thousands of crores of rupees for relief measures. The State of Andhra

Pradesh for the district of Chitoor which is adjoining Tamil Nadu and the district of Nellore which is near Karnataka.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (BANGALORE SOUTH): Sir, I would request him to yield for a minute. I am also supporting whatever he is saying. There is no doubt that we are discussing an important matter. But the Home Minister is not present here.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): I am sitting here.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : But Shri Shivraj Patil, the Cabinet Minister, should be present here.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Jaiswal is here. He is a capable person and he is authorised to reply to the debate.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, we have nothing to say against Shri Jaiswal. श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल जी के खिलाफ मैं कुछ नहीं कहना चाहता हूँ। We do respect him. But, as this is an important matter, we request that Shri Shivraj Patil should be present here . (*Interruptions*)

श्री लक्ष्मण सिंह (राजगढ़) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, वहां बाढ़ आई है। लोग प्रभावित हुए हैं। कैबिनेट मिनिस्टर श्री शिवराज वि. पाटिल को यहां उपस्थित रहना चाहिए। . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Sir, the Cabinet Minister is in the Rajya Sabha.. (*Interruptions*)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : कैबिनेट मिनिस्टर इस समय राज्य सभा में हैं। श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल, गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री, सदन में उपस्थित हैं। ये कैपेबल हैं। ये आपका जवाब देंगे। यदि इनके जवाब से आपकी तसल्ली न हो, तब आप बताएं।

DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Sir, poor people have lost their houses. Lakhs of houses have been lost. What permanent measures has the Government taken to

help these poor people? Fishermen in the coastal areas of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have lost their boats, nets and houses. The handloom weavers have lost their looms, fabrics and fibres. They are expecting some immediate help from the Government. What is the Government planning to do to help the States of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu? I would like to know what you are going to do for them; and how you are going to assess the damage scientifically and give them immediate relief. If so, when are you going to do it; and what permanent measures are being taken in this regard? You said that if we send a proposal, the Planning Commission will examine it and do the needful. You should come forward, take a positive stand and see that immediate relief is given to the States of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. The State of Andhra Pradesh is asking at least Rs. 3000 crore and the Government of Tamil Nadu is also asking Rs. 3000 crore to give immediate relief to the flood affected victims.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (SRIPERUMBUDUR): Sir, I, more or less, agree with the statement given by the Home Minister about the situation in Tamil Nadu.

The statement which was given was with regard to the third spell of rainfall. But, four days back, there was the fourth spell of rainfall in Chennai, Thiruvallur and Kanchipuram districts. There was heavy damage in Thiruvallur, Kanchipuram and Chennai. The Pichatur Dam of Andhra Pradesh got breached and the water washed away the entire adjoining districts of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Statement regarding that should also be laid by the Home Minister.

There was heavy rainfall for the past 100 days. Due to heavy rainfall, many lakes got breached and roads got damaged. There is water logging in most of the districts and more than 22 districts have been destroyed by unprecedented rainfall.

Hon. Home Minister, hon. Finance Minister, hon. Minister of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways and other Central Ministers visited our State and made some relief measures available. I thank them for that. We had an all-party meeting of UPA in Chennai, headed by our leader, Dr. Kalaignar. We passed a

Resolution "to seek more funds to the State of Tamil Nadu". That Resolution had been submitted to the hon. Prime Minister by all the UPA MPs and Ministers of the State. The Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 500 crore to the State of Tamil Nadu. But it is not sufficient to the State. In a statement made yesterday, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has said that the Central Government has not given any funds to the State of Tamil Nadu till today. I would request the hon. Minister of State for Home to enlighten the House as to how far this statement of the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is true. The first person to give a statement demanding more allocation of funds to the State of Tamil Nadu was Dr. Kalaignar.

Sir, a monitoring committee should be set up. Now, the State Government has constituted a Committee to monitor the relief works, with MPs, MLAs and some NGOs as members. But we have a bad experience with regard to this in the tsunami attack last year. They constituted some committees. But we were not being given any importance in those committees. We are unable to monitor those relief works. They have not convened any meeting.

The State Government has denied receiving any money from the Central Government and does not acknowledge the steps taken by the Central Government through the defence personnel. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has said that no money has been sanctioned by the Central Government and no defence personnel came to its help.

Therefore, I would request the Minister of State for Home to constitute a Committee headed by the MP concerned in all the districts to monitor the relief works.

In the Statement laid by the hon. Minister, it is said that 1349 relief camps have been set up. It is also stated: "The State Government is reported to have distributed 46.52 lakh food packets; Rs. 325.60 lakh as cash dole and 3.31 lakh kgs. of rice to the affected families". As an MP, I can say that many areas in my constituency are badly affected. I do not know where they have distributed this

cash and rice. As people's representative, I can say that the steps taken by the State Government is very poor. The statement that came from the State Government is a false one.

At some places in Chennai, they distributed cash to the extent of Rs. 2,000/- per head. At that time because of the failure of the Government, because of the failure of the *Tahsildar*, nine persons -- six women and three men -- had died in the stampede. They said that they were giving Rs. 2,000 to each person. Let me tell you what is our experience regarding that. It was also reported in all the newspapers. One of the Ministers of the State was distributing covers to the affected families, saying that each cover contained Rs. 2,000. But on opening the cover, it was found that it contained only Rs. 1,000. This was the complaint of the people.

We allege that the people in the State Government are misusing the entire official Government machinery. Tahsildars, Revenue Officers and Village Administrative Officers are misusing their positions. So, I urge upon the Central Government to monitor the utilisation of funds that it provides. I urge upon the Central Government to sanction more funds to the State Government. I would request the Central Government to constitute an all-party committee in flood-affected districts which will help the State.

I would once again reiterate the statement made by my leader, Dr. Kalaingar, to sanction more funds to the State of Tamil Nadu.

*SHRI P. MOHAN (MADURAI): Sir with a heavy heart I participate in this business to draw the attention of this house and through this august house the attention of the Government about the way in which our attempts to raise the unprecedented rain floods problem in Tamil Nadu were thwarted by the political moves of the main opposition party in the house. I am the very first person to give notice as early as on 28th of November to speak on torrential rains and rain floods that has caused great havoc in Tamil Nadu. For more than ten days we were

prevented by the BJP and its allies from raising the problems of the people due to the natural calamity. Out of 30 districts more than 22 districts have been hit hard by four successive spells of incessant rains that caused great devastation. More than 1 crore people have been affected in so many ways. About 20 lakh acres of cultivable land including Cauvery Delta Region has been inundated. Several residential Colonies have been marooned. In such areas both college and school students have lost their text books and reading materials. Poor people have lost their ration cards that helped them to buy essential commodities. Many have lost almost all their belongings and rendered helpless. Huge loss of lives and to property has been reported widely. When the people of Tamil Nadu have been greatly affected and are worried with these sufferings, denigrating the need to raise the matter about the vexing problems of the people of Tamil Nadu, there were hurdles to take up the matter included in the list of business for about ten days now. Even today the BJP raised some other issue

I would like to point out that we did not come in the way of anyone when Gujarat. Earthquake disaster was raised in this house. I do not want to hurt the sentiments of anyone. But I must point out that problems faced by the people especially the poor must be taken up in a proper manner in this house of the people. Had we interrupted with the raising of the matter pertaining to Gujarat at

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil

that point of time, could you have tolerate it. Of course. We did not do it then. And we were unanimous. So I urge upon the BJP and its allies to give priority to burning issues of the people at least from now on. Having said this, I would like to seek certain clarification from the hon. Home Minister. I would like to know whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has given a detailed report about the calamity there and an estimate with the proposal for relief and rehabilitation. Have they furnished detailed information about the losses it suffered in various ways after evaluating and assessing them and whether Tamil Nadu Government has submitted any reconstruction plan. If such a detailed report has been submitted by

Tamil Nadu when the Centre would be extending the financial assistance sought by it? What are the long term and immediate measures of the Centre? Though it is not sufficient, Centre has rushed in Rs 500 crore of rupees to Tamil Nadu as interim relief whereas the Government of Tamil Nadu has demanded more. I understand that they have demanded more to the tune of about Rs. 13,685 crores. I want the Hon. Minister to spell out the norms and guidelines with regard to the Central assistance ensuring the victims and the affected their due shares. I also urge upon the government to ensure that pucca houses as group housing complexes are built and provided to the poor who have lost their dwelling units. Such houses should not be constructed using mud and clay. The marginal farmers and small farmers must get compensation and insurance coverage for the huge loss to their standing crops. I urge upon the Union Government to evolve a comprehensive relief package to help the suffering people of Tamil Nadu within a specified time frame. I would like to impress upon the Centre to extend all possible assistance to mitigate the sufferings of the flood hit people providing the relief sought by Government of Tamil Nadu at the earliest.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri L. Ganesan - Not present.

Shri K. Subbarayan.

SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN (COIMBATORE): Sir, Tamil Nadu has been affected by four spells of heavy rains and floods resulting in loss of life and extensive damage to property and infrastructure. Normal life in 22 affected districts has been completely disrupted with the people losing their livelihood. Thousands of habitations have been marooned and lakhs rendered homeless.

The National Highways and railway links from Chennai to the South remained snapped for a long period. Roads and railway tracks breached at several points. Towns and villages, and paddy fields were submerged under water. Tamil Nadu has also demanded a total assistance of Rs.13,685 crore from the Centre for

undertaking relief and rehabilitation measures. The scale of assistance adopted by the Government of India should be comprehensive, modified to provide adequate support to the farmers of Tamil Nadu.

So, I urge upon the Government of India to release the full package, at the earliest possible time, taking into consideration the magnitude of loss.

I also insist on the formation of a Monitoring Committee comprising representatives, not only the elected ones but also representatives from all the regional and national political parties that will oversee the relief work.

As per the meteorological report, there is a threat of one more storm by the end of this week. That will, no doubt, make the devastation worse. It could be of a very high magnitude in Tamil Nadu. Considering it also, I once again reiterate that the Government of India should release the Relief Fund without any further delay.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Generally, the practice is that only five Members can speak on the Calling Attention. But the matter is very serious and very important. Therefore, I would like to allow only a few Members belonging to that State. They have to seek only clarifications.

. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will allow some more Members to speak. They have to seek only clarifications or put questions but they should not make lengthy speeches. First of all, I would call Shri E. Ponnuswamy. Please put the question only.

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY (CHIDAMBARAM): Thank you, Sir. First of all, I would like to say that of the 22 districts affected by the recent floods in Tamil Nadu, Cuddalore district is the most-affected one, especially my Constituency, Chidambaram. From 23rd of November before coming here - today I am in the Lok Sabha - I had been in my constituency for well over 12 days. I did not even attend Parliament Session because I wanted to be with my people there.

All said and done, so far the people, who have lost all the things they had with them, are still on the streets. Most of the people are poor and downtrodden.

Lakhs of huts have been completely wiped out. Most of the villages have been completely damaged. Lakhs of people marooned. People have to be ferried by boats even from street to street in Chidambaram constituency.

Two Committees have visited so far. I was with them. I have submitted two memoranda to the Committees also. I had been visiting all the places in Cuddalore district, more particularly in my constituency. Out of the 1300 villages, more than 1000 villages in my constituency have been completely damaged or wiped out. People are not able to even sleep, not able to have even one time meal a day..
(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please seek the clarifications now.

SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY : Please allow me to complete it in two or three minutes. . (*Interruptions*) I understand the paucity of time. But still I would request you to allow me two or three minutes more because it is particularly my constituency which was the one affected most in the whole of Tamil Nadu.

Coming to the point, I have interacted with the Collector. I have been contacting him constantly all through the days to extend succour to the affected people. So far, the Government of Tamil Nadu has asked for Rs.13,565 crore which they have estimated. Of course, we stand by the Government of Tamil Nadu even though we are in opposition in Tamil Nadu. We really fully support the demand in the interest of the people.

So, I urge upon the Government of India to fully assist the Tamil Nadu Government financially without any further delay.

I would also request the Government that it is not only necessary to go to the rescue of the State of Tamil Nadu with financial assistance but also to employ a monitoring agency involving local bodies and other NGO agencies and the elected representatives to monitor the distribution of relief funds as the Government of Tamil Nadu has already proved during the calamity of Tsunami that they were mostly partial. They have not reached out to the people with impartial motive and they have gone only on a political motive.

Sir, I also urge upon the Government of India not only to give this assistance but also to take preventive measures. It has been one year from December, 2004 to December, 2005. Tamil Nadu was the most affected State in whole of India with natural calamities like droughts, floods and rains. Some steps should be taken by the Government of India to formulate certain system so that the preventive steps be taken to safeguard the interest of the people of not only Tamil Nadu but all over the nation.

Sir, I would request again specifically that out of the funds that may be allotted to the Government of Tamil Nadu, my district Cuddalore and my constituency Chidambaram should be given a special fund of at least Rs. 1000 crore. It is only because of not deepening the rivers, the channels, *vaikkals* and not raising bunds all this calamity has happened. I thank both Defence and Shipping Road Transport and Highways Ministers for their timely help.

Finally, Sir, I would make only one point. We had requested the Government of Karnataka to release the water when we needed. They have not done so. Now, from Mettur dam, four lakh cusecs of water have been released without being asked for. It is because of the overflowing flood from Mettur dam down up to delta area in my district, this has happened quite unprecedentedly. So, I would request the Government of India to urge upon the Government of Karnataka to pay compensation to the State of Tamil Nadu so that they must learn a lesson.

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मेरे पास इसके बाद एक और भी कॉलिंग अटेंशन है। इसलिए मैं चाहूंगा कि सब माननीय सदस्य एक-एक मिनट से ज्यादा का समय न लें।

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Thank you, Sir. I had given a separate Calling Attention notice on the flood situation in Karnataka and the inadequate support given by the Central Government urging more assistance from the Union Government. Thank you very much for allowing me, Sir. At the outset, I also felt that the hon. Union Home Minister would himself be present in this House

because of the importance and seriousness of the matter but you said that the hon. Minister of State is there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Minister of State is very competent, very intelligent and is capable to reply your queries.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : There is no question about his competence, Sir, but despite that we thought that the hon. Union Home Minister himself would have been present here.

I will be raising only specific clarifications. The Government of Karnataka has submitted three memoranda for an assistance of Rs. 4,897 crore. It is because from 23rd July to the last month, that is up to the end of October, the State of Karnataka has been ravaged by floods incessantly. Sir, 18 districts and 104 tehsils have been affected and more than 169 people have lost their lives. More than 5,60,000 acres of crop have been lost. Nearly 1,30,000 houses have been damaged. More than this, the hi-tech city of Bangalore witnessed the highest amount of rainfall in the last 104 years. Usually, in the month of October we used to have rains to the extent of 152 millimetres but this time we had 595 millimetres of rain. Sir, 10 lakh people became homeless, 12 people died and 60 per cent of the residential areas were flooded and 139 tanks were breached.

For Bangalore City and Vambay houses, we demanded only Rs. 700 crore and Rs. 10,000 crore respectively. My first question, Sir, relates to reply of hon. Home Minister in relation to Calling Attention Notice on Point No. 18. He said that for the three memorandums that have been submitted, another Central team was deputed for the assessment in the second week of November. Now, the Report of the Central team has been received and it is being processed. My only submission through you, Sir, is that I want to call upon the attention of the Union Government regarding the three memorandums that have already been given. That is number one point. The total loss has been of the order of Rs. 4,897 crore while the Government of India has given only Rs. 375 crore only. Sir, other than Rs. 375 crore, the *ad hoc* release which is due to Government of Karnataka

through the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and the NCCF. Therefore, Sir, we urge upon the Union Government that there should be a time-frame to give the *ad hoc* assistance for the Bangalore City and other remaining parts of Northern Karnataka.

Secondly, Sir, we also have demanded that the CRF Guidelines have to be revised. The hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka has written a letter to the hon. Prime Minister that the CRF Guidelines should be revised. During last Calling Attention Notice in the month of August - when I raised it here - the hon. Agriculture Minister said that the CRF Guidelines should be revised. The hon. Prime Minister - when we met him in different delegations - also appreciated that the CRF Guidelines have to be revised. It is because the present guidelines, Sir, is for the drought conditions and not for the flood conditions. According to CRF Guidelines, the fund for dry land is Rs. 400, Rs. 800 for wet land and Rs. 1,200 for horticulture land per acre for the crop loss. Sir, it is not at all sufficient to give Rs. 6,000 for construction of one house. I think there is some confusion in the Union Government about revising of the CRF Guidelines. In August itself, the hon. Prime Minister has formed a Group of Ministers (GoM) with the Union Home Minister, Union Finance Minister and Union Agriculture Minister to look into this matter of revision of the CRF Guidelines. Last time when we met the hon. Prime Minister, we came to know that there has not been a single sitting of this Group of Ministers (GoM). The entire country, particularly Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh and various other States have been hit hard by severe floods, cyclones and tsunami. There is a consistent demand from all sections of this House to the hon. Prime Minister, the Home Minister and the Agriculture Minister for revision of the CRF Guidelines. This Group of Ministers (GoM) has been formed in August only. I am astonished, Sir, that till today there has been no meeting of this Group of Ministers (GoM). They have not come out with any revision of the CRF Guidelines. We have already demanded, Sir, from the Government of Karnataka Rs. 15,000 per acre for the loss of sugarcane crops, Rs.

10,000 per acre for irrigated lands and Rs. 5,000 per acre for dryland crops. As regards compensation for housing, the CRF Guidelines should be revised and will start from Rs. 40,000 upwards for every collapsed house and Rs. 25,000 for largely damaged house. The irrigation pump-sets have been washed away. I would like to say that Rs. 18,000 should be given for 3-hp pump-sets, Rs. 22,000 for 5-hp pump-sets and Rs. 24,000 for 7-hp pumpsets. Through you, Sir, I want to. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All other States, including Punjab, should be covered.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : It is for every State. I entirely agree with you that it is for the entire country. When are they going to revise the CRF Guidelines? It is because that is the basic solution for the flood-affected farmers across the country. The particular Group of Ministers (GoM) has been formed especially for Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, but no sitting has been held so far.

In the last Calling Attention Notice, I also raised the issue that the floods in Karnataka were because of the release of water from the Koyna Dam. Our Hon. Chief Minister has written a letter to the hon. Prime Minister on 8th August, 2005. He said:

"I would like to appraise you about some important facts relating to the cause of floods and how these issues have been distorted by the Government of Maharashtra. The heavy discharge of water from the reservoirs in Maharashtra has resulted in unprecedented floods in five Northern Districts of Karnataka, namely, Belgaum, Bijapur, Bagalkot, Gulbarga and Raichur. More than five lakh people in 265 villages in Northern Karnataka have been rendered homeless."

He further said:

"Koyna Dam, for the last two decades, has been experiencing recurring earthquakes whose epicentres are either under the dam or very close to it. Two such earthquakes occurred on 1st and 3rd August, 2005."

On these dates, Koyna Dam was completely full and had 97 TMC water in store. Due to these earthquakes, the Dam was reported to have developed some

cracks. Around the same period, Maharashtra received copious rains. Further threatened by earthquakes and cracks in the Dam, Maharashtra resorted to heavy discharges from Koyna Dam resulting in unprecedented floods and inundated Sangli and Kolhapur towns, apart from a good number of villages in downstream of Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Sir, our Chief Minister of Karnataka has also urged - I want to conclude - it is a very serious matter - that we are in an unfortunate situation suffering from unprecedented floods in Karnataka on account of the failure of Government of Maharashtra to regulate the discharge of water from the reservoirs. When I raised this issue last time, the hon. Union Home Minister, in his reply to the Calling Attention Notice, said:

"As far as earthquake in Koyna Dam is concerned, Shri Sharad Pawar told me - he was the person who was responsible for managing the calamity which had occurred in Latur as the then Chief Minister of Maharashtra. I was also told that the area suffers from tremors of around 2 to 3 or some time even less than 2 to 3 on the Richter Scale."

However, the hon. Minister, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi is also here. I want to draw his attention. Sir, I want to put it before this august House:

"That the entire Earth of ours is all the time trembling. There is not a moment when the Earth is not trembling, whether it is trembling at 2 or 3 on the Richter Scale or less than that is the question. We do not have to bother about these things. Moreover, the Government of Karnataka is taking care of it and the hon. Members could go back to their respective States and constituencies and assure the people that necessary steps have been taken. "

After this reply of him, the Chief Minister of Karnataka has written a letter that there have been earthquakes in and around Koyna. The Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, in its Report, said that there have been three earthquakes in Koyna. Therefore, the Government of Maharashtra, without bothering to the consequences of floods in the downstream Districts of Karnataka, has let the waters irresponsibly. We want to urge upon the Government of India to intervene

to the safety of the Koyna Dam, which is a dangling sword on the head of the safety of Karnataka. The Koyna Dam has developed some cracks. We are told that there is a huge plan that more than Rs. 100 crore are again going to be spent to strengthen the walls and other things. They have to do something about the safety and security of the Koyna Dam. There has to be some coordination between both

the Governments of Maharashtra and Karnataka regarding the reservoirs' management that how much water should be left and when it should be left. I would like to know whether the Government of Maharashtra does not look into these important things because downstream Karnataka will be affected..

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Tamil Nadu should be included.. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Anant Kumarji, please conclude.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, Bangalore City is a hi-tech city like Mumbai City. Therefore, a package of Rs. 700 crore should be given to Bangalore city for the flood relief. The Koyna Dam should be repaired. Already, three memoranda have been given for the time-bound allocation of money to Karnataka, and the CRF guidelines should be revised.

*SHRI M. SHIVANNA (CHAMARAJANAGARA): Mr Deputy Speaker Sir, I thank you for permitting me to speak on this Calling Attention. In Karnataka ten districts are severely affected by this incessant heavy rain. Chamarajanagara is the worst affected district in Karnataka.

Some relief work is going on. Ganji Kendras have been set up. Five litres of kerosene and 10 kg rice is being given to each family. I do not know for how many days this kind of temporary assistance would continue. The Centre has to come out with concrete measures for the permanent relief of the affected people. The affected people are the residents of jhuggi jhonpdi areas and most of them belong to SC/STs and other downtrodden communities and hence Centre has to take up the relief work with all seriousness.

The money that is being given for partial house collapse is Rs 500 to 1000. People whose houses are collapsed to the extent of 50% will get Rs 3000/- and for the complete collapsed house Rs 6000/- is granted. This amount is insufficient and therefore I urge upon the Centre to revise Central Relief Fund (CRF) which is outdated and does not serve the purpose. A new and scientific CRF has to be evolved immediately. At least Rs 1,00,000/- should be provided if the house is completely destroyed. Under Rajiv Gandhi Awas Yojana for each house construction Rs 40,000/- is given. But for the rain affected people one lakh rupees must be provided because their living condition is severely affected in the recent heavy rain. More than 500 houses have collapsed in Chamaraja district alone. The total number of people who lost their lives in Karnataka is more than 150. Several hundred cattle and other animals have died. Hence the Centre should come forward with immediate relief measures.

The Central teams have already visited Chamarajanagar, Mysore, Bangalore, Hassan, Gulbarga, Bidar and other districts. Strangely, only a paltry

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Kannada.

amount of Rs 360/- crore has been given to the State. The State's estimation of the total loss of property in Karnataka is Rs 4865 crores. There is urgency to provide the whole amount to Karnataka to rescue the people who are affected. There is no difference between the tsunami affected people and the people affected in the recent torrential rain in Karnataka.

National highways, State highways are submerged in the water. Transportation in many of these roads has come to a standstill. People do not have food, clothing and they are on the roads. They have lost their houses. So, the Centre while providing relief measures should also keep in mind the rehabilitation and reconstruction.

That is why our party leader and former Prime Minister Shri H.D. Deve Gowda had urged the Centre and Shri Sharad Pawar the hon. Minister of Agriculture to provide sufficient funds for protecting the lives of these hapless poor people who are affected by this calamity.

My colleague and friend Shri Ananth Kumar have already explained the miserable conditions of the roads in Bangalore city. The recent calamity has damaged the roads further. Road accidents are taking place every day. there is congestion and the traffic jam is for hours every day. In fact Sir, I am sure that you are aware that the software companies have threatened to run away from the Silicon city (Bangalore) as there is gradual deterioration of infra structural facilities. Under these disturbing circumstances my humble request to the hon. Prime Minister is to provide at least one thousand crore rupees for Bangalore city development and 5000 crore rupees for the protection of recent calamity affected people in Karnataka.

Sir, once again I thank you and conclude my speech.

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : जैसा आप जानते हैं कि ध्यानाकर्षण प्रस्ताव पर सामान्यतः पांच सदस्यों से ज्यादा नहीं बोलते। लेकिन विषय की गम्भीरता को देखते हुए मैंने कुछ और सदस्यों को बोलने के लिए अलाऊ किया है। इसलिए उनसे निवेदन है कि वे एक मिनट में अपनी-अपनी बात कहें। I would now request Dr. C. Krishnan to speak very briefly for one minute only and he is the last speaker.

. (*Interruptions*)

DR. C. KRISHNAN (POLLACHI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in one minute nothing can be spoken. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (PALANI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have given notice five days ago. I should be given a chance to speak. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU (SALEM): Sir, I have also given notice. Please allow me to speak. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (DINDIGUL): Sir, I have also given notice. I may be allowed to speak. . (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will give opportunity to you all. Please take your seats.

DR. C. KRISHNAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the heavy rain havoc that has occurred in Tamil Nadu a few days ago. Before the people of Tamil Nadu could recover from drought conditions and also from Tsunami, they are very much worried now about the flood situation that is caused due to torrential rains. About 22 districts have been affected, many rivers are in spate, many tanks are breached, hundreds of people, rather countless, have died, thousands of cattle have been washed away and many villages are made islands in the State due to rain water that is surrounding the villages.

Roads, Railway lines, bridges are washed away. Lakhs and lakhs of people are wandering without any shelter, food and water. Water, water everywhere but no water to drink. Many of the villages are surrounded by water. Many huts and houses have been washed away. Lakhs and lakhs of acres of valuable crops are washed away. People are on the streets without any food. The State Government has to take all the responsibility for giving shelter, food and water. But the care taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu is not at all sufficient. The restoration and rehabilitation work should be done on a war-footing manner. A monitoring committee of all parties should be formed and it should monitor the funding that is being allotted by the State Government for this purpose.

I am speaking here on behalf of my hon. leader Shri Vaiko, who is the leader of MDMK Party of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (DINDIGUL): Thank you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I associate and share the concern expressed by other hon. Members of Tamil Nadu.

I would like to urge upon the Government of India to come out with a comprehensive plan, either through World Bank, for storing and utilising the excess flood water in future. Not a single drop of unused rain water should reach ocean in future.

The recent intermittent rains and floods have become a national calamity and national tragedy. At the same time, I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister, who spoke to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu over phone and immediately sanctioned a sum of Rs.500 crore towards first instalment for relief operations. We do hope that the Government will also be giving more funds liberally.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Thank you. Please take you seat now.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : I have not yet started Sir. My constituency has been washed away completely. You are so liberal and magnanimous, please allow me to speak. It is a people's issue.

Sir, I would like to thank our hon. Prime Minister, the hon. Home Minister, the hon. Finance Minister and our Leader Shri G.K. Vasan, who made an aerial survey as soon as they heard about the havoc. Shri T.R. Baalu, on our request, also visited the flood affected areas.

In my Dindigul constituency, Vendasandur, Sholavandan Assembly segments are badly affected. Most of the areas in Madurai District were badly affected. Most of the districts in Tamil Nadu were affected by droughts during the past four years and to add to their misery, they are now affected by unprecedented rains and floods. Agriculturists who have raised their crops with little money borrowed have lost all their crops. Even now Tamil Nadu is under the grip of floods. Lakhs and lakhs of people are affected very badly. In some parts of Tamil Nadu, there are villages which do not get electricity or drinking water or any kind of transportation for the past so many days.

While the relief operations are undertaken, the Members of Parliament, especially the Lok Sabha Members, and all Leaders of all Parties should be taken into confidence and should be associated with the relief work. They are not at all consulted or invited by the present AIADMK Government. Whenever the District Administration carries out any relief operation, it should be transparent and the injustice done to the affected people during tsunami should not be repeated.

In my Dindigul District, money allotted for the affected people has not reached the needy poor and the District Administration with the blessings of the District Collector is misusing the funds. There is no announcement or information available to the Members of Parliament regarding distribution of money and other things. In each district, a committee consisting of all political parties should supervise the relief operations and only through them the relief operations should be conducted.

Lastly, I urge upon the Government of India that liberal credit facilities should be extended to the farmers to raise their crops again.

The encroachments in all the water bodies and supply channels should be cleared immediately for the benefit of the future generations. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri K.V. Thangkabalu. You have got only one minute to speak, please. मुझे 2 बजे डब्ल्यूटीओ लेना है।

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : Sir, you have give more time to the other hon. Members. I should not be deprived of it; I should be given more time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please continue.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : Thank you Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. For the past one week I was waiting for an opportunity to speak about the problem being faced by Tamil Nadu. Due to the Opposition members, this serious issue could not be discussed in this august House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please come to the point.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : Yes Sir. Tamil Nadu has seen the worst position after three continuous rains and floods which we have never seen in the past 45 years. This is the first time that the State has got affected so much. Almost all the districts of the State have suffered. As my learned friend said, there was continuous drought for the past four years and after the drought, for the last two or three months, we are facing the flood and the havoc of rain and its aftermath. The whole of the agrarian system has been damaged and all the crops are completely washed away. The majority of the houses in the villages are washed away and there is no help from any side. Even today, after ten days of last spell of rain and havoc, most of the districts and most of the villages, as my hon. friend said, are still under water and people are not able to come out for the last five to eight days. There is no food, no water, no light and no electricity. This is the fate of Tamil Nadu today.

Immediately after hearing the problem - the Government of India - the Hon'ble Prime Minister spoke to the Chief Minister and released Rs. 500 crore to the State of Tamil Nadu for the relief work. We are thankful to him. But, our Home Minister immediately rushed to the State and the Finance Minister and the hon. Ministers from our State rushed to the places and visited them. Now, a Central Team has visited the State three days ago but they have not yet submitted the Report to the Government. I am sorry to say this. I urge upon the Government to get the Report from the Central Team. I would also like to request the hon. Home Minister to convene all the State MPs, our UPA and Lok Sabha MPs of the respective constituencies for a discussion. Almost all the MPs should be called immediately for a discussion, and we want a time frame to be fixed while giving the funds to the State because we have a bad experience in the past. After Rs. 5,00 crore have been given to the State but we do not know; there is no account. The Chief Minister is telling that the Central Government has not given any money. This is the state of affairs today. We urge upon the Central Government to come out with a new programme. The hon. Members requested for CRS Guidelines.

The present CRS guidelines are not going to help the affected States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka or any other State. We want revised Guidelines to be framed immediately so that any State which is going to be affected will have a protection from the Government of India.

Secondly, the farmers, the poor peasants, the workers, the people affected in the agricultural sector should be fully compensated and all the loans given to the farmers should be waived off immediately without any loss of time. We also want crop loans to be given immediately by the nationalised banks. I want that the Home Minister should have a discussion with the Finance Minister, and the Prime Minister should immediately intervene to see that all the facilities which are required by the State should be given. Our Chief Minister, our leaders of the UPA have demanded that the requested money be given to the State immediately without any loss of time. Sir, Rs. 5,000 crore should be sent immediately to the State as the first instalment, and then after an assesment, after talking to the MPs, more funds should be allocated to the State for rebuilding the State.

People are not able to undertake any business and agriculture. Everybody is starving. The Central Government should immediately come out with a package to help the people of Tamil Nadu. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to convene a meeting of the Members of Parliament belonging to Tamil Nadu. I also request the hon. Prime Minister to announce a package without any loss of time.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, due to unprecedented rains, nearly 21 districts in Tamil Nadu including my Dindigul District were badly affected. Water tanks, check dams, minor bridges, dwelling houses, crops, cattle and agricultural lands were totally washed away. In my District, Dindigul Town, Natham, Ottanchatram, Palani and Vedanchatram Talukas were very badly affected. Thousands of people had lost their houses. Erode district was also badly affected.

The Tamil Nadu Government has demanded a first instalment of Rs. 1,800 crore. After the visit of a team of the hon. Ministers, a sum of Rs. 500 crore was allocated. This is not sufficient. More funds have to be allocated for solving the problems of the people of Tamil Nadu.

Secondly, for the past three years the farmers in Tamil Nadu had struggled for water and without water they were not able to irrigate anything. Now, they were totally affected due to water. Agricultural loans, co-operative bank loans and other loans have to be totally waived off. New loans have to be given to the farmers.

In my district Dindigul, the Public Works Department and all other Departments in collusion with the District Administration are misusing the funds which they are getting from the Government for the flood relief work. They are not giving money to the affected people but they are giving money to the unaffected people based on the political vendetta. So, a monitoring Committee comprising all the Members of Tamil Nadu has to be constituted. I also urge the Government of India immediately to allocate Rs. 5,000 crore to save the affected people of Tamil Nadu.

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपका आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ कि आपने इतनी बड़ी विभीषिका और तबाही तमिलनाडु और कर्नाटक में जो बाढ़ के कारण हुई है, उसकी गम्भीरता को दिखाने के लिए ही कॉलिंग अटेंशन की परम्पराओं से अलग हट कर बहुत सारे माननीय सदस्यों को इस संबंध में अपनी राय तथा समस्याएं रखने का अवसर प्रदान किया। मैं आपको एश्योर करता हूँ कि आज आपने जिस गम्भीरता के साथ इस बहस को कराया है, उसी गम्भीरता के तहत भारत सरकार इस समस्या के

समाधान के लिए वे सभी कदम उठाएगी, जिन कदमों को उठाने की आवश्यकता है। मैंने अपनी स्टेटमेंट में बताया है और मैं फिर बताना चाहता हूं कि तीन स्पैल में बल्कि अब चार स्पैल में बाढ़ की विभीषिका आई। फर्स्ट स्पैल में 23.10.2005 से 3.11.2005 तक, सैकिंड स्पैल में 4.11.2005 से 13.11.2005 तक, थर्ड स्पैल में 22.11.2005 से 15.11.2005 तक और सबसे लेटेस्ट स्पैल, इस वक्त 2.12.2005 से 4.12.2005 में बाढ़ आई है। इसमें कोई शक नहीं है। मैं यहां सभी माननीय सदस्यों का नाम नहीं लेना चाहता हूं। उन्होंने जिस तरीके से बताया है कि तमिलनाडु और कर्नाटक में बाढ़ से जितनी बड़ी तबाही हुई है - चाहे फसलों का नष्ट होना हो, चाहे जानवरों का मरना हो चाहे इन्सानों की मृत्यु हो, चाहे इनफ्रास्ट्रक्चर का नष्ट होना हो, रेल लाइन की तबाही हो, सड़कों की तबाही हो, हाईवेज की तबाही हो, छोटे-बड़े मकानों का ढहना हो - ये सब हृदय विदारक है। हमारी जो टीम गई थी, उसमें पहले गृह मंत्री जी गए थे, उनके साथ वित्त मंत्री और हमारे कुलिंग श्री रघुपति भी गए थे। इन लोगों ने अपनी आंखों से देखा कि किस तरह की तबाही हुई है। मुझे यह कहने की आवश्यकता नहीं है कि इस आपदा की घड़ी में तामिलनाडु और कर्नाटक की जनता के साथ भारत सरकार कंधे से कंधा मिलाकर खड़ी हुई है।

उपाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय सदस्यों ने तीन-चार ऐसे प्रश्न उठाये हैं जिनका मुझे जवाब देना है, बाकी के बारे में मैंने अपने स्टेटमेंट में सब कुछ लिख दिया है। कई माननीय सदस्यों ने इस बात को उठाया कि माननीय सदस्यों और विधायकों की एक कमेटी बनाई जाये जो इस बात की मॉनिटरिंग करें। माननीय

सदस्यों का यह आरोप है कि सरकारें उस धन का इतना सदुपयोग नहीं कर रही हैं जितना उन्हें करना चाहिये था। मैं माननीय सदस्यों से अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि ये सारे काम - पैसे का यूटिलाइजेशन, किये गये कार्यों की मॉनिटरिंग करना - यह राज्य सरकारों का दायित्व होता है। मुझे इस बात में कोई शंका नहीं है कि राज्य सरकारें इस काम को कर रही होंगी। अगर माननीय सदस्य इस संबंध में कोई मॉनिटरिंग कमेटी चाहते हैं तो उन्हें राज्य के मुख्य मंत्री से मिलकर अनुरोध करना चाहिये कि लोकल बॉडीज की चेयर पर्सन.(व्यवधान)

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : I am sorry to interrupt the Minister. .
(Interruptions) The Minister should not ask the MPs to go and meet the Chief Minister since the Chief Minister has not bothered to convene a meeting of the Tamil Nadu MPs for the last four years to discuss any issue of Tamil Nadu. .
(Interruptions) So, we have no commitment to meet the Chief Minister..
(Interruptions)

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Why should we go and meet the Chief Minister?..
(Interruptions)

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : A direction must go from here. . (Interruptions)

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : She has not replied even to the letter..
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down.

. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I would request you to please sit down.

. (Interruptions)

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Why should we meet the Chief Minister?..
(Interruptions)

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : The Chief Minister has not bothered to meet us for the last four years. . (Interruptions)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Reply is not satisfactory. Why should we meet the Chief Minister? Is this the way the Minister should respond?. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please sit down.

. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : The guideline must go from here.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I would request the hon. Members to please sit down. First, let him complete his speech. Then if you have any doubt and if you want to seek any clarification, I will allow you.

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल : उपाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय सदस्यों ने इस संबंध में जो बातें उठायी हैं और जो चिन्ता व्यक्त की है, मैं खासकर तामिलनाडु के माननीय सदस्यों के संबंध में कोई टिप्पणी नहीं करना चाहता लेकिन मैं उन्हें इतना एश्योर करना चाहता हूँ कि उनके द्वारा की गई चिन्ता के बारे में माननीय मुख्य मंत्री को अवगत कराऊंगा कि माननीय सदस्यों की यह राय थी कि कोई मॉनिटरिंग कमेटी बना दी जाये जिसमें माननीय संसद सदस्य और विधायक भी रहें। इस कमेटी में लोकल बॉडीज की चेयर पर्सन शामिल हों। अगर इस संबंध में कोई मॉनिटरिंग कमेटी बना दी जाये तो उसकी मॉनिटरिंग अच्छी तरीक से हो सकती है। इसके अतिरिक्त माननीय सदस्यों की जो भावनायें हैं, उनका आदर हो सकता है। भारत सरकार जो कुछ कर सकती है, वह करेगी लेकिन यह राज्य सरकारों का दायित्व होता है कि वह इस तरह की कमेटी बनायें। माननीय सांसदों और विधायकों की चिन्ता को अपने साथ जोड़कर उस समस्या का समाधान प्रस्तुत करें।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, सभी माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा है कि राहत राशि बहुत कम भेजी गई है। मैं माननीय सदस्यों को अवगत कराना चाहता हूं कि जो राशि यहां से भेजी गई है, वह राहत के लिये है जो त्वरित राहत के लिये होता है। जिस समय विभीषिका खड़ी होती है, उस समय भारत सरकार एन.एन.सी.एफ. से पैसा देती है और राज्य सरकार सी.एम.आर.एफ. से पैसा देती है। इस विभीषिका का जायजा लेने के लिये हमारी केन्द्र की एक टीम गई है। उसने अपनी रिपोर्ट दी है जिसका अध्ययन हो रहा है। जैसे ही रिपोर्ट का पूरा अध्ययन हो जायेगा, अगर और पैसे की मांग की गई होगी तो भारत सरकार वह पैसा देने के लिये कटिबद्ध है।

जहां तक इनफ्रास्ट्रक्चर की बात कही गई है, माननीय सदस्यों ने, खास तौर से अनंत कुमार जी ने कहा है कि बंगलौर में बड़ी तबाही हुई है, सड़कें खराब हो गईं, तमिलनाडु में भी सड़कें टूट गई हैं। इनफ्रास्ट्रक्चर के संबंध में जब तक राज्य सरकार कोई प्लान बनाकर भारत सरकार को नहीं भेजती है, तब तक यह पैसा देना संभव नहीं होता है। इनफ्रास्ट्रक्चर के संबंध में बहुत से पैसे का यूं ही आकलन करके राज्य सरकार यदि भेज दे और उस पैसे का हम एलोकेशन कर दें, यह संभव नहीं हो सकता है। हमने तमिलनाडु और कर्नाटक की राज्य सरकारों से कहा है। इन सरकारों ने हमें भरोसा दिलाया है कि वे बहुत जल्दी वे पूरा प्लान बनाकर भारत सरकार के पास भेज देंगे। यहां प्लानिंग कमीशन में जाने के बाद हमारे मंत्रालय में एक अथारिटी बनी है, वहां उन सारी चीजों का बारीकी से अध्ययन किया जाएगा और जो कुछ भी मैक्सिमम मदद भारत सरकार के

माध्यम से हो सकती है, हम उस मैक्सिमम मदद को करने के लिए तैयार हैं। हम इस बात के लिए माननीय सदस्यों को पूरी तरह से एश्योर करते हैं।

श्री मोहन सिंह (देवरिया) : मैक्सिमम की परिभाषा क्या है?

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल : ज्यादा से ज्यादा।

श्री मोहन सिंह : यह तो उसका अनुवाद हुआ। कुछ तो अनुमानित बताइए।

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल : हम और आप तो हिन्दी भाषी राज्य के हैं, इसलिए इस तरह की परिभाषा पूछ रहे हैं। ज्यादा से ज्यादा। ज्यादा से ज्यादा यही तो मैं कह सकता हूँ।

बांध से पानी छोड़े जाने के बारे में माननीय अनन्त कुमार जी ने कहा है। हमारे देश की भौगोलिक स्थिति ऐसी है कि कभी किसी राज्य में किसी साल बाढ़ आती है, कभी किसी राज्य में किसी साल सूखा पड़ता है। अगर बांध खतरे में पड़ रहा हो तो उस राज्य की लाचारी होती है कि उस बांध से पानी छोड़

दिया जाए, वरना वह भी ढह जाएगा। पानी तो तबाही मचाएगा ही, बांध भी समाप्त हो जाएगा। इसलिए बांध के बारे में यह कहना ठीक नहीं है कि बांध से पानी छोड़ दिया जाता है, उसकी वजह से तबाही आती है।

श्री अनन्त कुमार (बंगलौर दक्षिण) : बिना पूर्व सूचना के पानी छोड़ दिया गया। कर्नाटक के मुख्य मंत्री जो कांग्रेस के मुख्य मंत्री हैं, उन्होंने केन्द्र के गृह मंत्री को पत्र लिखा है कि बिना पूर्व सूचना के इतनी भारी मात्रा में पानी छोड़ेंगे तो ज्यादा तबाही मचती है। इसलिए बांधों के लिए कोई कोआर्डिनेशन होना चाहिए, इंटीग्रेटेड

मॉनीटरिंग होनी चाहिए, यही हमारा निवेदन है। इसलिए हमने सैन्ट्रल वाटर कमीशन के तहत केन्द्र सरकार का इंटरवैन्शन मांगा है।

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल : मैं इस संबंध में राज्य सरकार से कहूंगा कि जब कभी बांधों से पानी छोड़ा जाए, उसकी पूर्व सूचना होनी चाहिए। इस संबंध में कोई समिति भी होनी चाहिए जो तय करे कि जितने भी बांधों से जब भी पानी छोड़ा जाए, उसके लिए एक समयावधि होनी चाहिए कि इतने समय पहले राज्य को सूचित कर दिया जाए कि पानी छोड़ा जा रहा है जिससे राज्य अपनी तैयारियां कर ले और जो कुछ नुकसान होने की संभावना है, उसको रोकने के हर संभव उपाय कर सके। मैं आपकी इस बात से सहमत हूं।

मैं समझता हूं कि सारी बातों का जवाब हो गया है। मैंने जो स्टेटमेंट दिया है, उसमें सारी बातों का जवाब दे दिया है। (व्यवधान)

श्री अनंत कुमार : सैन्ट्रल कैलामिटी रिलीफ फंड की गाइडलाइन्स के बारे में हमने कहा है। (व्यवधान)

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल : माननीय सदस्यों ने यह भी कहा है कि जो पैमाना निर्धारित किया गया है सीआरएफ का और एनसीसीएफ का, उसको भी रिवाइज़ किया जाना चाहिए। मैं आपकी भावनाओं से माननीय गृह मंत्री जी को अवगत करा दूंगा और प्रधान मंत्री जी से भी अनुरोध करूंगा। (व्यवधान)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अनंत कुमार जी, आप बैठ जाइए।

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : In August only, a Group of Ministers was constituted by the Government of India to revise the CRF guidelines. (Interruptions)

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : Sir, I have got one clarification.. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : It has not been revised. . (*Interruptions*)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप चारों में से डिजाइड कर लें कि किसको बोलना है। मैं एक को ही पूछने दूंगा।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): Sir, there have been queries from hon. Members from Tamil Nadu regarding the monitoring committee. There has been misuse of funds out of the aid given by the Central Government for Tsunami relief. So, on the basis of the Right to Information Act, our hon. Members of Parliament want the list of beneficiaries and statement of expenditure incurred by the State Government to be displayed in all the flood affected areas. I want a categorical reply from the hon. Minister on this point. . (*Interruptions*)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आपके मंत्री जी ने यह सवाल पूछ लिया है।

...(व्यवधान)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Sir, we have waited for ten days for this Calling Attention. We are very much dissatisfied with the reply given by the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs. Why could the Cabinet Minister not reply to the issues raised? Why could we not have a reply from the other hon. Minister of State, Shri Reghupathy? We are very much dissatisfied with the reply. . (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Minister wants to say something.

. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is a time constraint.

We have to start the discussion on the WTO Ministerial Conference and conclude it by four o'clock. After that, that discussion would be taken up in the Rajya Sabha. So, if hon. Members from Tamil Nadu want to continue discussion on this subject, we can take it up after four o'clock. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : On the issue of the Volcker Committee Report, they have wasted five days. In the case of Tamil Nadu, we are 40 Members and we take the least amount of time. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: We can take it up after four o'clock. . (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Krishnaswamy, please take your seat.

. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : We want more time to be given for discussion on this issue. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : Sir, this is a very important issue. We have waited all these days to raise it. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Our State MPs consume the least time of the House but we are not given proper reply. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: Sir, as I said, there is a time constraint. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Let the Cabinet Minister give the reply. We are not satisfied with the reply given by the Minister of State. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: We can continue this at four o'clock.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : Why should we wait till four o'clock? Why are you giving more time to other issues? This is also a very important issue. We want this issue to be given its proper importance. With due respect to you, we want the hon. Minister to come and reply now. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : We have already waited for ten days while all these days were wasted on the Volcker Committee Report. Who is responsible for that? . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: Sir, the discussion on WTO would be there only up to four o'clock. After that, it would be taken up in Rajya Sabha. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : Why not now? We have waited for four days. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : On other issues hon. Members from every State have been given opportunity but has our State been given a chance? . (*Interruptions*) We have 40 MPs from Tamil Nadu but we have not consumed much of the time of Parliament. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Sir, if we have to wait up to four o'clock, everyone of us should be given a chance. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : We are the Members who consume the least amount of time. You can check every record to find that out. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : After four o'clock, everybody from our State should be given a chance. . (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: After four o'clock, we would give you time.

. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Thank you, Sir. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Let the Cabinet Minister come. We want the Cabinet Minister to come. Let the Cabinet Minister come and respond. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : We have raised a very important issue under Calling Attention. He should give the reply. He should complete the reply.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have very little time. So, we cannot take up item No. 12 today. That would be taken up tomorrow or another day.

. (*Interruptions*)

14.18 hrs.

WAREHOUSING (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATION) BILL* , 2005

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the House would take up item No. 13 - Dr. Akhilesh Prasad Singh to move for introduction of Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make provisions for the development and regulation of warehouses, negotiability of warehouse receipts, establishment of a warehousing development and regulatory authority and for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make provisions for the development and regulation of warehouses, negotiability of warehouse receipts, establishment of a warehousing development and regulatory authority and for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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14.19 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 *

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Due to shortage of time, item No. 14, Matters under Rule 377 would be treated as laid on the Table of the House and they would form part of the proceedings.

- (i) Need for gauge conversion on Dindigul, Coimbatore section and upgradation of amenities at the Madurai, Tirunelveli and Dindigul Railway Stations in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (DINDIGUL): I wish to convey my appreciation to the Railway Authorities for introducing a special train between Chennai and Madurai with a number of second class bogies to facilitate the travelling of poor and middle class passengers. This should be converted on a regular basis for daily use upto Nagercoil.

The Madurai Division of Southern Railway has recorded a 14.2% growth in passenger traffic i.e. 127.48 lakhs last year to 145.64 lakhs passengers this year. This is the highest compared to other divisions including Chennai. The number of passengers in this division covers 13 districts including two in Kerala.

There is a shift of passengers from road to rail since it is a cheaper mode of transport. The electrification of railway track from Villupuram to Madurai covering a distance of 349 kms should be taken up a priority basis. Further, it should be extended upto Nagarcoil in a phased manner.

The long felt need for gauge conversion between Dindigul and Coimbatore should also be taken up for early implementation. The Madurai Division has sent a * Treated as laid on the Table.

proposal to upgrade the amenities at the Madurai, Trirunelveli and Dindigul Railway Stations at a cost of Rs. 3 crores and this should be cleared immediately.

- (ii) Need to extend Rajkot and Porbandar bound trains up to Veraval for promoting tourism in Junagarh district, Gujarat

श्री जसुभाई दानाभाई बारड़ (जूनागढ़) : महोदय, गुजरात जिला पर्यटन के लिए काफी महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्र है। इस जिले में भगवान सोमनाथ महादेव का प्रसिद्ध व प्राचीन मंदिर है, जो हिन्दुओं के चार प्रसिद्ध धर्मों में से है। इस जिले में गिरनाथ पर्वत भी है। गिरनाथ पर्वत पर हिन्दुओं और जैन समाज का प्रसिद्ध और धार्मिक

स्थान भी है। इस जिले में एशिया खंड का केसरी सिंह से जुड़ा "सासण गिर विस्तार" का क्षेत्र भी है और इस जिले का काफी बड़ा क्षेत्र समुद्र तट के किनारे भी है। इस समुद्रीय तट के किनारे पर एक स्थान दीव है। दीव में ब्रिटिश शासन के समय में बनाया गया एक किला है। इस किले को देखने के लिए आज भी देशी-विदेशी पर्यटक काफी संख्या में इस स्थान पर आते हैं। लेकिन रेल परिवहन की उचित व्यवस्था नहीं होने से यहां आने वाले श्रद्धालु और पर्यटकों को काफी मुश्किलों का सामना करना पड़ता है।

अतः मेरा रेल मंत्री जी से अनुरोध है कि अन्य राज्यों से जो रेलगाड़ियां राजकोट, पोरबंदर तक आती हैं, उन्हें वेरावल जिला जूनागढ़ तक बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है। सोमनाथ वेरावल से अन्य चारों प्रसिद्ध धार्मिक (धामों) स्थलों को जोड़ने के लिए भी रेल सुविधा शुरू की जानी चाहिए। सोमनाथ वेरावल जिला जूनागढ़ से मुम्बई तक के लिए सीधी रेलगाड़ी चलायी जानी चाहिए, जिससे श्रद्धालु पर्यटकों को इस स्थान पर आना और आसान हो जायेगा और उनकी संख्या में वृद्धि से पर्यटन के क्षेत्र को भी काफी बढ़ावा मिलेगा।

(iii) Need to accord group 'C' Government Servant status to Anganwadi workers in the country

श्रीमती कृष्णा तीरथ (करोल बाग) : महोदय, आंगनवाड़ी कार्यकर्ताओं को सरकारी रोजगार की तरह माना जाये। उन्हें तृतीय श्रेणी के गवर्नमेंट सर्वेंट की तरह ही

सुविधायें दी जायें, क्योंकि इनका कार्य बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है। हर समस्या के समय देश के हर राज्य के आँगनवाड़ी कार्यकर्ताओं से मदद ली जाती है। जैसे-कहीं महामारी हो जाये, टीकाकरण हो, पोलियो उन्मूलन हो या एडस से बचन का प्रचार हो, हम इन्हीं कार्यकर्ताओं की सहायता लेते हैं।

ये सभी महिलायें हैं और लाखों की संख्या में पूरे देश में कार्यरत हैं। इनकी मदद करने से लाखों परिवारों को लाभ पहुंचेगा तथा इन्हें इनका अधिकार मिलेगा और महिला को सशक्त करने का एक रास्ता भी होगा। महिला भारत की नींव है। उसके मजबूत हुए बिना भारत मजबूत नहीं हो सकता। इसीलिए हर स्थान पर जहां आवश्यकता है, हमें महिलाओं को पूरी पूरी सुविधायें देनी चाहिए, जिससे देश की भावी पीढ़ी शारीरिक एवं मानसिक रूप से शक्तिशाली रूप में उभर कर देश का अच्छा निर्माण कर सकें और इस देश को विश्व में सबसे अग्रणी रख सकें।

(iv) Need to introduce a direct train connecting Mahua, Dhola and Ahmedabad in Gujarat

श्री वी.के. ठुम्मर (अमरेली) : महोदय, मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र के महुआ एवं धोला के बीच ब्राड गेज लाइन शुरू हुयी है, परन्तु महुआ एवं धोला से अहमदाबाद तक रेल सेवा शुरू की जाये, क्योंकि इस क्षेत्र से अहमदाबाद तक के लिए कोई सीधी रेल सेवा नहीं है। साथ ही साथ महुआ एवं धोला के बीच जो रेलवे स्टेशन जैसे साबरकुला, राजूला, दामनगर, लीलिया पर मीटर गेज वाले प्लेटफार्म हैं, जिन्हें ब्राड गेज वाले प्लेटफार्म बनाया जाना अति आवश्यक है। महुआ या धोला से एक ए0सी0 कोच, एक स्लीपर कोच एवं एक जनरल कोच लगाया जाये, जो भावनगर

से बांद्रा एवं मुम्बई जाने वाली रेल सेवा से जोड़ा जाये। आजादी के 58 साल के बाद सौराष्ट्र का अति महत्वपूर्ण शहर जेतलसर एवं ढासा में अभी तक मीटर गेज लाइन है, इसको भी ब्राड गेज लाइन शुरू किया जाये। साथ ही इसमें पड़ने वाले रेलवे स्टेशनों का उन्नयन किया जाये, जो आज जर्जर हालत में है।

सदन के माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध है कि महुआ से धोला के बीच परिवर्तित ब्राड गेज लाइन का पूरा उपयोग करने के लिए महुआ-धोला-अहमदाबाद सीधी रेल सेवा चलायी जाये एवं महुआ या धोला से एक ए0सी कोच, एक जनरल कोच एवं एक स्लीपर कोच शुरू करके उसे भावनगर से मुम्बई या बांद्रा चलने वाली सेवा में जोड़ा जाये एवं जेतलसर से ढासा के बीच मीटर गेज लाइन को ब्राड गेज में बदला जाये।

- (v) Need to ensure that the royalty on mineral resources is spent for the welfare and developmental activities in the exploration zone in Gujarat and other parts of the country

श्री जीवाभाई ए. पटेल (मेहसाना) : महोदय, देश में कई प्राकृतिक स्रोतों से तेल, गैस, कोयला एवं कई खनिज पदार्थ प्राप्त हो रहे हैं। इन पदार्थों से अरबों रुपये की आय सरकार को होती है, परन्तु जहां से यह पदार्थ निकलता है, वहां के लोगों को कोई फायदा नहीं मिलता है। इन खनिज पदार्थों को प्राप्त करने वाले स्रोत स्थल के आसपास लोगों को कोई विशेष बुनियादी सुविधायें भी नहीं देते हैं, जिसके कारण यहां के लोगों को आर्थिक एवं सामाजिक विकास नहीं हो पाता है। खनिज पदार्थ प्राप्त करने वाले उपक्रम जिन राज्यों से खनिज पदार्थ एवं तेल

इत्यादि प्राप्त करते हैं, उनके एवज में प्रत्येक राज्य को रॉयल्टी की भारी राशि प्राप्त होती है, जिसे राज्य सरकार खनिज पदार्थ एवं तेल पदार्थ स्रोत स्थल के विकास कार्य में नहीं लगाती है और उस समय तो और भी स्थिति विकट हो जाती है जब कोई प्राकृतिक आपदा का प्रकोप इन स्रोत स्थल के आसपास होता है। गुजरात के स्रोत स्थलों में आये भूकम्प, चक्रवात, सूखे एवं बाढ़ से प्रभावित लोगों को इस रॉयल्टी से कोई सहायता नहीं दी गयी।

सदन के माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि इस रॉयल्टी राशि का उपयोग खनिज पदार्थों के स्रोत स्थल के विकास हेतु दिये जाने हेतु निर्देश दिया जाये या इस रॉयल्टी राशि में से कुछ प्रतिशत केवल खनिज पदार्थों के स्रोत स्थल के विकास एवं इस स्रोत स्थल पर किसी प्राकृतिक आपदा के समय राहत एवं सहायता हेतु दिये जाने का प्रावधान किया जाये।

- (vi) Need to withdraw the move to shift Dabolim International Airport from Dabolim to Mopa in Goa with a view to safeguard the interest of people engaged in tourism sector

SHRI ALEMAO CHURCHILL (MARMUGAO): Goa is synonymous with Tourism in India much before, other destinations followed. Tourism remains the critical employer and in a demographic analysis of the State 65% of the population remains directly or indirectly dependent on tourism.

Dabolim airport is the familiar gateway into Goa and known the world over. The entire Goa is the developed tourism belt comprising of all the hotels of any category, lodges and cheaper private accommodation. Goa's livelihood is in tourism and Dabolim airport is actually at the centre of State, equidistant to north and South.

The move to shift the location of the international airport from Dabolim to Mopa will spell disaster for Goa Tourism, Indian Tourism and Tourism for the Peninsula of India. The Airport at Dabolim is the lifeline of all tourism oriented activity and cannot be shifted to Mopa - Goa will become a desert for actions related to tourism. People will actually starve and be ruined, and, tourism will be forsaken in Goa forever. A geographical study will clearly indicate this crucial and critical criteria.

Historically Goa was supposed to be aligned with Maharashtra, but, the opinion poll decided to keep Goa as an independent State. This will be totally negated if Mopa becomes the International Airport. People of Goa will feel let down and demoralized if their sentiments are not respected.

I request the Central Government that Dabolim should continue to be the International Airport for Goa with upgradation and renovations. The Naval Base can move to Sea Bird, Karwar, if considered appropriate.

- (vii) Need for construction of a road under bridge at railway crossing near Kanavi Veerabhadra temple at 298 km. on Sholapur - Mangalore section in Karnataka

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY (BELLARY): I would like to mention that National Highway No. 13 of Sholapur-Mangalore Section in Karnataka crosses one railway line LC: 13 (13-14) near the Kanavi Veerabhadra Temple at Km. 298. Due to heavy mining activities a number of goods trains carry iron ore causing closure of railway gate very frequently. Because of frequent closure, thousands of vehicles are getting stuck and hours together the traffic is jammed which is causing trouble to the people. Road on the either side of the gate is very steep with

a number of bend curves. There is an urgent need to construct a road under bridge at this place for the free and smooth flow of vehicular traffic.

I urge upon the Union Government that the work on this project should be taken up immediately.

- (viii) Need to allocate adequate funds for early completion of Kanpur Multi - purpose project in Orissa

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK (KEONJHAR): The inordinate delay in the construction of Kanpur Multipurpose Project in Orissa has caused a great discontentment in the minds of the people of my Parliamentary Constituency, Keonjhar. When the project was sanctioned years ago, it was stated that it would be completed within a period of 7 years. But the project has not taken off so far.

The reasons are not far to seek. Besides showing indifferent attitude by the authority, allocation of fund made to this project has been very meagre. Whatever little amount is available for this project, has also been either diverted towards the construction staff quarters or misutilised.

The project is located in a traditionally drought prone area where majority of the farmers are small and marginal. The area is predominantly inhabited by tribal people. Once the project is completed it will change the whole scenario of the area. Besides providing irrigation facility it will generate electricity also.

As such, I request the Central Government to allocate funds as per revised estimate and complete the project expeditiously so that the poor farmers of my parliamentary constituency are benefited.

- (ix) Need to take suitable measures for reconstruction of dilapidated building of Main Post office at Konch Nagar in Jalaun Parliamentary constituency, Uttar Pradesh

श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह वर्मा (जालौन) : महोदय, मेरे लोक सभा क्षेत्र जालोन-गरौठा, 30प्र0 के कोंच नगर के मुख्य डाकघर का भवन इतना जीर्ण-शीर्ण हो चुका है कि किसी दिन कोई त्रासदी हो सकती है। यदि भवन को तुड़वाकर सामने की ओर दुकानें बनायी जायें, पीछे की ओर डाकखाना बनवाया जाये और प्रथम मंजिल पर पोस्ट ऑफिस आवास बनाया जाये तब दुकानों से प्रीमियम के रूप में इतनी धनराशि मिल जायेगी, जिससे सम्पूर्ण भवन का निर्माण कराया जा सकता है। इसके अतिरिक्त हजारों रूपया माह की आमदनी विभाग को मिलने लगेगी।

मेरी केन्द्र सरकार से मांग है कि दुर्घटना की संभावना को देखते हुए उपरोक्त नये डाकघर को बनाने के लिए समुचित कदम उठाये जायें।

- (x) Need to provide office accommodation and travel facilities to office bearers of Panchayats and Nagar Palikas in the country

श्री राम स्वरूप कोली (बयाना) : महोदय, पंचायत राज में सरपंचों और उप सरपंचों के चुनाव होते हैं। इसी तरह पंचायत समितियों में सदस्य तथा प्रधान व उपप्रधान के लिए तथा जिला परिषदों में सदस्य, जिला प्रमुख तथा उप जिला प्रमुख के लिए भी चुनाव होता है।

सरपंचों, प्रधानों व जिला प्रमुखों को अपने कार्य निर्वहन के लिए सभी सुविधायें मुहैया करायी जाती हैं, किंतु उप सरपंचों, उप प्रधानों तथा उप जिला प्रमुखों को अपने सफल कार्य निर्वहन हेतु कोई सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं करायी जाती है। नगर पालिकाओं में भी उपाध्यक्षों का भी यही हाल है। भारत सरकार से

अनुरोध है कि उन्हें कार्यालय तथा यात्रा की सुविधायें उपलब्ध कराकर अथवा कार्यालय एवं यात्रा भत्ता देकर, पंचायत राज को अमली जामा पहनायें।

- (xi) Need to expedite completion of on-going Hydel projects in Arunachal Pradesh

SHRI KIREN RIJJU (ARUNACHAL WEST): Arunachal Pradesh has the largest Hydro-Power potential in the country with the estimated 60000 MW, which is unparalleled in the world. The Govt. of India from time to time has been promising to tap the potential with huge investment. But it is very unfortunate that the hydro power potential still remains untapped causing huge power deficit in our country.

The power vision issued by the Ministry of Power and released by Hon'ble Prime Minister includes the proposed hydel projects of Arunachal Pradesh. But I wonder how the vision will be realized without the execution of Hydel Projects successfully in projects which have got the clearance from various mandatory authorities and which are to be executed by public companies like NHPC and NEEPCO. The Projects are pending due to lack of political will and much needed support from the Government.

I would like to request the Hon'ble Minister of Power to take the matter very seriously and push hard for the early execution of all the mega hydel projects in Arunachal Pradesh. At the same time adequate fund should be placed for the relief and rehabilitation for the affected people and conservation of the environment in the affected area so that there is sustainable development.

- (xii) Need to sanction setting up of Handloom Production - cum - Design Development Centre and an export mart in Fulia, West Bengal

SHRI ALAKESH DAS (NABADWIP): My Parliamentary Constituency i.e. Nabadwip is known for textile goods. The weavers of Santipur, Fulia, Nabadwip are internationally reputed for their handloom sarees. Tamgail saree of Fulia,

Jamdani saree of Navbdwip and traditional Sanlipuri sarees are very popular in country and abroad. The weavers of these three places export saree amounting to Rs. 9 crore out of 14 crore of export of the State. But these weavers should get Government aid for their survival. Government should aid them as they are benefiting the Government. Recently, by the initiation of the Directorate of Handlooms and Textiles, Government of West Bengal, a Committee namely - 'Handlooms and Textiles, Government of West Bengal, a Committee namely - 'Handlooms Mutipurpose Cooperative Society Limited have been formed. They want to establish a Handloom production-cum-designs development centre and export mart in Fulia. For this a land of 1.10 acres have been arranged. Nadia Zilla Parishad is fully supporting this project. I request the Government to sanction this 2.52 crore project with which nearly 2 lakh weaver families are related. They will be beneficiary with the implementation of this project.

(xiii) Need to allocate funds for development of tourism in Howrah district, West Bengal

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): My district Howrah is one of the important districts with two international tourism centres, viz., Belur Math and Indian Botanical Garden. Besides two unique bridges over the Ganges, Rabindra Setu and Vidyasagar Setu, are engineering master pieces and attract tourists. Besides, we intend to develop the residence of great literary legent Sarat Chandra in my constituency, into a major tourist attraction by developing a theme park based on the stories of the Great Novelist. The most beautiful tourist spots at Gadiara, on the site of confluence of the rivers Hooghly and Damodar and Deer Park at Garchumuk may be improved further. A tourist circuit may be formed connecting all those spots and can be developed as tourist destination of national and international importance.

But to complete the project call 'joy at your doorstep' the Howrah Zilla Parishad had submitted through West Bengal Government proposal to the Government of India to make survey and help to prepare a modern project for implementation by the Central Government as their own meagre fund cannot implement it.

I would urge upon the Government and specially Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, to help us to complete the project.

(xiv) Need to introduce a super fast train between Moradabad and Mumbai

डॉ. शफीकुर्रहमान बर्क (मुरादाबाद) : महोदय, मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र का शहर मुरादाबाद एक विकसित व्यवसायिक एवं औद्योगिक शहर है और पीतल उद्योग का एक बड़ा निर्यात केन्द्र है। करोड़ों रुपये का निर्यात मुम्बई के द्वारा ही होता है। उत्तर प्रदेश का बड़ा रेलवे जंक्शन होने के अलावा यहां मंडल रेल प्रबंधक का कार्यालय भी है।

यहां के हजारों निर्यातक व आम जनता इन तथ्यों के आधार पर मुरादाबाद से मुम्बई के लिए एक सुपरफास्ट रेल गाड़ी की मांग काफी दिनों से करती आ रही है, लेकिन मंत्रालय ने इस ओर आज तक भी गंभीरता से विचार नहीं किया है। जबकि इन तथ्यों के आधार पर यह ट्रेन चलाना अत्यंत आवश्यक है।

अतः मैं आपसे अनुरोध करता हूं कि आप मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र की इस महत्वपूर्ण मांग को ध्यान में रखते हुए जनहित व पीतल औद्योगिक निर्यात को बढ़ावा देने हेतु मुरादाबाद से मुम्बई तक एक सुपरफास्ट रेलगाड़ी शीघ्र चलवाने का कष्ट करें।

(xv) Need to provide special economic package for revival of sugar

industry in Uttar Pradesh

श्री हरिकेवल प्रसाद (सलेमपुर) : महोदय, देश के सर्वाधिक गन्ना और चीनी उत्पादक राज्य, उत्तर प्रदेश का चीनी उद्योग बदहाली का शिकार होता जा रहा है। कपड़ा मंत्रालय के उपक्रम बी.आइ.सी. के अधीन संचालित चीनी मिलें सालों से बंद पड़ी हैं, जिन्हें पुनः चालू कराने का प्रयास नहीं किया जा रहा है, इनमें कार्यरत हजारों श्रमिक भुखमरी के शिकार हो रहे हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य चीनी निगम के अधीन चलने वाली अधिकांश चीनी मिलें जर्जर और बीमार हैं, जिनके आधुनिकीकरण के लिए बिना शर्त केन्द्रीय सहायता की जरूरत है। गन्ना मूल्य निर्धारण में भी केन्द्र द्वारा पूरे देश के लिए एक समान मूल्य निर्धारित न करके विभिन्न राज्यों के लिए अलग अलग मापदंड अपनाया जाता है, जिससे उत्तर प्रदेश सहित कई राज्यों के किसान हतोत्साहित होते हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने गत वर्ष गन्ना मूल्य में बढ़ोत्तरी करके उसका समय से भुगतान कराया जिसके परिणामस्वरूप चालू वर्ष में लगभग 20 प्रतिशत अधिक गन्ना उत्पादित होने का अनुमान है। मैं केन्द्र सरकार से मांग करता हूं कि वह उत्तर प्रदेश के चीनी उद्योग को बचाने के लिए विशेष आर्थिक पैकेज देने की व्यवस्था करें।

(xvi) Need to expedite completion of pending irrigation projects in Palamu region, Jharkhand

श्री मनोज कुमार (पलामू) : महोदय, बिहार विभाजन के बाद झारखंड राज्य में अवस्थित अनेक सिंचाई परियोजना जो निर्माणाधीन थे, दोनों राज्यों के

परिसंपत्तियों के बंटवारा विवाद के कारण लंबित हैं। इसमें पलामू प्रमंडल के उतर कोयल परियोजना, मोहम्मदगंज वराज परियोजना, बटाने सिंचाई परियोजना इत्यादि अन्य योजना भी शामिल है। जैसा कि ज्ञात है पलामू प्रमंडल पिछले पांच सालों से लगातार सुखाड़ ग्रस्त होता रहा है। इस परिस्थिति में इन परियोजनाओं को लंबित रहने से पलामू प्रमंडल के किसानों को व्यापक नुकसान का सामना करना पड़ रहा है।

अतः जल संसाधन मंत्री से आग्रह है कि राज्य बंटवारा विवाद में लंबित परियोजनाओं पर शीघ्र निर्णय दिया जाये, जिससे कि निर्माणाधीन सिंचाई परियोजनाओं को जल्द पूरा कर किसानों को सिंचाई सुविधा उपलब्ध कराया जा सके।

(xvii) Need to streamline rehabilitation measures being extended to Tsunami victims in Tamil Nadu

SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (TIRUPPATTUR): Excessive rains in Tamil Nadu this year have caused great havoc. Till last year there used to be disastrous drought conditions. Tsunami devastation and natural disasters that followed one another have caused great loss. The worst Tsunami that hit the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu caused great damage even to cultivable land. Successive monsoons this year have also let loose disastrous consequences. Huge property loss, crop loss, fertile land being left barren to cry for justifiable compensation. It is natural that rehabilitation measures are taken at right earnest after every natural disaster but in Tamil Nadu relief work carried out very slow.

I request the Government that every victim should be given a minimum of Rs. 2000 and every farmer with a minimum of Rs. 5,000 immediately to begin

need to develop Lonar Crater as an international tourist place to attract foreign as well as national tourists.

I would request the Central Government, through you sir, to kindly develop Lonar Crater as an Internal Tourist centre so that the Local people will get job opportunities and the backwardness of this area can be removed.

(xix) Need to release additional stock of fertilizer to the State of Andhra Pradesh to meet its shortage in the State

DR. M. JAGANNATH (NAGAR KURNOOL): For the first time in many years there was copious rainfall in almost all the district State. Even those in rain-shadow zones like Anantapur received excess rainfall. But the joy of farmers over good monsoons has been cut short by the severe shortage of fertilizer, particularly urea. The prospects of farmers getting bumper yield this year appears bleak with the farming community falling short of five lakh tonnes of fertilizers for the Khariff season.

The State requires about 16 lakh tonnes of urea while only 11 lakh tonnes is available in the market. Urea is used mainly for crops like paddy, sugarcane, cotton and maize. There is also a shortage of single super phosphate fertilizer. However, complex fertilizers are available in sufficient quantity. The prospects of a good crop are quite high this time thanks to the monsoon which has been generous so far. This Khariff the total sown area has also gone up increasing the demand for fertilizers. If the farmers do not get sufficient stocks at this State, there crop will be in real trouble.

Through you, Sir , I request the Hon'ble Minister of Chemical and Fertilizers to release more stocks to the State to overcome the acute shortage and project the standing crops from withering away.

(xx) Need to confer Indian Citizenship on nearly 500 Malayalee Muslims in Kerala facing threat of deportation to Pakistan

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR (CALICUT): Nearly 500 Malayalee Muslims in Kerala are under threat of deportation to Pakistan. They live in perpetual fear to law, having to present themselves before the police periodically, and subjected to summons at any time, even though they were born in Kerala.

They are treated as Pakistani nationals because they were making a living in Pakistan during partition. Family ties made them return to Kerala, after partition for which they were issued Pakistani passports. Since they are holding Pakistani passports India is not ready to recognise them as Indian nationals and they have been treated as Pakistanis staying over on visa facility.

As long as they are considered Pakistani nationals, they can be deported at any time. On several occasions, many of them were summoned and deported to Pakistan, causing humiliation and immense sorrow to them and their families. Pathetic aspect of the whole issue is that all of them are aged and some of them are ailing. Since their entire family ties are in Kerala nobody is there in Pakistan to take care of them.

The UPA Government has embarked on rapprochement with Pakistan and at the same time, our own countrymen are facing deportation. I urge the government to show similar magnanimity to our own people and take urgent step to recognise them as Indian nationals.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Sir, may I make a small submission. I sincerely appreciate the feelings of hon. Members from Tamil Nadu and the entire South and their desire for a detailed reply from the Government of India in this matter. As I already submitted, our distinguished Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Kamal Nath, would have to go to Hong Kong tomorrow for an important meeting and all hon. leaders in both Houses have agreed, before the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, that this matter should be listed today and

disposed of in both Houses. Therefore, my appeal is that let the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry first hear the views of hon. Members and give his reply.

After his reply, he will go to the Rajya Sabha. Then, the hon. Minister, Shri Shriprakash Jaiswal can give the detailed reply on the issue of floods. .
(*Interruptions*) Please hear me first. Why I am telling this to you is because there is going to be a full-fledged discussion on the Disaster Management Bill soon in this House. . (*Interruptions*) You are welcome to do it. . (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Dasmunsi, it has already been decided.

. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: If there are any clarifications to be sought from the Minister on that issue, you are welcome to do that. . (*Interruptions*) I support that. . (*Interruptions*)

14.21 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Role of India in WTO with particular reference to the forthcoming Sixth Ministerial Conference of WTO in Hong Kong

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up item number 17 - discussion under Rule 193 regarding role of India in WTO with particular reference to the forthcoming 6th Ministerial Conference of WTO in Hong Kong.

Shri Prabodh Panda to speak.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): Sir, at the very outset, I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity for discussing on the role of India in WTO with particular reference to the forthcoming Sixth Ministerial conference of WTO in Hong Kong. . (*Interruptions*) Our distinguished hon. Minister is very much busy in talking with other Ministers. So, how can I draw his attention to this subject? . (*Interruptions*) It is very regrettable. . (*Interruptions*) Sir, I draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister through you.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): I am listening.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : It was expected that the distinguished hon. Minister, Shri Kamal Nath, would issue a White Paper on this matter earlier. I found in several newspapers that hon. Minister has said that he is going to play an important role in respect of our country in the forthcoming Summit based on the consensus. Yes, I do admit that there is a consensus. But the consensus was there that before going to Hong Kong, the concerned Ministry should bring out a White Paper or a draft paper so that the consensus could be achieved based on that. I think he did not take it into cognisance, rather it was ignored. So, I must tell you that this is a very sorry state of affairs.

14.23 hrs.

(Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan *in the Chair*)

The matter is taken up for discussion today while not even a week is remaining for the commencement of the Sixth Ministerial Conference of WTO in Hongkong. We have just heard from the hon. Minister, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi that the hon. Minister is going tomorrow itself to Hong Kong for attending the business of this Summit. . (*Interruptions*)

Since it was revealed that WTO is an instrument to maintain the corporate hegemony of the global North over the global South, the world-wide protests were there against the WTO negotiations by the global civil societies and the world witnessed side-by-side that negotiations failed in Seattle, Doha and even in Cancun.

What is expected from our country? India's long-term interests are best served by making the common cause with the developing countries. The formation of G-20 and G-33 at the time of Ministerial Conference in Cancun in 2003 was a positive step. Our country is a founder of the G-20 countries. I must appreciate it. It is expected that our country will lead not only G-20 countries but also lead the developing countries and stand on the occasion to face the monopolistic design of the developed countries.

But, Sir, the subsequent events, specially, India becoming a part of the five interested parties are to be seen here. It is clear that there are two sides in the WTO. One is the developed countries and the other is the developing countries. One is North and the other is South. Our country has become a part of the five interested parties - that is USA, European Union, Australia, Brazil and our own country. This is not understood. Its role in bringing about the July framework agreement is to be seen. India is co-chairing the Service Group with the USA and maintaining silence in regard to the attempts made by the developed countries; but nothing has been raised regarding the commitments to the unity of the developing countries.

That is why, my submission is that our country should play a proactive role in the WTO Ministerial. What we have noticed earlier should not be repeated. Our country should be bold enough in this and should stand on the occasion on the point. Due to paucity of time I do not want to elaborate all my points covering all the aspects in this regard. I am particularly confining myself to the Agreement on Agriculture. I think, this is the core of the negotiations in the WTO Meet. This is the opportunity. This opportunity should be utilised properly by our country and enough pressure should be mounted against the monopoly of the capitalist forces for their commitment for the developing countries in regard to the three pillars - market access, export subsidies and domestic support. These are the three pillars. On these three pillars the commitment for the developing countries by the developed countries should be made and enough pressure should be mounted on this point.

It is in the interest of our citizens that our Government should pull out agriculture from WTO negotiations. When it was included in the WTO, at that time it was told that agriculture was drafted in the WTO for the interest of our country, for the interest of our peasant community. But what is the result? What is happening is just contrary to that. There is a need to examine the outcome of that Agreement on Agriculture, AOA as compared with the promise that was given in terms of benefits of the developing countries.

The basic principles were enunciated in the Preamble. I am quoting :

"The parties to this Agreement, recognising that their relations in the field of and economic endeavour should be conducted with a view to raising standards of living, ensuring full employment and a large and steadily growing volume of real income and effective demand, and expanding the production of and trade in goods, and services, while allowing for the optimal use of the world's resources in accordance with the objective of sustainable development, seeking both to protect and preserve the environment and to enhance the means of doing so in a manner consistent with their respective needs and concerns at different levels of development."

Sir, in the 2001 Doha Declaration it is already mentioned that :

"We reaffirm that the provision of SDT is an integral part of the WTO agreement. We, therefore, agree that all SDT provisions shall be reviewed with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational."

This should be reviewed, and there is also a need to examine the outcome of AOA in relation to the promise that was given in terms of benefits for the developing countries. I am only mentioning some of the points, and giving some suggestions. I am not elaborating all the points here because of paucity of time.

All export subsidies including export credit guarantee and export insurance by the developed countries should be eliminated. We should also demand to drop the blue box from all the places where this magic box is being used. The developed countries are using these magic boxes, namely, the blue boxes and green boxes to provide enough subsidies in agriculture. So, the blue boxes, in any form, should be dropped. I am also saying this because most green box measures are indeed distorting. We should raise the demand for elimination of these magic boxes considering the vital role that agriculture is playing in providing livelihood to a large majority of the workforce in the developing countries.

The developed countries continue to give heavy subsidy in agriculture and trade. This fact is now revealed. What would be the role of our country? I do not know what all suggestions are being made in it. The hon. Minister is present here, and I would request him to kindly tell us on this issue also.

What are the subsidies that are being given? The United States expressed its willingness to reduce the trade distorting support by 60 per cent provided three conditions were met. Firstly, the European Union would have to reduce its support by 75 per cent. Secondly, the spending on blue box support should be kept at 2.5 per cent of the value of agricultural production. Thirdly, there should not be any limit on the green box opening. The WTO Members are not required to limit their

spending on subsidies, which can be included in either the blue box or the green box. This is their stand. The USA should, therefore, have ensured that it would not only be able to return 70 per cent of its domestic support first in the Green Box. It would also succeed in providing more than five billion dollars in the form of Blue Box support. How far are we going to put pressure on them so that this box system would be eliminated and they would be forced to decline their subsidies? This is a matter of great concern. I think the Minister will explain everything here.

If developed countries have a right to provide huge subsidies for their domestic production in agriculture, the developing countries also have their rights. It is the right of the developing countries to impose quantitative restrictions on imports to safeguard the livelihood of three billion peasants. This should be enshrined as an integral part of the Agreement on Agriculture. The quantitative restrictions system is withdrawn. That should be reinstated. If developed countries have the right to provide huge subsidies, developing countries also have their own right to impose quantitative restrictions. This point should be taken note of. Our hon. Minister should press on that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Panda, how long will you take?

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : I will take 20 minutes more, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You do not have that much of time. There are many speakers and they may not get time to speak. Please conclude in five minutes. Otherwise, there will not be much participation.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : All right, Sir.

Developing countries should be enlisted to provide subsidies for domestic products for domestic consumption in order to ensure food security. Developing countries should be allowed to use the Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM) in agricultural commodities. This is very important. This time I think our Minister is also interested in putting all these items here.

There should be expansion of TRQ maintained by developing countries beyond the levels earmarked for specific countries and should be available to all

countries without discrimination. There are many devices and many avenues being resorted to by the developed countries. Various non-tariff barriers imposed by developed countries also need to be eliminated.

Under S&D provisions, developing countries may provide export subsidies especially for adoption of higher technology, adoption of product and process standards as well as to compensate for various handicaps, for financing, guarantees and insurance in respect of product exports.

I am coming to another point. Today, I have noticed in the national newspapers the statement by the hon. Minister that our country will not be allowed to be the dumping ground of other countries. But what is happening? See the impact of the WTO on India's agriculture in the earlier days. It has not only been studied by us but also by many experts and intellectuals. The acting Director of the Delhi-based National Centre for Agriculture, Economic and Policy Research has found that the first three years after the implementation of the WTO agreement, we witnessed a major spurt in the agricultural exports. The study estimates that the annual import of agricultural goods rose from \$1.190 million in the three years preceding the WTO to \$1.996 million in the first triennium after the WTO. In the same period, export increased from \$3.725 million to \$6.530 million. But the favourable trend in the initial years of the WTO did not last long. This is what I want to underline.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have covered all the important points.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA : In the next three years, we have witnessed a hopping rise in imports and slight decline in exports. What does this fact reveal? This reveals that imports is improving and the export is declining. Whether we like it or not, whether our country wants it or not, the policy pursued so far has made our country the dumping ground of the developed country. So, India should say in concrete terms that as to whether it is in Group-5 interest parties or it will lead the G-20 developed countries. India should lead the G-20 countries. India should play

a pro-active or lead role. It should play a leading stand so that developing countries can stand on the occasion against the hegemony and designs of the capitalist countries.

I would like to say that our country will not follow the footsteps of the earlier Government. Expectation from the UPA Government is much more. The UPA Government has given the commitments to the peasants of our country. The UPA Government has to play an active role. I think, it will not follow the footsteps of the earlier NDA Government, which have succumbed to the pressure of the US hegemony. So many points are there to be raised. A number of questions have been raised about the role of India in regard of the WTO Summit. I hope the Minister will clear it, and he would take the bold stand. The whole nation is watching. I think, he would not do injustice to the nation. He would not do injustice to the billions of peasants of our country, and fight boldly and stand correctly against the hegemonic designs of the capitalist countries. With these words, I conclude.

श्री अजित कुमार सिंह (बिक्रमगंज) : सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी देश की तरफ से जो वहां कल भाग लेने जा रहे हैं, इसके लिए मैं उन्हें बधाई देता हूं। मैं अपने आप को रैस्ट्रिक्ट करके केवल एग्रीकल्चर पर ही, चूंकि डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. पर चर्चा है, इसलिए उसी पर अपने आप को सीमित रखूंगा। माननीय मंत्री जी का मैं ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहूंगा कि जो डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. है, आज यह किसानों का देश है और इस हाउस में भी 70 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा किसानों के प्रतिनिधि हैं। अगर देखा जाए तो टैक्नीकली पांच साल से इस देश में डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. पर चर्चाएं चल रही हैं लेकिन जब भी चर्चा होती है तो यह केवल इंटरलैक्चुअल्स और एयरकंडीशंड फाइव स्टार होटलों तक ही सीमित होती हैं। आज किसानों के मन में एक डर

लगा हुआ है कि यह जो ब्लू बॉक्स है, यह जो ग्रीन बॉक्स है, आखिर हमारा भाग्य इन बक्सों में क्यों बंद रखा गया है ?

मैं आपके माध्यम से दो-तीन बिन्दुओं पर चर्चा करना चाहूंगा। अगर आप देखें, जैसे कि हमारे साथी इस पर विस्तार से चर्चा नहीं कर पाए, इस देश में पल्सेज और ऑयल सीड्स का भारी अभाव है। देश का जो लक्ष्य है कि गेहूं, चावल को छोड़कर हमें दलहन और तिलहन का उत्पादन बढ़ाना है। लेकिन जब से डब्ल्यू.टी.ओ. आया है, हमने करीब-करीब 4000 करोड़ का विगत तीन-चार सालों में बाहर से दलहन और तिलहन इम्पोर्ट किया है। एक तरफ हमारे देश में दलहन और तिलहन का अभाव है और दूसरी तरफ जो हमारा कोर्स ग्रेन है, भंडारण पड़ा हुआ है और एक तरफ हम फॉरेन एक्सचेंज बाहर से इम्पोर्ट कर रहे हैं, दूसरी तरफ हमारा जो अपना कोर्स ग्रेन है, भंडारण है, वह पंजाब और हरियाणा में सड़ रहा है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहूंगा कि यह जो टैरिफ बैरियर आपने लगाया है, तीन साल पहले जो मुझे जानकारी है, 70 प्रतिशत का आपने टैक्स लगाया है जिसको आप 150 प्रतिशत तक बढ़ा सकते हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि किसके प्रैशर में कोलालाममपुर से इम्पोर्ट हो रहा है, यह आप बताएं। हमारे देश में क्यों इम्पोर्ट को इतना बढ़ावा दिया जा रहा है जबकि दूसरी तरफ हमारे देश में खाद्यान्न सड़ रहे हैं। इसलिए मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लूंगा और विशेषकर मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस तरफ आकृष्ट करना चाहूंगा कि दलहन और तिलहन पर जिस तरह से हम इम्पोर्ट कर रहे हैं और

दूसरी तरफ हमारे खाद्यान्न अपने देश में सड़ रहे हैं। एक तरफ हमारा फॉरेन एक्सचेंज बाहर जा रहा है, दूसरी तरफ सरकारी खरीददारी।(व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your time is over. Please conclude. You wanted to go at 2.45 p.m.

श्री अजित कुमार सिंह : एक तरफ हम सरकारी खरीददारी कर रहे हैं और दूसरी तरफ हमारा अपना खाद्यान्न हमारे गोदामों में पड़ा सड़ रहा है। उसे भी हम अच्छे रेट पर नहीं बेच पा रहे हैं। इसीलिए मेरा आपसे आग्रह होगा कि इस विषय पर विशेषकर आप ध्यान दें। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ और आशा करता हूँ कि आप देश के हित और किसानों के हित को ध्यान में रखेंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Swain to speak.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (BALASORE): Sir, can I speak from this seat?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, please. Normally, you should speak from your seat. But I want to save the time of the House. You can continue from here.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not have much of an expectation from the forthcoming Sixth Ministerial Conference of WTO in Hongkong. It is because, since the days of Doha Conference, practically nothing has happened. Since the days of Doha Conference, practically the negotiations are running at a snail's pace. If this continues, this would lead to a lot of frustration among the developing countries and the least developed countries(LDCs).

A perception is gradually gaining ground that the WTO has become a mechanism of the developed countries and the countries of the West, to get market access, which has already saturated in their countries, to the developing countries and to the least developed countries. But we are all very strongly with the

Government of India. There is no question of any party just opposing the activities of the Government. We are all with hon. Shri Kamal Nathji when he goes and fights for the cause of India. The Bhartiya Janata Party, the principal Opposition party is very strongly with him.

Sir, in my small speech, I would just like to seek some clarifications from the hon. Minister and I would make some suggestions. Every developed country in the world must understand that there should be a level playing field for everybody -- for the developed countries, for the developing countries and for the least developed countries.

Sir, on this, I am not much worried. It is because the developed countries are in no way in a position to push their market access to our country. I do not think that this would be possible. As a Member of the Steering Committee of the Parliamentary Forum on WTO, I was also present in the Cancun. We know, most of the resistance came, not from the developing country led by India but from the least developed countries. The real resistance came from the African countries, from the poorest of the poor countries, which never had any courage to fight against economic imperialism of America. They raised their voice. It was the African countries, the have-nots, fought it out. Although we had a group of 21 - we led the G-21 nations - we were on the sidelines just watching the poor countries fighting the rich.

With regard to agriculture, the bound rates are high and the actual rates are low. So, we have a lot of cushion. The bound rates, what we have, is actually low. So, whenever they ask us to reduce it, we have a cushion, and we can just adjust it. So, from that point of view, I do not have much of a fear. The only point is how to remove the trade disparity regarding domestic support.

I fully agree with the hon. Minister that there must be reciprocity in market access. Now, the point is how to ensure parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies. I hope, the hon. Minister would just try to ascertain from the developed countries not only about the elimination of all forms of export subsidies but also

with a credible end date. In the Doha Declaration, 31st December, 2001 was the end date. But where is that 31st December, 2001? Today, we are in December, 2005. Four years have already passed in the meantime.

So, hon. Minister must ensure that there is an end-date and there should be convergence of some elements of discipline with respect to export credits, export credit guarantees and insurance programmes.

My next point is with regard to the identification of special products. That is one of the major points of mine. It should have some special mechanism; we are having altogether about 695 agricultural products; it has to be identified by the Government that of these 695 agricultural products we have, which are those specific products which will be endangered, if we enter into agricultural negotiation with other countries. The Government must ensure that and they must find it out.

The next point is this. My suggestion to the hon. Minister is that in India, in order to compete globally in the agricultural field, we must modernise agriculture. The investment in agriculture must be substantial - both public and private investments. Fifty to sixty crops should be identified; they should be protected because they are related to the livelihood of the people of this country. So, there should be absolutely no compromise on those 50-60 crops.

The farmers of this country should be taken into confidence. The hon. Minister must negotiate; he must talk to the farmers in different parts of this country, to ascertain which are those agricultural products which should be protected at any cost.

Take the example of soya bean. Soya bean in Madhya Pradesh is one of the major crops. If there is any compromise on soya bean, naturally, the farmers will be affected. I am giving the example of soya bean, but the hon. Minister should find out which are the other crops which should be protected.

As the hon. Member Shri Panda said sometime back, let us not depend on the conflict between the European Union and the Americans in the WTO. Let us

not hope that they are at cross-purposes and so, we will get some advantage. All of a sudden, some day, we will find that they have come to some compromise or understanding. Let us not go into that; and let us see to it that we have protected our products and we should find that out.

My next point is - it is very important - about special and differential treatment. That was the advantage that we wanted to have and Doha Declaration very specifically mentions about those special and differential treatments. In those special and differential treatments, we have three pillars - domestic support, export competition and market access. The hon. Minister must ensure that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. There are five speakers from the BJP and the time is 30 minutes put together.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : The first speaker from the 10-Member Party took about 25 minutes and you are not giving time for the 145-Member Party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are five speakers from your Party.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : I do not think that they will get an opportunity, since you are saying that within two hours, it should be concluded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude because other hon. Members also may take time.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : With regard to cotton, I want to say something. In order to just protect only 25,000 cotton growers in the USA, four African countries will be ruined. So, there must be some domestic reforms.

To enhance the productivity and efficiency, there must be domestic efforts to reform. These should be ensured.

With regard to the service negotiations, my request to the hon. Minister is that if the developed countries give ambitious offers on MOD-I, that is cross border supply of services such as outsourcing and MOD-IV, movement of the professionals, then only we could come to some sort of negotiations with others.

Environmental negotiation is another vital point. What is environment doing in the trade? Why should environment be brought into trade? Taking this example, all the Western countries have put all sorts of barriers against the products being sent from out country to them. Glaciers are melting, Arctic is melting. In such a devastating environmental situation, USA is not signing the Kyoto protocol. They still say that they will try to bring in environmental angle to these trade negotiations, which we very strongly object to.

What measures are being taken to integrate small and vulnerable economies into the multilateral trading system without creating a sub category of WTO members? That is one of the questions I would put to the hon. Minister. He should try to ascertain it. How to ensure the increase of flow of technology to the developed countries? The flow of technology is one of the major points which was raised in the Doha Declaration. Has anybody ensured as to whether there has been any flow of technology or there has been any increase in trade-related technology assistance. That was also one of the areas which could have been dealt with. How to bring about meaningful integration of LDCs into multilateral trading system? How to ensure it? In order to integrate the least developed countries into the multilateral system, there must be skill development and capacity building among those countries and to secure adequate level of funding for trade related capacity building. The hon. Minister must ensure that there must be adequate funding source to the least developed countries. The Minister must ensure adequate funding source by the developed countries.

I must ask another specific question. In Cancun, Pakistanis were saying that theirs' is not an LDC country. They were saying that they were somewhere between the developed and LDC countries. Have they found any such sub category for them? They were demanding that they did not want to be categorised as LDCs with the poor African countries. What has happened to that? I would like the Minister to respond on this.

In Cancun, every day in our hotel where we stayed, I found that India took the lead. The representatives of other countries were coming to our hotel. Representatives from South Africa, Brazil, Argentina and even China used to come to our hotel and India took the lead of G-21 countries.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may leave some points for other speakers also.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : Sir, I am on my last point. I am also a Member of the BAC, which is scheduled at 1500 hours. So, I will have to go.

Late Murasoli Maran made a very valiant effort in Doha. He safeguarded the interest of India but at that time he was alone. In Cancun, India took the lead. I am not saying that you are not doing anything but I would like to know from the principal Party, what efforts has it taken in this regard because we will have to form a group with all these developing countries and even the least developed countries to fight it out because single-handedly it may not be possible on the part of India to fight for it. With these words, I thank you.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (SABARKANTHA): Sir, I rise to speak on this motion regarding the forthcoming ministerial meeting in Hong Kong. At the outset, I must congratulate the Minister of Commerce who had safeguarded the interest of the millions of people and the farmers of this country in the last WTO meeting. Not only that, he has provided even the lead on a number of issues. He has protected our agriculture. He did not enter into any kind of agreement or negotiations which may harm the interest of agriculture, small industry, intellectual property rights. He even protected our traditional knowledge on which a number of countries are doing research and trying to show that there is an original invention. In fact, they are not declaring the name of the country from whom they acquired such a traditional knowledge. This is all for much of the apprehension of the people sitting on my right who have always raised some doubts. I am also very happy that the principal Opposition Party has done some constructive things today. They have not spent their time in disrupting the

Parliament. So, I am really happy and hope that they would adopt this approach for the remaining days of the Session.

As you know, there are a number of issues which will be discussed in the forthcoming meeting in Hong Kong. They include Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Market Access, the trade related intellectual property rights, the trade environment and the services sector. A number of points have been made so far but I do not agree with all of them. I think Mr. Prabodh Panda has made a statement that the Minister was to make a reference to a White Paper. But the papers that I have do not mention anywhere that the Minister or the Ministry agreed to come out with a White Paper. I also congratulate the Minister for having a very wide range of consultations with the experts, institutions which are interested in WTO, NGOs which also have a large concern, academic and research institutions, etc. If I am not wrong I think the Left Parties have also submitted some 14-page proposal containing their concerns to the Ministry. If I am not correct, you can correct me. This is what I gathered from the newspaper reports. I am not making much of the points in the sense that some of the points have already been made. In fact, we have been pressurising G-20 and other G-33 countries that the developed countries should reduce their subsidies which include all kinds of subsidies, namely, export, green box and blue box. One of the things which I would like to say to the Minister since they have already given a presentation in the WTO is that the developed countries must reduce this in a very specified time limit which should be five years. The EU countries want more than 10 years or so. I think the developing countries must stick to this time limit which will give them much more leverage for negotiations with the developed countries. I agree with my colleague from Opposition that there are special items which have to be protected as far as agriculture is concerned. You know very well that this country is highly dependent on agriculture. Our growth rate also depends on agriculture because with the good monsoon the purchasing capacity of the farmers increases and as a result the economy also gets a boost. Now any negotiations

which may harm or may be detrimental to our agriculture and its progress in the country should be avoided. It is because agriculture labour and all other sectors are solidly dependent on agriculture alone. Take the example of myself.

I hail from a artisans' community that includes people involved in professions like carpentry, building houses and such other things. The success of these professions are largely inter-dependent. The profession of one class of people of artisans flourish if the other related artisan groups are flourishing. One group gets work from another group. Their whole livelihood depends on having a good monsoon. A good monsoon brings good income to them in particular and to the rural economy in general. I am sure the future of these groups of people are safe in the hands of our very able Commerce Minister and he would negotiate in the best possible manner keeping their interest in view. I do not have much to say on the agriculture sector as such. All that I would like to submit is that we should stick to our position and stand that the Government has taken along with other developing countries of the world.

Sir, as far as accessing the non-agriculture market is concerned, it has rightly been said that it is not just one market as such, but the market of the entire developing countries of the world. It has been mentioned here as to whether we should think ten times before agreeing to lower our tariff on the bound items and as well as on bringing new items into the binding. I do not think we should be ashamed of saying, 'yes, we do have a high tariff'. It is because we want to push our domestic market and our domestic industries. But here a delicate balance has to be struck. On the one hand we would have to protect our agriculture and on the other hand we would have to see that our agricultural products get exported to other countries as well. A very delicate balance would have to struck while negotiating or making a presentation on this issue. We have to see how best it can be done with the G-20 countries and other developing countries of the world. I think, such a decision should best be left to the Commerce Minister because it

would certainly depend on what kind of a situation will arise there on account of presentations being made by Ministers of other countries.

Sir, in regard to the service sector it has been stated that we need free flow of professional and intellectuals and the countries should open their borders if they want to access this market. I feel there would be much more pressure on us because of this. It is because the developing countries see in our country a tremendous possibility and opportunity for them in this regard. That is why we are likely to face a lot of pressure from those countries for opening up our market and lowering our tariff on their goods in this country as well as agricultural produce. I just wonder if such a thing happens and if a dairy industry enters the State of Gujarat, then the entire milk-cooperative of the State would simply collapse. We should stick to our stated position. It is because the interest of the country as a whole is supreme. By remaining within the framework of WTO we have to find out ways as to how best we could serve the interest of our farmers, intellectuals, small industries, artisans and so on. I think, that is what has to be negotiated. I am sure, the hon. Minister concerned is capable of doing that. I wish him success. He will bring good news when he came back from there and would certainly apprise us as to what had transpired in that conference in Hong Kong.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGHLY): Sir, this is a brief opportunity to express our views. Rather it is very brief. Even in a *pyjama* cricket, you have a certain number of overs by which you can plan your programme. But in this one and a half hours, I do not know how to start bowling and how to do the batting. Without wasting time, I shall directly come to the points.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): They are changing the rules of cricket now.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Is it that new rules are being framed in this one and a half hours?

This opportunity has given me some scope to make some observations on the situation and also make some suggestions as briefly as possible.

The Sixth Ministerial Conference is offering opportunities and also challenges and we should see as to how best we can use the opportunities and meet the challenges. But, as known to all of us, in this unequal world, equitable, non-discriminatory, multilateral trading system is a distant goal. From Cancun to Doha, when it was salvaged from total disaster, hopes have been raised. Just like a millennium development round, it was hoped Doha will provide opportunities for the developing and under-developed countries to develop and come at par with others and trade will offer that opportunity to develop like in poverty alleviation and all such measures. But as is shown in all this period, in this inequitable discriminatory unilateral world, it is not to be like that. What is happening? Commitments are being interpreted; confusion is being created; developed countries are backing out systematically with a pattern and promises are not being kept. If I have to sum up as to what is going to happen in Hong Kong, on the final draft that has come out, our hon. Minister has rightly commented that it is disappointing. Even Pascal Lami has been working out the arithmetic as two-third or something like that. But it all depends on how this World Trade Organisation itself and the deliberations particularly in Hong Kong are taken by the developing countries like the US and the EU. It is because the core issue is agriculture and at the central stage is the issue of farm subsidy, reduction of domestic support and export subsidy which the developed countries are evading in newer and newer dubious and innovative ways like from the Green Box to the Blue Box and from the Blue Box to somewhere else.

I suggest that some clarification should be sought on this concept of Green Box as to what do you mean by that. The original meaning is, when you are shifting from the Blue Box to the Green Box, you are availing the opportunity. On the one hand, they are reluctant to reduce the farm subsidy, domestic support and export subsidy which is huge as a result of which agriculture in different

developing countries of the world are going to be ruined if the July package is to be taken into account. They are dragging their feet on the subsidy issue. On the other hand, they are very aggressive on the issue of industrial tariff and services. Now, we have got to be very cautious about agriculture and I have some suggestions to make.

Removal of Quantitative Restrictions was done and it may be said that, within the WTO framework, we cannot reintroduce Quantitative Restrictions. I will give you one example of textiles and clothing. The quota system is persisting and with certain sorts of newer explanations, this is being continued. Why can it not be done like this? You know that as far as India is concerned, agriculture is not commercial as such. It is our livelihood and it is sustenance agriculture. On special products in terms of food security and rural economy, we must have autonomous selection of such rights as has been demanded by G-33 and we are a party to it.

The inequities and the imbalances that are there in the July Package should be sought to be removed as best as possible. I believe that the instrument of quantitative restriction is one such and removal of that quantitative restriction should be there. One can say that it is not compatible with the WTO framework and all that. But this is, in practice, continuing.

With regard to the special safeguards issue, particularly the special products issue and with regard to the NAMA, our suggestions will be that instead of the line-by-line stipulation, the average should be taken as the yardstick. After all, any commitment made to the WTO is irreversible.

About the bound-rate, if we make such a commitment of line-by-line stipulation, at a point of time, we will lose the autonomous right to go beyond that stipulation. In such a situation, the average - earlier also that was there - should be taken as the yardstick. We should not succumb to the western pressure. There is the pressure of the developed countries which are always playing a game to spit on the developing nations. It has been rightly mentioned that the Least Developed

Countries sometimes feel let out, they are being ignored. In such a situation, what is happening? In the name of giving certain concessions to the Least Developing Countries, the developed countries are playing a very dirty game to divide the developing countries among themselves also between the developing countries and the Least Developing Countries.

About the Services Sector, as is known, India is most interested in MODE-I, that is, cross border terrorism including the BPO and, also, of course, MODE-IV - Movement of the Natural Persons. We do find that several measures are standing in our way to take away the opportunities of the emerging economy, particularly the Free Movement of the Natural Persons, in the form of visa regulation and so many other things. Had I the time, I would have elaborated on them. It is known to you all.

About the Offer List, we have already made a suggestion that water, health and education should never be allowed to be incorporated in the List.

About the Financial Services, occasionally we find that the very important people, particularly the US and of course, the EU, are saying that India should open up its financial services sector. There is too much of pressure in the insurance and banking sectors. The previous Governments, in certain notifications, made certain things. For example, I can mention one or two things. In the name of sickness, the foreign banks can acquire 74 per cent of the equity in the private banks. It is a dangerous proposition. So also is the raising of the cap in respect of insurance.

There is privatisation of water. We do have our experience of Delhi and the surrounding places. We know how the foreign companies can play havoc with the life of the people in dealing with drinking water. So, it should never be allowed. There are certain other sensitive areas in the services sector like *quid pro quo*, trade-offs etc. Certainly, we have our demands in the areas of MODE-I and MODE-IV. But that does not mean that we shall compromise in such a manner

that our other areas will suffer immensely and there will be damage to our basic culture, ethos and basic foundations of our economy and all these things.

I shall conclude with certain words of caution. What happens in the negotiations is the main thing. Sometimes, promises are made. I do not know whether he is in a mood to make any promise. But there are certain dos and don'ts. Certain 'don'ts' are even after the allurements and the pressures. We should not surrender in terms of, say, for example, our basic needs about agriculture, our food security, our basic industrial needs. You open up and in the name of competition, as it is happening, after the removal of the quantitative restrictions our industries are suffering. The domestic industry is at the receiving end. So, our agriculture is totally different from the agriculture of the developed countries of the world which survive, patronise with huge quantum of subsidy which we cannot afford. Our agriculture is totally qualitatively different. So, taking into account, remembering our situation, our ethos, our condition, our stage of development, nothing should be done. We should learn from the past. There have been compromises; there have been surrenders to pressure. The Government of India, its representatives, had acted in a manner which is really questionable but this Government, this Minister, and this Ministry has taken, I hope, lessons from the past. With the sort of experience and lessons we have drawn from our past experience, we shall be very careful, very cautious not to compromise any of the basic needs of this nation.

With these words I wish him success at Hong Kong. The Minister is here only. I wish the Minister and his delegation a grand success.

श्री मोहन सिंह (देवरिया) : सभापति महोदय, हांगकांग में समृद्ध देशों के मंत्रियों की विश्व व्यापार संगठन के तहत बैठक हो रही है। . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister has to attend the Rajya Sabha also.

श्री मोहन सिंह : महोदय, हम तो वैसे भी बहुत कम बोलते हैं। विश्व व्यापार संगठन में मंत्रियों की बैठक में जाने से पहले भारत के व्यापार मंत्री ने सभी दलों की कल और परसों सभा बुलाई थी और सभी दलों ने अपनी-अपनी राय दी थी। मुझे खुशी है कि संसद को भी विश्वास में लेने की मंत्री जी ने कोशिश की है। मैं जानता हूँ कि भारत का कोई भी व्यापार मंत्री हो, वह किसी भी विश्व व्यापार संगठन में भारत के हितों के खिलाफ काम नहीं करेगा। यह हमारी आंतरिक मान्यता है और इसीलिए हमारी अकेली पार्टी थी, जिसने श्री कमलनाथ की सार्वजनिक तौर पर व्यापार संगठन में उनकी पिछली भूमिका की प्रशंसा की थी। इसी विश्वास के साथ प्रशंसा की थी कि भविष्य में वे इसी तरह से भारत के हितों की हिफाजत करेंगे। दोहा से केनकन तक हमारा अनुभव है कि दुनिया के जितने भी विकसित देश हैं, व्यापारिक दृष्टि से छोटे देशों को बाजार और व्यापार में लूट का हिस्सा बनाना चाहते हैं, इसलिए वैट नैगोशिएशंस के बाद, डब्ल्यूटीओ का हिस्सा बनने के लिए भारत की दसवीं लोकसभा में प्रस्ताव आए थे, तब हम लोगों ने आशंकाएं व्यक्त की थीं कि दुनिया की गरीबी बढ़ेगी और गरीब देश लूट के शिकार होंगे। पूंजीशाही का नया औजार है - डब्ल्यूटीओ। दुनिया के पूंजीवादी देश समझ रहे हैं कि दुनिया को राजनीतिक उपनिवेशवाद के रूप में काबू करके रखना आज की तारीख में संभव नहीं है, इसलिए वित्तीय रूप से गुलाम बना कर रखेंगे

और विश्व बैंक तथा अंतरराष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष की सहमति ले कर, उनके द्वारा दिए गए खाके के अनुसार डब्ल्यूटीओ का ढांचा दुनिया ने स्वीकार किया। हमने दसवीं लोकसभा में सुझाव दिए थे कि दो चीजों पर संकट आ सकते हैं। खास तौर से स्वास्थ्य तथा दवा पर और उसके साथ-साथ कृषि भी है। यदि इन्हें हम विश्व व्यापार के हिस्से से अलग कर दें तो भारत के हितों के अनुकूल होगा।

महोदय, उस समय दी गई चेतावनी आज की तारीख में सही साबित हो रही है। इस संसद में एक बहस होनी चाहिए कि विश्व व्यापार का हिस्सा होने के बाद, डब्ल्यूटीओ का हिस्सा होने के बाद, भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था को क्या लाभ पहुंचा, क्या नुकसान हुआ और इसका एक लेखा-जोखा, एक बैलेंस-शीट, व्हाइट पेपर के रूप में सदन में प्रस्तुत किया जाए और सदन उस पर चर्चा करे, जिससे यह निश्चित कर सकें कि किन-किन क्षेत्रों को हमें विश्व व्यापार का हिस्सा नहीं बनने देना चाहिए।

सभापति महोदय, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप अपने अनुभव से देख सकते हैं कि विश्व बैंक ने नई अर्थव्यवस्था का जो मूल्यांकन किया है उसके अनुसार दुनिया की 6 अरब आबादी में से 2 अरब आबादी गरीब, भिखमंगी, नंगी और भूखी है और उनके अनुसार इसमें से सबसे अधिक आबादी, तकरीबन 60 करोड़, अकेले चीन और हिन्दुस्तान में बसती है।

महोदय, हमारे वित्त मंत्री कहते रहे हैं कि हमारे देश की अमीरी बढ़ रही है और अपनी पीठ ठोकते रहे हैं। हम अपनी तरफ से कहते हैं कि अगर हम अपने देश की जो आमदनी है, जो पूंजी है वह 8 अथवा 10 प्रतिशत के हिसाब से बढ़ाएं, तो हम इतने समय के बाद दुनिया के विकसित देशों में शामिल हो जाएंगे। हमारे वित्त मंत्री बहुत प्रसन्नता के साथ कहते हैं कि अब अमरीका, जापान और जर्मनी की बजाय दुनिया में चीन और हिन्दुस्तान का जमाना आने वाला है, क्योंकि हिन्दुस्तान तरक्की कर रहा है। इसमें हमें कोई ऐतराज नहीं हो सकता है, लेकिन गरीबी के मामले में, बीमारी के मामले में और भूमिहीनों के मामले में भी हमारा देश तरक्की कर रहा है। यह भी एक सच्चाई है। इस पर भी हमें सोचना चाहिए।

महोदय, हमारे देश में कृषि लगातार डेढ़ फीसदी से दो फीसदी के हिसाब से घटती जा रही है। हमारे देश की अर्थव्यवस्था में कृषि की हिस्सेदारी लगातार कम हो रही है। उसके क्या कारण हैं ? मौसम भी ठीक हो रहा है, प्रति हैक्टेयर किसान के निवेश में भी वृद्धि हो रही है, लेकिन प्रति हैक्टेयर उपज में कमी आ रही है ? उसका एक प्रमुख कारण है कि जो विदेशी उर्वरक, पैस्टीसाइड्स और विदेशी बीज है, वह हमारी परिस्थितियों के अनुकूल नहीं है। हमारे देश की प्रति

हैक्टेयर उपज में कमी के लिए उसका बहुत बड़ा रोल है और यही कारण है कि हमारे देश में प्रति हैक्टेयर उपज में लगातार कमी हो रही है।

महोदय, इसी सदन में, लोक सभा में, मैंने एक सवाल किया था कि अपने देश के उर्वरक के कारखाने बन्द कर के बाहर से उर्वरक आयात करने का क्या औचित्य है ? उस ओर से, सदन में प्रधान मंत्री महोदय की ओर से दिए गए जवाब पर मुझे आश्चर्य हुआ, जब उन्होंने कहा कि अपने देश में उत्पादित यूरिया महंगा पड़ता है और विदेश से मंगाना सस्ता। इसलिए हमारे लिए अपने उर्वरक कारखानों को चलाने से अच्छा है कि हम विदेश से यूरिया आयात करें। यही सोच हमारे देश की कृषि को मार रही है।

महोदय, दुनिया के अलग-अलग देश, अपने-अपने संगठन बनाकर अपने हितों की रक्षा में जुटे हुए हैं। किसी ने 'आसियान' के नाम पर, किसी ने 'यूरोपियन कॉमन मार्केट' के नाम पर संगठन बना लिए हैं और वे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मंचों पर सामूहिक तौर पर संघर्ष करते हैं। वे किसी भी कीमत पर अपने देश में दी जाने वाली कृषि की छूट और एक्सपोर्ट सब्सिडी में किसी भी तरह की कोई कटौती करने वाले नहीं हैं। इसलिए स्वयं उनके देशों में इस बात पर तनाव है। ब्रिटेन के अंदर तूफान उठ रहा है कि हमारे देश में कृषि क्षेत्र में जो सब्सिडी है, वह बेल्जियम और जर्मनी के मुकाबले कम है। यूरोपियन कॉमन मार्केट के देशों में इस बात पर संघर्ष होता रहता है कि सब्सिडी का जो रूप पोलैंड, बेल्जियम और जर्मनी में है, यदि उसे कम नहीं किया गया, तो ब्रिटेन की खेती प्रभावित होगी, लेकिन जब ये देश अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मंचों पर बात करते हैं, तो ठीक इसके विपरीत

तर्क देते हैं। दूसरे देशों के अंदर सब्सिडी घटाने पर जोर देते हैं, लेकिन अपने देश के अंदर सब्सिडी घटाने का विरोध करते हैं। मुझे खुशी है कि हमारे देश ने, दुनियाभर के दबाव के बावजूद, अमरीका के राष्ट्रपति के भारत आगमन के बावजूद, किसी ऐसी स्वीकृति पर हस्ताक्षर नहीं किए जिससे देश के हितों पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़े।

महोदय, मैं आशा करता हूँ कि हम लोगों की पहले से जो राय है, उस पर मंत्री जी विचार करते हुए, जैसे पहले की बैठकों में उन्होंने भारत के हितों की हिफाजत के लिए संघर्ष किया है, उसी प्रकार हांगकांग में होने वाली बैठक में भी वे भारत के हितों को पेश करेंगे और उनकी रक्षा करेंगे। उसी मजबूती के साथ हमारे हितों की हिफाजत करेंगे। मेरा दूसरा सुझाव यह है कि हमारे देश की कृषि के ऊपर जो विदेशी आक्रमण है, उसकी हिफाजत के लिए इस देश की संसद और सरकार क्या करे, इस बैठक के बाद उस पर यहां विचार होना चाहिए। सरकार को अपनी राय इस संसद के अंदर देकर सांसदों के सुझाव लेने चाहिए। इन्हीं चंद सुझावों के साथ मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, there is a request from the hon. Minister. He will reply after the speech of Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav, because he is otherwise busy. So, if the House agrees, I have no objection.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have all given notices and are awaiting our turn to speak. How can he reply to the debate now?. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, if the House so desires, what I could do is, I will go to Rajya

Sabha, make my statement there, finish with clarifications and then come back to reply here.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Yes, that is the best thing.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (PURI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, all the parties should participate in the debate and then only he can reply.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: That is exactly what I am saying.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the House agrees, he can go to Rajya Sabha and return for giving reply here.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not good. Whenever the House has taken up a discussion on a subject, the Minister should not have a discussion on the same subject in the other House. That is not proper. He cannot be present in both the Houses at the same time.

Mr. Minister, you can entrust the responsibility of making notes of points made by Members to your Minister of State and go to Rajya Sabha, but the reply must be given by you. We have no objection to your going to Rajya Sabha now. The sentiments expressed in the House must be reflected in the Hong Kong Conference also.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How did it happen? When an important discussion is there in this House, if the concerned Minister is not present in the House, it is not a good thing.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (PALANI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, an assurance has been given in the House that the Tamil Nadu issue would be taken up at 4 o'clock. So, it should be taken up at 4 o'clock. . (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, it is agreed.

Mr. Devendra Prasad Yadav, you may speak now.

श्री देवेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव (झंझारपुर) : सभापति महोदय, आज हांग-कांग की बैठक में जाने से पहले, सर्वोच्च सदन में WTO पर जो चर्चा हो रही है, यह विषय केवल राष्ट्रीय महत्व का नहीं है, बल्कि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मंच पर अपने राष्ट्र के व्यापक हित और दुनिया के विकासशील देशों के हितों को भी रखने की बात है।

सभापति महोदय, अभी तक जो बहस हुई है - चाहे दोहा हो या केनकन हो, उसमें खास कर कृषि मुख्य बिन्दु रहा है। केन्द्र बिन्दु, कृषि का मुद्दा हरेक वार्ताओं में केन्द्र में रहा है, चाहे दोहा हो या केनकन की वार्ता हो। इस पूरे सौदे की बजाए कोई सौदा न हो, वह ज्यादा बेहतर है। मैं यह राय इसलिए देना चाहता हूं, क्योंकि देश के व्यापक हित में ऐसा कोई समझौता न हो, जिसमें हमारे देश के हितों के साथ कोई समझौता हो जाए। WTO के, खास कर एग्रीकल्चर नेगोसिएशन में जो मुद्दे हैं, उनमें तीन प्रमुख मुद्दे हैं - डोमेस्टिक सपोर्ट, मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइस, मार्केट एक्सेस और एक्सपोर्ट कम्पीटिशन। इसमें खासकर विश्व में जो भी किसानों की संख्या होगी, लेकिन हमारे देश भारत के किसानों की संख्या सबसे अधिक है। भारत में 65 करोड़ से अधिक लोग किसान हैं, गरीब लोग हैं, खेती करने वाले लोग हैं, उनकी आजीविका कृषि पर आधारित है, भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था किसानों पर ही निर्भर है। भारत में प्रति कृषक परिवार मुश्किल से 100-125 रुपये सब्सिडी मिलती है, जबकि अमेरिका अपने किसानों को इण्डियन करेन्सी में लगभग 21 हजार रुपये प्रति कृषक परिवार सब्सिडी देता है। यह सब्सिडी इनपुट्स के नाम पर, इम्प्लीमेंट्स के नाम पर तथा फूड आदि के नाम पर दी जाती है, लेकिन अमेरिका अपने देश में सब्सिडी को कम नहीं करना

चाहता। ऐसी स्थिति में जो अमेरिका जैसे विकसित देश हैं, वे विकासशील देशों में अपना मार्केट बनाना चाहते हैं, हिन्दुस्तान जैसे विकासशील देशों को इण्टरनेशनल मार्केट बनाना चाहते हैं, यह मूल सवाल है। मैं इसीलिए इस बात पर जोर देना चाहता हूँ कि अमेरिका जैसे देश का अनाज जब भारत में उपलब्ध होगा तो वह सस्ती दर पर होगा। भारत के मूल्य से वह सस्ती दर पर उपलब्ध हो जायेगा, क्योंकि वहां बहुत ज्यादा सब्सिडी है। सब्सिडीयुक्त अमेरिका और यूरोपीय संघ का अनाज भारत में आता रहेगा तो भारतीय कृषि उत्पादन के मुकाबले में वह उत्पाद सस्ता हो जायेगा। इससे निश्चित रूप से भारत के किसानों की आजीविका पर कुप्रभाव पड़ेगा, इसीलिए भारत के दरवाजे विदेशी कृषि उत्पादन के लिए, फूड प्रोडक्ट्स के लिए नहीं खोलने चाहिए। भारत को विदेशी अनाज पर काउण्टर वेलिंग ड्यूटी लगानी चाहिए। मैं इसीलिए मांग करना चाहता हूँ, इस पर स्ट्रैस देना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि पिछली बार जब दोहा में डिक्लेरेशन हुआ था और दोहा के बाद कैनकुन में मैं क्या कहा गया: "The key concern of India in agriculture has been adequately safeguarded in the Declaration." सेफगार्ड क्या हुआ, वह मैं बताना चाहता हूँ, जो बहुत ही कौतुक है। "We commit ourselves to comprehensive negotiations and add substantial improvements in market.reduction with a view to phase out all forms of export subsidy and substantial reduction in trade distorting domestic support." ट्रेड डिस्टोर्टिंग डोमेस्टिक सपोर्ट किसे कहा गया है, जो भारत मिनिमम सपोर्ट प्राइस अपने किसानों को देता है, जो हमारे यहां समर्थन मूल्य है, उसे ट्रेड डिस्टोर्टिंग डोमेस्टिक सपोर्ट कहा गया है। यह भाषा है, यह डैफिनीशन

दोहा में हुई। कैनकुन में बहुत जोर लगाया, लेकिन खोदा पहाड़ निकली चुहिया, मैं श्री मुरासोली मारन जी को बहुत धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ, अब तो वे दिवंगत हो गये, उन्होंने कैनकुन में भारत के पक्ष को मजबूती से रखा था। लेकिन उसका रिजल्ट क्या आया, उसका रिजल्ट नहीं आ पा रहा है। कहीं न कहीं सांप 1991 में बिल में घुस गया, अब हमें इस बात को कहने में कोई हर्ज नहीं है कि हम लोग लाठी पीट रहे हैं। सांप जब अन्दर घुस गया तो हम ऊपर से लाठी मार रहे हैं तो सांप को लगेगी क्या?

डब्लू.टी.ओ. में हमारे देश के व्यापक हितों को कैसे संरक्षित किया जाये, कैसे सेफगार्ड किया जाये, यह बहुत जटिल सवाल है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इसके लिए देश को, संसद को, करोड़ों लोगों को और विकासशील देशों को खड़ा होना होगा। सभी को अभी भी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मंच पर एकजुट होने की जरूरत है। इसीलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि कई तरह के दरवाजे खुल गये हैं, जैसे क्वाण्टीटेटिव रैस्ट्रिक्शंस उठा ली गई हैं, बहुत ज्यादा रास्ते पहले निकाल लिए कि हम लोगों का कैसे एक्सप्लायटेशन किया जाये, इसका इन्तजाम पहले से किया हुआ है। इसीलिए मैं इस बात को कहना चाहता हूँ कि अब इस तरह के शब्द का इस्तेमाल कि ट्रेड डिस्टोर्टिंग डोमैस्टिक सपोर्ट एम.एस.पी. को माना जायेगा। आज एम.एस.पी. नहीं मिलने के कारण हिन्दुस्तान के हजारों किसान आत्महत्याएं करते हैं। कैश क्राप वाले किसान, जहां कपास पैदा होती है, जहां गन्ना पैदा होता है, हम उनको लाभकारी मूल्य नहीं दे पाते।

हिन्दुस्तान की स्थिति यह है कि किसानों को आत्महत्या करनी पड़ती है। यह शर्मनाक बात है। आजादी के 57 साल बाद भी हिन्दुस्तान के किसानों को लाभकारी मूल्य न मिलने के कारण आत्महत्या करने की नौबत आ जाती है। यह कोई छिपी बात नहीं है, फिर चाहे कोई भी सरकार हो। ऐसी घटनाएं घट रही हैं, यह चिन्ता का विषय है। मैंने शुरू में ही अपने सम्बोधन में कहा कि बुरा समझौता नहीं हो तो बेहतर होगा। बुरा समझौता नहीं होने से कोई बड़ी बात नहीं होगी। बुरे समझौते के बजाय देश के व्यापक हितों को संरक्षित किया जाना चाहिए। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि बाहर से जो अनाज आए, उस पर काउंटर विलिंग ड्यूटी लगाने की जोरदार वकालत विश्व मंच पर होनी चाहिए।

हम कम्पीटीशन में कैसे उतरेंगे? एक सब्सीडाइज़ अनाज है, जो विदेशी मुल्कों द्वारा उत्पादित है, जो अमरीका द्वारा उत्पादित है, वह हमारे देश की मार्किट में आकर हिन्दुस्तान को विदेशी अनाज का डम्पिंग ग्राउंड बनाएगा। यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बात है। हम अपने देश को विदेशी कृषि उत्पादन का डम्पिंग ग्राउंड नहीं बनने देंगे, इस प्रकार का दृढ़ संकल्प लेने की जरूरत है। यदि ऐसा हो गया तो करोड़ों किसानों की आजीविका पर खतरा उत्पन्न हो जाएगा। उनके पेट पर खतरा उत्पन्न हो जाएगा। भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था किसान और कृषि पर निर्भर करती है, इसीलिए मैंने इस बात का जिक्र किया।

जहां तक प्रतिस्पर्धा का सवाल है, जिसमें मार्किट एक्सेस आता है। यह मार्किट एक्सेस क्या है? इसका मतलब है कि आप मार्किट में विदेशी अनाज के

लिए खुली छूट दे दीजिए। हम अपने कृषि उत्पादन को सीमा से अधिक सब्सिडी नहीं दे सकते हैं, केवल एक सीमा तक ही सब्सिडी दे सकते हैं। उससे ज्यादा नहीं दे सकते हैं। डब्ल्यूटीओ कहता है कि आपकी जो सब्सिडी है, उसे प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक बनाइए। विकासशील देश अपनी सब्सिडी घटाएं। उसे विकसित देशों के कम्पीटिशन में उतारें और हमें खुली छूट दें। इसका क्या अंजाम होगा, मैं इसका छोटा सा उदाहरण देना चाहता हूं। अभी भारत में गेहू का समर्थन मूल्य 620 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल है। डब्ल्यूटीओ कह रहा है कि इसे 60 से 70 प्रतिशत तक घटाइए। 620 रुपये में से यदि 60 प्रतिशत घट जाएगा तो कितना बचेगा? केवल ढाई या पौने तीन सौ रुपये ही प्रति क्विंटल गेहू का दाम होगा। वे कह रहे हैं कि ढाई सौ रुपये ही एमएसपी दीजिए। इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि किसानों की आत्महत्या को और बढ़ावा दीजिए। आंध्र प्रदेश हो या भारत का कोई भी प्रदेश जहां पर भी कैंश क्रॉप होता है, वहां आत्महत्या को और बढ़ावा दीजिए। यह प्रस्ताव बहुत ही खतरनाक है। पांचवें मंत्री स्तरीय सम्मेलन में कहा गया था कि इसे आगे ठीक किया जाएगा। लेकिन अब छठा सम्मेलन हांगकांग में होने जा रहा है, उसमें यह कैसे ठीक होगा, क्योंकि यह प्रस्ताव ही खत्म नहीं हुआ है। देश के व्यापक हित के लिए अडने की जरूरत है। दृढसंकल्प लेकर अपने देश के पक्ष में खड़े होने की जरूरत है।

सिंगापुर में जो व्यापार समझौता हुआ था, उसमें सेवा व्यापार समझौते को लेकर सरकारी खरीद के मुद्दे का भारत ने जोरदार विरोध किया था। इस विरोध के कारण लम्बी लड़ाई के बाद उपरोक्त मुद्दे को सिंगापुर वार्ता से बाहर कराया जा

सके। लेकिन अब हांगकांग वार्ता में क्या हो रहा है। हांगकांग वार्ता के प्रारूप में सरकारी खरीद, जिसपर इतनी बहस होती है, तीन-तीन, चार-चार दिन हाउस नहीं चलता, उसमें सतर्कता बरतने की जरूरत है। हांगकांग वार्ता के प्रारूप में सरकारी खरीद को फिर से शामिल करने का प्रयास किया जा रहा है। इसलिए मैं सरकार को इस बारे में भी सतर्क और सावधान करना चाहता हूँ कि समझौते के प्रारूप में जो चालाकी से, पिछले दरवाजे से उसे शामिल करने का प्रयास किया जा रहा है, जिसे पहले से ही सिंगापुर में एजेंडे से बाहर कर दिया गया था। इसलिए भारत को अपने स्टैंड पर अड़ना चाहिए और जो पिछले दरवाजे से सेवा व्यापार समझौते को शामिल करना चाहते हैं, उनका जोरदार विरोध करना चाहिए।

हांगकांग की बैठक में सरकार का पक्ष रखने वाणिज्य मंत्री, श्री कमलनाथ जी जा रहे हैं। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि किसी भी कीमत पर फूड सिक्युरिटी से और देश के किसानों की बुनियादी समस्या, बुनियादी हित या एमएसपी को कम करने करने के सवाल पर कोई समझौता नहीं होना चाहिए और खासकर फूड सुरक्षा मामले में भी सरकार को प्राथमिकता रखनी चाहिए।

मैं इस सम्मेलन की सफलता की कामना करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri C. Kuppusami. You please take only two minutes.

SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI (MADRAS NORTH): Sir, I rise to take part, on behalf of my Party, the DMK, in the Discussion on the forthcoming 6th Ministerial Conference of WTO to be held at Hong Kong.

Sir, the House may recall the contributions made by our beloved leader, our former Commerce Minister, late Thiru Murasoli Maran for whom not only our

State of Tamil Nadu but the entire country is proud of, in the WTO deliberations, at Doha Round, wherein he not only convinced the developing world for safeguarding the Agriculture interests and labour interests of the Third world countries but the developed countries also and turned around the WTO discussion in favour of countries like India and other developing ones. Our former Commerce and Industry Minister, Thiru Murasoli Maran who had represented India at the Doha round, despite his ill health, as he went to attend the Conference after his heart surgery, protected and safeguarded the agriculture interests and labour interests of our country.

I would urge upon the present hon. Minister, Thiru Kamal Nath also to leave no stone unturned to protect India's interests in the negotiations.

India is predominantly an agriculture country and our economy is based on agriculture. The interests of the agriculturists should be safeguarded. The public distribution system should be strengthened instead of dismantling it. Similarly, the policy of giving subsidy and providing minimum support price for most of the commodities should be continued. Land reforms and land for the tillers should be continued and should not be given a go by. On the labour front, the interests of labour should be protected as unemployment is increasing day by day. Collective bargaining power should be retained and minimum guarantee should be provided to labours who are in formal and informal sectors.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, there is a request from the hon. Minister. He wants to reply to the Calling Attention moved by Dr. Chinta Mohan now. If the House agrees, then I will allow him to reply to the Calling Attention and then this Discussion under Rule 193 can continue. What is the sense of the House? If the House agrees, then I will allow the Minister to speak.

. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL (ERANDOL): No, Sir. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI B. MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Sir, we have to participate in the Discussion under Rule 193 and to give our views. . (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a matter concerning the flood situation in Tamil Nadu.

. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN : Sir, the entire Madras is marooned. People are going by boat from one street to another. It is a very serious situation. .

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nobody can speak now. The Minister will reply to the Calling Attention.

. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Speeches are over. If the House agrees, I will allow him to reply to the Calling Attention.

. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Sir, the Cabinet Minister should respond to our Calling Attention. . (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you have spoken in the Calling Attention discussion. There should be no further discussion. He will give a reply.

. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : We want the Cabinet Minister to respond. . (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Almost all the hon. Members from Tamil Nadu have taken part in the Calling Attention discussion. You have amply raised the situation that is prevailing in Tamil Nadu. If you agree, the hon. Minister will reply.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : He has already replied. We are not satisfied. . (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: If he has already replied, then what more do you want?

. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : A Cabinet Minister should respond to our Calling Attention.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : We want responsible answers.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want a Cabinet Minister to reply?

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Yes. . (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please be seated. As I understand, this morning you wanted a reply from a Cabinet Minister. The Minister for State has already replied. I presume the Members are not satisfied with that reply. They want a reply from the Cabinet Minister. That is arranged. If you agree, you will have a further reply.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : All right.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : We also want to seek some clarifications.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not now.

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL (ERANDOL): Sir, the 6th International Ministerial Meet of WTO at Hong Kong is going to be held from 13th to 20th of December. As you may be knowing, the 4th and 5th Meets of the WTO at that time were represented by Ministers like Mr. Maran about whom the DMK Party Member had already said what he had done for the country. Similarly in Cancun, Mr. Arun Jaitley was there.

Sir, WTO had failed to arrive at a consensus on certain diversification of issues which were talked earlier in the first three Meets. So, they had emphasised that our country should be saved from the invasion of the European Union as well as from the United States making India as a dumping ground. In fact, the G-20 countries had assembled and got together with the idea that the poor countries should be saved from the rich countries on account of WTO which is going to definitely invade the poor countries.

At present, there are issues on that ground, particularly in three sectors, namely agriculture, industrial goods and services. I am not afraid of the two sectors, particularly the service sector and trade. But agriculture is an important sector in this country. As you know, more than 70 per cent of our people in the country are from the farmers' community. This country's total economy is dependent upon the farmers' livelihood as well as their situation. Therefore, I feel that the representative who is going to represent in Hong Kong from our country should bear in mind that this country has 65 per cent of the farmers and the other

countries, particularly the USA and EU, have only four or five per cent of the farmers.

Therefore, the whole issue lies around farmers. The main thing that he has to consider is as to what we have to export and as to what we have to import. As we know, we cannot import goods that are in ample number or are in plenty in our own country such as wheat, rice or food materials. But we have definitely to import to meet the necessity of the country, namely, oilseeds, oil and to some extent good quality of cotton and other things. We should not have to import things like dairy products and some other products. Therefore, we have to keep in mind that when we import indigenous products and produces from the farmers community are safeguarded and we have also to keep in mind as to what we have to export so to encourage the farmers of the country.

Sir, these are the three areas. Particularly farmers' interests have to be safeguarded. One is that ' गरीब एवं विकसित देश के लिए बनाए गए सुरक्षात्मक उपाय, विशेष एवं अन्तरीय व्यवहार ' that is special and differential treatment, *vishesh utpad*, that is, special product, and *vishesh surakshatmak tantra*, that is, special safeguard mechanism; प्राथमिकता के आधार पर तय किया जाए। उसके बाद ही आगे वार्ताओं में अच्छी तरह से, पिछली दो मीटिंग्स में जो निर्णय लिए गए थे, उन्हें रखा जाना चाहिए। This is very important aspect. EU and USA always inter-mix the subsidy among three categories of areas, namely, Zones - Amber, Blue and Green. They should not be inter-mixing from one zone to another so that they can take the advantage of one zone and another zone because they can shift it to one-another region. Therefore, we should be particular and we should have a definite stand on that ground so that we are not going to lose our grounds of the agriculturists.

Sir, there are three types of main issues. Particularly India can push the EU and the USA for eliminating their domestic and export subsidies. Secondly, what we are going to negotiate is to protect the special products on which livelihood of millions of Indian farmers is depending upon. And the third one as I have already stated is to safeguard the existing special mechanism. These are the three things that I have to say.

SHRI K.S. RAO (ELURU): Sir, in the international agreements, national interest is supreme. No nation is interested to sacrifice its own national interest no matter what type of agreement it enters into with various nationals of the world. If USA and EU and most of the developed countries were to coin some clauses or some agreements, would they be interested in other countries? No. It is only to see that they find their own market. They want to find market for their products. They want to build up all these things.

When it comes to the question of industrial goods, all their love for India and China and the underdeveloped countries is only to find a market for their products. In America, it is said, only two per cent of the people are living on agriculture; while in India, not less than 60 per cent of the people have to survive on agriculture. It is a very serious matter for us. We cannot sacrifice the interests of the farmers in this country by entering into an agreement in a haphazard way or in a hasty manner getting lured by their concessions that they would give some advantage to us in services and industrial products.

16.06 hrs.

(Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan *in the Chair*)

It is said that in USA subsidy is being given to agriculturists in a big way. When they give subsidy to their own agriculturists, naturally they could export their commodities at prices lesser than the price at which we are producing them here. Already my predecessors have stated that since the Minimum Support Price was not remunerative to the Indian farmers we have been reading in the

newspapers that they have been committing suicides. In addition to this, if we were to open up our economy to foreign farm products, the number would be enormous. It would run into thousands or even lakhs. So, we have to protect our farming community first and then think of any other thing.

Why do they restrict Indians from entering America? Today, America is putting a limit on the visas that they give to foreigners. They say, they would allow only 60,000, 70,000 or 100,000 people in a year. If they want free trade, let there be free movement of people also. Our country has got an enormous number of technical manpower. That is our asset. That is our resource. That is the source through which we could earn foreign exchange. That is the source through which our people could live comfortably. They are putting restrictions on a commodity which is available in plenty in our country but they want us to accept everything that comes from there.

We were exporting prawn from this country to America. When they found that it was not in their interests, they coined a new expression, 'anti-dumping duty', and suddenly levied it at 15 per cent on our prawns, which is against all international agreements. So, it became unremunerative for our farming community to raise prawn.

More recently, I read in a newspaper that one of our non-resident Indians, Ms. Neelima, working in a software company in America was being victimised regularly and harassed by her own white colleagues on the ground that they were jealous of outsourced jobs going to India in a big way and also Indians getting jobs in America while the locals were not getting jobs. They were harassing her regularly. While the management agreed that they were harassing her, it could not secure her interests. They have only secured the interests of the local citizens. So, it is common knowledge that national interest is supreme. In our country also, we should feel that the interests of our farming community is supreme.

Tomorrow, if we permit, by reducing tariffs and removing restrictions, free movement of foreign farm products into this country, our agricultural community

would become unemployed. When they become unemployed, where would they find alternative employment? They are all trained for generations to raise farm crops. They cannot be taken to the industrial sector or the services sector overnight.

Then, imagine what will be the situation in this country. It is terrible. So, the hon. Minister must be extremely cautious when he deals with these negotiations, keeping the particular and specific thing available in this country.

Madam, it was said that a thousand years back India was doing one-third of the world trade. Today, it is reduced to about six per cent or even much less than that. It may be because other countries have become more materialistic and we are more spiritualistic and they have taken the advantage. It is not because we lack in intelligence or talent or ability.

Madam, in regard to the farm products, patenting is a surprise sometimes. When we go and read some of our mythology, *neem* tree has played a very vital role. It has become useful in medicines and so many things. Now, you will be shocked to hear that some of the western countries are trying to patent on *neem* which is actually our source of strength for thousands of years. So, likewise, when it comes to the question of farm products, we have to be extremely cautious, safeguarding and asking for special conditions favouring our country, particularly developing countries in regard to agriculture.

When we reach a stage in our country, if people were to depend on agriculture only at two per cent or four per cent growth, then there will be a level playing field, there can be competition and there can be mutual agreement. But conditions are differing from country to country. We cannot accept this. So, I would request the hon. Minister to see this aspect. I am sure that he also made a statement that he would not sacrifice the interests of the farmers and make them unemployed. As has been mentioned by many of the hon. Members that they want to close the discussion early, I do not want to take long time. Once again, I would request the hon. Minister to be extremely cautious, more particularly about

the import of farm products into this country, which will destroy the entire economy of this country because 600 million farmers are dependent on farm products.

16.12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Situation arising out of damage caused by floods due to heavy rains in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and steps taken by the Govt. in regard thereto

MADAM CHAIRMAN : If the House agrees, we can take up the reply of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs. He will reply to the Call Attention raised by Dr. Chinta Mohan. Then, again we can continue this discussion.

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल) : सभापति जी, हमने लगभग सारे पाइंट्स पर रिप्लाई दे दिया था। एक-दो पाइंट्स रह गये थे जिन पर माननीय अनंत कुमार जी स्पष्टीकरण चाहते थे। उनका कहना था कि सीआरएफ, एनसीसीएफ की जो ऐड आती है, उसका फिर से रिवीजन होना चाहिए। मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को बताना चाहता हूँ कि होम-मिनिस्ट्री में एक एक्सपर्ट ग्रूप इस संबंध में बना दिया गया है जिसमें स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के प्रतिनिधि और संबंधित सेंट्रल मिनिस्ट्रीज के विभागों के प्रतिनिधि रखे गये हैं। इस बात पर विचार चल रहा है कि उनकी जो भी रिक्मेंडेशन्स आयेंगी, उनके अनुसार रेट को रिवाइज्ड कर दिया जाएगा। तमिलनाडु के हमारे माननीय सदस्यों की यह मांग थी कि जो फंड या रिलीफ जाती है, उसकी मॉनिटरिंग के लिए, सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से कोई

मॉनिटरिंग कमेटी बननी चाहिए। केन्द्रीय स्तर पर इस तरह की कोई मॉनिटरिंग कमेटी बनाने का प्रावधान नहीं है लेकिन हम उनकी भावनाओं से पूरी तरह से सहमत हैं और हमारे माननीय सदस्यों ने अपनी जो भावनाएं व्यक्त की हैं, हम संबंधित राज्यों को इस बात की सूचना देंगे कि लोक सभा के माननीय सदस्यों की इस तरह की भावनाएं हैं कि कोई मॉनिटरिंग कमेटी बने जिसमें मैम्बर्स पार्लियामेंट, असेम्बली मैम्बर्स, लोकल बॉडी के चेयर-पर्सन हों, जिससे रिलीफ की मॉनिटरिंग अच्छी तरह से हो सके। यह काम राज्यों के हित में होगा। राज्य सरकार जो मानिटरिंग आफिसर्स से कराती है या अपने मंत्रियों के माध्यम से कराती है, मैं समझता हूं कि यदि एमपीज और एमएलएज की एक एडीशनल कमेटी बना दी जाए, तो मानिटरिंग का काम ज्यादा अच्छी तरह से हो सकता है। इस तरह की संबंधित रिक्मंडेशंस संबंधित राज्यों को भेज दी जाएंगी। मैं समझता हूं कि सारे इश्यूज क्लियर हो चुके हैं और सारे क्लेरिफिकेशंस आ चुके हैं।

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY (SRIPERUMBUDUR): Madam, in my Calling Attention I raised the point about the fourth spell of rain. It was not responded to by the hon. Minister. Because of this fourth spell of rain, there were damages which spoiled the entire Kanchipuram, Tiruvallur and Chennai districts and also other districts of Tamil Nadu. I want to know how much fund the Central Government has allocated and how much it is going to allocate to the State. This should be enlightened.

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu was saying day before yesterday in a Press statement that the Central Government have not pumped any funds from the Central Government. There is a misuse of funds in the State. We have a bad

experience earlier in the case of tsunami. Already they constituted the Monitoring Committee including with MPs and MLAs. There was no effect through this Committee. Not even one meeting was convened. So, we asked the hon. Minister whether the Monitoring and Vigilance Committee which is already there under the Ministry of Rural Development will monitor the relief fund for the flood affected areas. I want to know this. . (*Interruptions*)

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Again, if everybody starts asking questions, it would be difficult.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : Madam, just a minute please.

Madam Chairperson, we are happy that the hon. Minister of Home Affairs is here and we are also thankful to the hon. Minister of Home Affairs for having undertaken a tour of the affected areas in Tamil Nadu. The moment the message came here, our hon. Prime Minister has sanctioned Rs. 500 crore immediately; rather he spoke to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on his own, and not on a request made by the Chief Minister. The Chief Minister used to rush to the hon. Prime Minister and the Central Government for seeking relief. But on the contrary, the hon. Prime Minister himself spoke to Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

As my hon. friend said, day before yesterday, the Chief Minister was accusing the Central Government of not helping the State.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : If you want to ask anything, then please ask.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : Madam, I am coming to that. We, the Members of Parliament from Tamil Nadu feel that the funds which are sent to the State should be monitored properly and spent properly and they should reach the needy people for which we demanded that a Monitoring Committee is essential by the Members of Parliament and the elected people. There is a system that is already existing. Just now the hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs informed the House that there is no system by which we can form a Committee. But, Madam, the Central Government has already formed a Monitoring Committee and all the centrally sponsored programmes are monitored by the MPs, MLAs and elected

representatives of the districts. This Committee is already there. The MP is the Chairman.

The Central Government is going to send a huge amount of money for the development of Tamil Nadu and to meet the situation. Now, we request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to inform the State Government that this money is to be utilised through the Committee and the MPs and MLAs should be given the opportunity to oversee the implementation also.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Okay, thank you. We are again discussing the same issue. All of you have already spoken on this. Please cooperate.

SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU : Madam, we need the help and patronage from the hon. Minister of Home Affairs because he has seen the tragic situation in Tamil Nadu. Another thing that we request is now the first instalment of Rs. 500 crore has been given. On the hon. Prime Minister's advice and the recommendation of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, a Central Team has toured, surveyed, and submitted a report. Now we are waiting for the Government to come forward to give the maximum relief.

The State Government has asked Rs. 13,000 crore. The hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs has said on the floor of the House that whatever funds are required and asked by the State Government they will be given. I want to categorically know what is the total amount we are going to give to the State and we want our Central Government to give to Tamil Nadu liberally, a substantial amount so that we can rebuild the State. At least a minimum of Rs. 5,000 crore is to be given in the first instance and then after verifying the facts and seeing the reports, then they can give more funds. This is what our requirement is.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (DINDIGUL): Thank you, Madam Chairperson. At the outset, I would like to thank, and convey my appreciation to our hon. Home Minister who had made an aerial survey in Tamil Nadu as soon as he heard about the flood victims.

Madam, I want to mention only two points. Firstly, the beneficiary list of the flood victims should be displayed in every *Taluk* Office Headquarters as also in the concerned Village Administrative Offices.

Secondly, the Public Works Department should contain a display board showing the expenditure incurred, and mentioning about the relief work in vernacular language. These are the two points that I wish to make at this point. Thank you.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR (BANGALORE SOUTH): Thank you, Madam Chairperson. I think that the hon. Minister has attempted to respond to my queries. Now, my only question is regarding the revision of guidelines for the release of CRF. I would like to mention that the CRF guidelines are there only for the drought conditions. Recently, the hon. Prime Minister had announced a Tsunami package and assurances were also given by the hon. Prime Minister, the hon. Home Minister and the hon. Agriculture Minister that they would look into the issue of revision of CRF guidelines.

A Group of Ministers (GoM) has also been constituted by the hon. Prime Minister on this issue in August, and three months' have since elapsed. I want to know this from the hon. Minister. How many of its meetings have been held? Was this matter deliberated upon or not? What revisions did the Union Government formulate on this issue -- if the matter was deliberated -- in order to give relief to the farmers?

Secondly, the hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka had written a letter to the hon. Prime Minister on 12/08/2005 regarding heavy discharge of water from the reservoirs in Maharashtra, especially, from the Koyna Dam. This had happened because there were earthquakes on August 1st and 3rd to the tune of 2 to 3 on the Richter Scale. This was according to the Bhaba Atomic Research Centre.

The hon. Home Minister while replying to the previous Calling Attention moved by me had replied that : "Earth will always be trembling, and there should be no scare in the minds of the people about this issue." I entirely appreciate his

point, but, at the same time, it is a dangling sword on the people of Karnataka, especially, the people living in the downstream five districts of Karnataka, namely, Bijapur, Bagalkot, Belgaum, Raichur, and Gulbarga.

What are the measures being taken by the Union Government, through the Central Water Commission (CWC), so that it can intervene and give instructions to the Maharashtra Government to coordinate about the release of water from the dams, especially, from Koyna Dam and others. I am saying this because it has created an artificial flood like Tsunami in Karnataka.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): Madam, my colleague has replied to many of the questions that were raised by the hon. Members. The Minister makes a statement at the time of moving a Calling Attention Motion. Thereafter, some clarificatory questions are asked, and the replies given. I am sure that he has been able to reply to most of the points, which

have been raised here. I am asked, for the second time to reply, and I am trying to do my best.

In Tamil Nadu, heavy rains have caused a lot of damage. This is the fourth spell of rains, which has occurred there. We are very sorry that the people in Tamil Nadu are suffering because of these rains. We have given Rs. 500 crore as an *ad hoc* grant, and Rs. 86 crore from CRF. But one thing that has to be very clearly understood by the hon. Members is that this is not an amount of money given to the State Government for rehabilitation and reconstruction purposes. This is the amount of money given to the Government for providing relief. Relief means the first step. When it rains, some people suffer. They do not have food; they do not have clothes; they do not have utensils; they need immediate shelter. It is for this purpose that this amount of money has been given to the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has asked for Rs.13,000 crore. That is meant for reconstruction. Reconstruction has to be distinguished from relief. This

amount of money is meant for relief. Let the hon. Members understand this. I repeat, this amount of money is meant for giving relief, not for reconstruction. If Rs.13,000 crore are given by the Union Government, that work will continue for not one year but for two years or even three years. It will take a long time.

What we do from here is, when such calamities occur we give *ad hoc* grants. Rs.500 crore were given to Gujarat; Rs.500 crore have been given to Tamil Nadu; Rs.500 crore have been given to Jammu and Kashmir. These are meant for relief. Let us understand this. These are not meant for rehabilitation. These are meant for relief. Unless we understand the distinction between relief and rehabilitation, we are likely to commit a mistake.

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : We understood that. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether that Rs.500 crore reached the State Government or not. .
(*Interruptions*) Day before yesterday, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu told a reporter that this Rs.500 crore have not reached Tamil Nadu.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. This is not the way to interrupt.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I do not know where are they getting this information from. The Finance Minister comes from Tamil Nadu. On the very next day, I was told, the money was released. I will find out from the Finance Minister. This kind of discussion does not help us.

What we are saying is, Rs.13,000 crore is a very big amount of money. If it has to be given, it will be given. But it cannot be given on the basis of a letter or on the basis of a memorandum. There has to be a plan prepared for that. If roads are damaged, if dams are damaged, if a number of houses have to be constructed, if agricultural land has to be brought back to a condition in which it becomes fertile, plans have to be made. We have asked the State Government, "Please do not worry. Prepare plans and send those plans. We will examine them and we will give you the money which can be given and which is needed".

Let us understand this. Let us not confuse relief with rehabilitation. Once you confuse relief with rehabilitation, then your heart is filled with fear as to how

you would manage this crisis with Rs.500 crore. We are not asking the State Government to manage this kind of a calamity with Rs.500 crore. If you need more money you should come with a regular plan which will be examined and we would like to see.

Only today, myself, the Finance Minister and the Agriculture Minister were sitting together. We have decided to write to the State Government to get the plans without any delay, examine them, and without any delay give them more money. Let us understand this thing. This is the position.

On Karnataka, the Chief Minister of the State, Shri Ananth Kumarji and others met me. They explained to me the difficulties faced by the people. We realise it. Without waiting for any demand coming from there, the Prime Minister went there. The Agriculture Minister also went there. They released nearly Rs.350 crore. Some more money - Rs.80 crore or Rs.90 crore - is also given. That is also for relief and not for rehabilitation. That day in a long discussion we had with hon. Ananth Kumarji and the Chief Minister of the State, I have explained to them that the Government of India is going to be quite sympathetic.

But you do not expect Rs.3,000 crores or Rs.4,000 crores to be given to the States on the basis of a memorandum. It has to come in the shape of a plan or demand. We would examine it and we would give it. This applies to Karnataka also.

Thirdly, a lot of States have suffered. Karnataka has suffered. Tamil Nadu has suffered. To some extent, Kerala has suffered. There was flood in Gujarat. There was flood in Maharashtra. There was flood in Andhra Pradesh. There was flood in other parts also. The total amount of demand is Rs.35,000 crores. Now, if Rs.35,000 crores has to be made available to the State Governments, it should be done on a regular and planned manner. We are asking them to do it.

Fourthly, I come to the CRF. The difficulty with the hon. Members and in my Ministry also is that they think that every assistance which has to be given to the State Government has to come through CRF. It cannot come from CRF because the amount of money which is made available to give to the State Government through this scheme is very limited. Please see as to what kind of money was given in the past. Only Rs.10 crores, or Rs.15 crores or Rs.20 crores or Rs.30 crores were given through CRF, not more than that. But here, this year, we have given Rs.500 crores to each of these States. This money is not coming from CRF. We could not have given this money through CRF. This is an *ad-hoc* grant made by the Government, and for this, we have to go to the Cabinet, and the Cabinet clears it and then the money is given. We have not even waited for the Cabinet clearance also. If the Prime Minister says or if the Finance Minister says, or if others say, ex-post-facto sanction has to be given and we have released this money. So, please do not be under the impression that CRF is helpful in matters like this. The money which can be given under CRF is very limited. . It will not help you even to cover one district also. So, this kind of money cannot cover. If you want to change the norms of this also - we have changed the norms of CRF and other schemes also - again, we have asked a group of officers to look into it as to how it can be changed. But even with the changes in the norms under these schemes, the funds which will be given will not satisfy the demands of the State Governments. They would say as to how can they manage with this. That is why, we have to make extra amount available to them by taking it to the Cabinet. We have looked into the norms which are followed, which are very stringent norms, very small norms, which can help you for a week or a month, and such other things. It cannot help you to reconstruct the houses, to reconstruct the bridges, and to reconstruct the installations which have been broken down. So, money is not going to come from CRF. Money has to be given to the State Government by passing a resolution in the Cabinet and that amount of money is going to be a big money and that is not bound or restricted by the norms of CRF. We have different

criteria applied for this. But if the Members want that it should be looked into, we would look into it. We have once looked into it. . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Especially for the crop loans in the dry land and wet land areas in Karnataka.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: If we give money out of CRF, you will not be able to satisfy the farmers at all. Whatever norms we change, it will not satisfy. That is why, we are looking towards this problem -this is a big calamity - from a different angle. We are saying that we are not bound by the norms of CRF. We are adopting different criteria to help and those different criteria are quiet liberal and that has to be examined by the Planning Ministry, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Agriculture Ministry and the Finance Ministry and then we are going to do it. We will not be giving much more than what can be given under the norms.

As far as the meeting of the MPs, etc. are concerned, the hon. MPs have been very careful in raising this issue. They have personally talked to me. They have raised this issue in this House. They have raised the issue in the other House also. Because of the persuasion of the hon. Members, the Government of India is also very liberally helping the State Governments. In the first instance, at no time, Rs.500 crore were given in the past as an *ad hoc* grant. That is why, we would like to request the State Governments, the Chief Ministers that they should take the hon. MPs and hon. MLAs from those districts which are affected, into confidence. It would be better for them to have a meeting organised and consult the MPs and MLAs as to how the assistance can be given to the people. I have said it on the floor of the House that if it is necessary we will convey this message to the Chief Ministers also. But ultimately, it is for the Chief Ministers to take action. In the federal structure, it would not be very proper for me to issue directives to the Chief Ministers that they should do this thing and that thing. I am sure that having heard what we are saying on the floor of the House, they will take into consideration the views of the elected representatives of the Legislatures as well as the Parliament. Let us see what happens. If it is necessary, I shall write to

the Chief Ministers saying that this is what has been said. Please consult them and please take them into confidence so that they can give some ideas as well as monitor the scheme. This can be properly done because they live in the area, MLAs live in the districts, MPs live in the constituencies. More than anyone else, if it is necessary they would be in a position to supervise what is being done.

As for Tsunami, we have given a lot of money. The Prime Minister has directed as to how the funds would be spent. It should be looked into by the Planning Minister, the Finance Minister and the Home Minister. We would also be keeping a watch on what is being done for that. . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : No work has been done in Tamil Nadu. . *(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN : You should not interrupt like that. That is not the way. . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. KRISHNASWAMY : Nothing has been done under the Rural Development. . *(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: This is not the way. It will not go on record. *(Interruptions)*.*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: This hon. Member is mixing up the two issues. Rural development is different from this.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You can complete your answer. . *(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. This is not the way. *(Interruptions)*.*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The hon. Member has not understood the issue properly. He is confusing the thing. I will explain to him outside the House.

As far as Koyna matter is concerned, please do not spread the scare. Last time also the hon. Member had raised this issue. As far as my information goes, Koyna Dam was built and strengthened and it is in good condition. If you want, I

will ask the Chief Minister or you can talk to the Chief Minister and I will ask him to give you the information about this. . *(Interruptions)*

* Not Recorded.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Nobody is spreading the scare. He is a very senior leader and the hon. Minister. Actually, when Shri Jaiswal was speaking, I read out the letter of the hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka written to the hon. Prime Minister regarding Koyna matter. He has very clearly written :

"The heavy discharge of water from the reservoirs in Maharashtra has resulted in unprecedented floods in five northern districts of Karnataka viz. Belgaum, Bijapur, Bagalkot, Gulbarga and Raichur."

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I am talking about the earthquake. . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : It is further written:

"Koyna Dam for the last two decades has been experiencing recurring earthquakes whose epicentres are either under the dam or very close to it. Two such earthquakes occurred on 1st and 3rd August, 2005."

This is the letter of the Chief Minister written to the Prime Minister. . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: He must have talked to him over phone. . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : It is mentioned:

"On these dates, Koyna dam was completely full and had 97 tmc of water in store. Due to these earthquakes, the dam was reported to have developed some cracks. Further, threatened by the earthquakes and cracks in the dam, Maharashtra resorted to heavy discharges from Koyna Dam resulting in unprecedented floods which inundated Sangli and Kolhapur town, apart from a good number of villages in downstream of Maharashtra and Karnataka."

MADAM CHAIRMAN: This is not the way.
. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI (TIRUCHENDUR): You should permit all Members. . *(Interruptions)*

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You give him the letter afterwards.

. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : He has said:

"We are in an unfortunate situation of suffering unprecedented floods in Karnataka on account of the failure of Government of Maharashtra to regulate the discharge of water from their reservoirs."

This is what the Chief Minister has written. . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: I am not going to reply to all the questions which are not pertinent. I would like to say that people are scared. He has said that the Koyna dam is likely to burst because of the earthquake.

MADAM CHAIRMAN : He is not saying so.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: He did say last time, Madam. I had a tiff with him.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : I never said that it is going to burst. I am only saying, whether the Central Government would intervene and direct the Maharashtra Government through Central Water Commission to protect the Koyna dam.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: Just now, this is not the concerned issue.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : This is the direct cause of the floods in the northern parts of Karnataka.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Moreover, I would like to say that the country of ours is a very big country. Let us not conduct ourselves in such a manner that there would be divisions. I get the letter saying that the Karnataka should not release water, it will flood Tamil Nadu. And now, somebody says that Maharashtra should not release water, it will flood Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

Now, without checking the facts, if he makes a statement like this, it creates dissention. It should be better avoided.

MADAM CHAIRMAN: You are right. Thank you very much.