

them. We have also shortage of power. I also request the Central Government to start a 120 MW High Power station in Ravalaseema particularly at Tirupati.

- (v) Need to send a study team to Andhra Pradesh to assess the damage caused due to drought and release liberal Interim aid to combat the situation

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): Sir, I rise to draw the attention of the Government under Rule 377 through you to the unprecedented conditions of distress caused by drought in many parts of Andhra Pradesh. The extra-ordinary situation in Mahbubnagar district of Andhra Pradesh warrants a special reference. The severity of drought situation can be gauged from a number of reports on starvation deaths in the district by various daily newspapers and political parties. The subtle academic distinction that is normally sought to be drawn between drought and famine is no longer relevant in the context of current conditions in Mahbubnagar. The present situation has come about by extensive malnutrition that has been affecting the poorer sections of people over a number of years. It is important to note that Mahbubnagar district has been hit by drought for the third year in a row. Although some amount by way of interim relief to Mahbubnagar has been released by the State Government, it is far from adequate. I urge upon the Central Government to send a study group to Mahbubnagar district and other parts of Andhra Pradesh to submit a report on the drought conditions. I also plead for release of liberal Interim aid from the Central Government for dealing with the drought situation, pending the inquiry by a Central team. I am of the considered view that normal yard-sticks of relief would not be applicable as it is a natural calamity of rare severity. The Government of India should, therefore, come forward with assistance on a special scale.

- (vi) Need to Open more Primary Health Centres in tribal areas of Kerala to achieve the target of "Health for all by 2000 A.D."

DR. K.G. ADIYODI (Calicut): One suffering from leprosy is socially boycotted

by the entire community, even by the kith and kin. The special agony is the most dangerous aspect of the patient. The prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and social upliftment of the leper should go hand in hand. It warrants top priority by the Government, especially in the tribal areas.

As per the 1981 census the total affected persons were 39.53 lakhs and in the 1983-84 census the all India average per 1000 population was 5.77%. During the same period 42,903 new cases were detected and 2,55,605 cases were discharged from the hospitals in our country.

As per the tribal population, Kerala requires at the minimum 13 primary health centres and 90 sub-centres whereas only 5 primary health centres and 43 sub-centres are existent as on 31.3.1983. Unless the required number of institutions are set up as per the latest census the message will not reach the tribals who are in utmost demand of these facilities.

I appeal to the Government to achieve our committed target—Health for all by 2000 AD.

- (vii) Need to create a separate Independent telephone circle for Goa, Daman and Diu

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): It is not known as to on what basis Goa has been made a part of Maharashtra Telephone Circle. The said Maharashtra Telephone Circle consists of 29 districts of Maharashtra such as Ahmednagar, Bhir, Pune, Raigad, Satara (North), Thane, Kolhapur etc, and Goa district of the Union Territory of Goa, Daman & Diu.

In fact, Telephone Department can create as many circles as required out of the districts of a given State but to take a few district from one State and one district from another State or Union Territory is not proper. The Telephone Department have to consider the geographical division created under the Constitution as the basis and not create their own geographical units.