

Pradesh. This crisis can be guessed by the fact that while daily average consumption of diesel in this region is more than 60 to 70 thousand kiloliters, the daily supply is only 12 thousand kilolitres at present. The supply of electricity in this region is being done only for name sake since last one and a half month. In many district headquarters of this region electricity is not supplied for several hours at a stretched. Sometimes Gazipur city which falls in my constituency faces black out for 8 to 10 hours. On the one hand the power supply, is erratic whereas on the other hand there is crisis of petrol and diesel which has made the farmers desperate. The crops have not been threshed as most of the threshers have closed down because of diesel crisis. Similarly, most of the pump sets have become useless. Thus agriculture has been affected. Diesel operated passenger vehicles have also been affected.

I, therefore, demand that immediate steps be taken to tackle the diesel and petrol crisis in Eastern U.P, particularly in Gazipur district and ensure the sufficient supply of diesel in that region so that the farming activity is not hampered in any way.

[English]

SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY (Adilabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, more than 1,000 villages in my constituency in Adilabad district are affected by severe drought. People are not getting even drinking water, not to talk of water for irrigation. Certain borewells and open wells are already identified and the list is submitted to the Government of India and pending for the last one year. But, so far, not a single paisa has been sanctioned for the borewells. The cattle and domestic animals are already dying of starvation. Our Zilla Praja Parishads and the Mandal Praja Parishads have already passed unanimous resolutions urging the State Government and the Central Government to come out with massive assistance and programmes for drought relief activities in our area. There is no work for labour for the last one year due to drought situation. Some labourers are migrating to neighbouring State- Maharash-

tra - to earn their livelihood and to save themselves from starvation and death. Our district is inhabited mostly by tribals and Scheduled Castes and backward people and they are all suffering because of the neglect of the Government.

I request the hon. Minister of Agriculture, through you, to immediately release Rs. 10 crores for the drought relief programmes like Food for Work programmes etc. to save the starving masses from further sufferings. I also request the Government of India to release Rs. 5 crores immediately for the purpose of sinking bore wells and other wells for drinking water to our people who are mostly tribals and Scheduled caste and backward classes.

I urge upon the Government of India to swing into action immediately and to provide funds for the drought relief works.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to raise a subject of India's most famous wetland, which is internationally famous and which has been made into that of national importance. I refer to Chilka lake. It is the largest lagoon in South Asia and it is the umpire ecosystem and the breeding ground for migratory and resident birds. Apart from that, one lakh of fishermen-folk families numbering half-a-million draw their sustenance from this Chilka lake water-body. Sir, there is a move by the State Government to widen the entrance of the sea water into Chilka lake to ensure that boats can come into a place near Magarmukh.

Sir, deepening and widening of this channel will not only affect the carrying capacity and productivity of this lagoon because some project for prawn cultivation is going to come up in that area. This will affect half-a-million fishermen who are drawing their sustenance and their avocation from that. Apart from that, those dealing with the business of aqua-culture will be affected. Already there are agitations by the fishermenfolk and before an impact analysis on ecology and environment is done by an expert