

[Shri Jagannath Patnaik]

tial independent democracy with much of advancement in field of science and technology we cannot afford to ignore the struggle of fellow beings who are fighting for their basic human needs who are not only lacking in calorie contents but also other basic needs. Our entire planned approach should be aimed at ameliorating their condition so as to bring them above the poverty line within a period of ten years, when we will observe the 50th anniversary of our Independence.

(iv) Need to amend the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes order

SHRI K. KUNJAMBU (Adoor): There have been persistent demands for amending the Scheduled Castes and Tribes order. This is overdue. The present list has created many anomalies. While many ineligible communities have found a place in the list, many deserving communities are still left out. Since reservation and other facilities are the main instrument of their uplift, the communities which are left out live in poverty, due to lack employment opportunities etc. This situation calls for an urgent review of the list.

I, therefore, request the Government to bring suitable amendment to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes order during this Session itself.

(v) Need to replace Godawari Express with two trains— one from Waltair to Hyderabad and the other from Kakinada to Hyderabad

SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA THOTA (Kakinada): Godawari Express starts from Waltair to Hyderabad at 4.00 P.M. with 36 bogies and two engines. The timing of this train is not suitable to the people of this area which is developing very fast into an industrial area. It is, therefore, requested that instead of one train with 36 bogies and two engines, two trains with one engine

and 18 bogies each may be introduced— one from Waltair to Hyderabad and the other from Kakinada to Hyderabad.

I request the Railway Minister to consider the suggestion favourably. This will solve many of the problems of the people of this area.

(vi) Need to establish STD facility at Vakathanam Telephone Exchange in Kerala

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Vakathanam Telephone Exchange was established more than twenty years back, linking it with Kottayam Exchange. There has been practically no improvement in this Exchange during this period. Despite assurances for its expansion in the last four years nothing has been done. In this connection it may be mentioned that there are hundreds of families residing in this Exchange area whose members are working outside India in Gulf countries, USA, Canada, etc. They are earning lot of foreign exchange which is being used for the development of the country. For quick communication with these people in different countries STD facility at Vakathanam Exchange is very essential. As this Exchange is directly connected to a major exchange viz., Kottayam, it will be easier to establish STD facility. I, therefore, request the concerned authorities to take necessary steps to establish STD facility at Vakathanam Exchange.

[Translation]

(vii) Need to include certain projects in Eighth Five Year Plan to provide drinking water to Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur from Indira Gandhi Canal

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your kind permission, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a matter of urgent public importance.

The drinking water problem in the desert

districts of Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur of Rajasthan has assumed an alarming proportion. This problem continues every year due to the lack of rainfall. The State Government has tried to solve this problem of drinking water in hundreds of villages to a great extent by installing tube-wells in the last seven years with their means and with the cooperation of the Central Government but the quantity of water in the tube-wells is not enough for all the towns, villages and hamlets.

For this, the Indira Gandhi Canal is the only proper and permanent solution. The Indira Gandhi Canal has reached Nachna Mohangarh in the Jaisalmer district and Falaudi in Jodhpur district. Work on the Sagar Mal Gopa Branch is going on from Mohangarh to Gadra Road. Schemes for providing drinking water to the cities and rural areas of Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur districts of Rajasthan, from the Pokharan lift Canal, the Falaudi Kolayat lift canal and the Sagar Mal Gopa Branch Canal, which is a flow canal and which is to be extended upto Gadra Road, should be drawn and included in the Eighth Five Year Plan. This is the only permanent solution of drinking water problem in the desert districts. The Central Government should provide a special assistance of Rs. 500 crores for this purpose so that the water of the Indira Gandhi Canal could reach the Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur districts of Rajasthan in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

[English]

(viii) Need to inspire people to donate body organs, particularly kidneys

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali): Every other day, we have pathetic letters in newspapers requesting for donation of kidney for a patient who has lost the functions of both his or her kidneys. Similar appeals for hearts and other transplantable organs are fewer, but still do exist. Even normally, those patients who lost the functioning of both their kidneys have to be put on a costly dialysis for long periods, which most common people cannot afford. The

practice of kidney or organ donations has not caught up in this country. Partly, this is because of lack of information, and also due to fears and obsessions. This has, on the other hand, led to clandestine sale of organs, particularly kidneys which is arranged by unscrupulous people. The poor are often the unwitting victims of this racketeering. The Government should make use of the television media to inform the people about organ donation, particularly of the dead. That thereby, even in death one could be of some help to some suffering human being, should be propagated. A Foundation could be created to receive and store organs in specified hospitals for free transfer to those who need it. If Government creates infrastructure, organ donation could be expected to catch up, helped by a little publicity.

12.27 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE: DROUGHT SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY—*Contd.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up further discussion on the statement made by the Minister of Agriculture in the House on the 30th July, 1987 regarding drought situation in the country.

Now Mr. Makwana.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): Sir, the other day, i.e. on Friday, I gave an account of the rainfall in this country, the situation created due to the sparse rain in many parts of the country, and the position of the crops—i.e. what the position of the crop is. That I gave. Today, I will deal with some of the points raised by some of the hon. Members in this House.

The first speaker, Shri Indrajit Gupta—I was not here, but I have gone through his speech—has said that Government is not