

trial unit in that district. As elsewhere, here also, unemployment problem has been increasing.

Phulbani is ideally located for the establishment of forest-based industries like paper etc. There is also scope for setting up agro-based and mineral-based industries in the district.

As the district of Phulbani is predominantly inhabited by Tribals and Harijans, it is necessary to take all possible steps for its development. So, I request that industries should be set up in that district on a priority basis.

[Translation]

(ix) Resentment among the villagers of Delhi against acquisition of their land and houses

SHRI BHARAT SINGH (Outer Delhi): The cultivable land of Nangal Deval village which is 800 years old was acquired many years ago by the Delhi Administration. Most of the people there were engaged in farming earlier but now animal husbandry and dairy farming are the only sources of their livelihood. Now the Delhi Administration has acquired their houses also. Not only this, there are many houses which do not figure in the first survey list for payment of compensation. Besides, the amount of compensation proposed for these houses is very nominal. The villagers are highly agitated over the matter because the houses which do not figure in the survey list will not either get compensation or alternative site for houses. The villagers are agitated because they feel that earlier their means of livelihood was snatched and now they are being forced out of their houses. 360 villagers have taken up this challenge and they will not leave their houses because they are not getting adequate compensation.

I therefore, urge the Government not to acquire even an inch of land in Delhi particularly the houses outside *Lal dora* or the land belonging to temples, mosques, Gurudwaras or Ashram Trusts etc. Besides, the houses in villages should neither be demolished nor any land acquired. The people suffer a lot on this account. The Delhi Administration acquires the land and later sells the same to the housing societies at exorbitant prices, thereby earning huge profit. Whoever wants to purchase land, he should do so direct from the farmer so that the latter is adequately compensated. The Delhi Administration should withdraw the notices served on houses and lands.

12.14 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (General) 1987-88

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up discussion and voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (General) for 1987-88.

Motion moved:

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1988 in respect of the following demands entered in the Second column thereof"

Demands Nos. 10, 18, 21, 22, 24, 27, 40, 42, 44, 46, 53, 58, 64, 66, 69 and 77."

Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1987-88 submitted to the Vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grants submitted to the Vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
	Ministry of Communications		
10.	Telecommunication Services	—	1,00,000
	Ministry of Energy		
18.	Department of Power	1,00,000	—
	Ministry of External Affairs		
21.	Ministry of External Affairs	18,38,00,000	
	Ministry of Finance		
22.	Department of Economic Affairs	9,00,000	121,54,00,000
24.	Payments to Financial Institutions	—	153,14,00,000
27.	Transfers to State Governments	100,68,00,000	—
	Ministry of Home Affairs (Vol. I)		
40.	Cabinet	4,00,00,000	—
42.	Other Expenditure of the Ministry of Home Affairs	5,00,00,000	—
	Ministry of Human Resource Development		
44.	Department of Education	1,00,000	—
46.	Art and Culture	5,00,00,000	—
	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting		
53.	Broadcasting Services	78,00,000	—
	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas		
58.	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	52,97,00,000	1,18,00,000
	Ministry of Science and Technology		
64.	Department of Biotechnology	—	2,00,00,000
	Ministry of Steel and Mines		
66.	Department of Mines	2,00,000	—
	Ministry of Surface Transport		
69.	Surface Transport	1,00,000	—
	Ministry of Welfare		
77.	Ministry of Welfare	2,00,00,000	—

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY (Visakhapatnam): In the short span of a brief discussion on a supplementary budget, it may not be possible for me to go through the entire gamut of the economic

policies of the Government and offer my comments or discuss important matters. But all the same, on such issues which are selected, on major areas of importance

and significance in this country, I think I have to make points.

It had been pointed out in the beginning, during the course of the general discussion on the budget itself, by both, the leaders of the opposition, Shri C. Madhav Reddi and also several other members on this side and also on the other side, that there was an appalling rate of deficit budget that was being resorted to year after year. This is bound to result in high inflation rate, making the living of common man a practical impossibility. In spite of that, this is being resorted to year after year. Therefore, I may have to once again lay stress on this particular point and make a pointed reference to the Minister, to show how the pre-Budget situation has totally changed during the post-Budget period as far as the price situation is concerned, how an increasing spiral of prices has taken place as far as all important and essential commodities and foodgrains are concerned.

In the first instance let me point out that as far as deficit financing is concerned the Government originally thought that during the entire Seventh Plan a total amount of about Rs. 14,000 crores could be the maximum, could be the target, supposing that the Government may not exceed Rs. 14000 crores. But in the first three years itself they have reached a figure of Rs. 17,000 crores. That means what? Even their target which they kept for themselves, even the norms and parameters which they kept for themselves, they are violating, they are flouting. They are not keeping them in practice.

If you look into the figures during the year 1985-86 the budget deficit was Rs. 3349 crores. But in practice towards the end of the year the actual figure rose to Rs. 4937 crores. Similarly the following year 1986-87 the original Budget Estimate of Rs. 3650 crores rose to Rs. 8285 crores. And this year, 1987-88 the budget estimate was Rs. 5688 crores, normally it is bound to be double; it may go up to Rs. 10,000 crores and odd. But then the Prime Minister gave an assurance on the floor of this

House on that day, to take all measures that are necessary to see that the stipulated deficit does not exceed, by taking recourse to all necessary administrative measures.

But now with this present dose of initial supplementary budget what would it result in? What would be the net effect? The deficit is bound to continue. Of course, the Government proclaimed that it is trying to find out the ways and means of raising revenue so as to meet the additional expenditure which was envisaged in the budget. All the same, it is very clear that the deficit financing which the Government has often been resorting to itself is conducive to various social and economic evils which the common man is not able to put up with

Now let us see another aspect of the situation. Let us take the revenue account and also the capital account. In the capital account there is always a surplus, year after year. If I take the last few years figures I find generally there is a surplus. But as far as revenue figures are concerned, there is a deficit, and therefore the surplus in capital is being consumed, is being utilised for the purpose of meeting the revenue deficit. Normally, the practice should be, as a sound economic or financial policy should be, to incur a surplus in the revenue budget, use this surplus to support the capital budget, and meet the residual needs of financing by loans, deficit finance, etc. But now it is the other way round. You are eating away the capital, and that is what is being done. How do you envisage its effect on the development in the desired direction and also achievement of the result which you want to anticipate, which you want to confer on the people? It is not just possible and I do not foresee in the near future that the Government will be able to come out of the habit of resorting to indiscriminate deficit financing and also putting severe burden on the shoulders of the people, who are not in a position to face the situation.

Now, at this stage, I may have to refer to the highly inflationary budget which was

[Shri Bhattam Srirama Murty]

passed recently. You know what is the situation now. As far as the Wholesale Price Index is concerned, in January 1987, it was 379.6; in August 1, 1987 it was 402; and on August 8, 1987, it was 404.8. This is about the Wholesale Price Index. This is the situation.

As far as the Consumer Price Index is concerned, the Consumer Price Index number for Industrial Workers touched an all time high of 715 during the month of June 1987. In Jan. 1984, it was 563, in May 1987, not 563—it was 703. In June, it was 715. This is the situation.

The pre-budget months—between the weeks of Jan. 3, and March 3, 1987 - the Wholesale Price Index of all commodities and primary articles have declined. If you look into the post budget situation and evaluate that, there is a real increase - increase everywhere and in all aspects. This is the situation which I would like to point out here.

Now, the price of wheat, rice, etc. are soaring up during the course of the last one month. There has been price increase of about three hundred per cent in vegetables, fruits, etc. during the course of the last three months. Tomatoes cost Rs. 16/- per Kg. recently and of course it has come down a little. Now it costs Rs. 14 or Rs. 10 or Rs. 11. This is the situation. The rice has been the highest in the case of essential commodities like edible oil, pulses, eggs, fruits, vegetables.

This is the result of the Budget which you have presented. The common man is not able to bear with the burden of the Budget. The middle income group with fixed pay packet are now going into the streets, conducting Dharnas, conducting strikes for higher pay packet. It is because of this situation and not for any other reason. The agitational approach of these people is the direct result of the policies pursued by this Government, which I want

to humbly submit and point out in all humility.

At this point of time, I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister a salient and important aspect of the situation, namely the worth of the rupee is also declining. It is coming down. It is now equivalent to 14.22 paise. The declining trend continues. This steep decline in the value of a rupee raises the cost of living and adds to the cost structure. How can a common man withstand all this. Many people are unemployed and under employed? People are subsisting at sub-human level and below the poverty line. It is very difficult for them to put up with such a steep increase in prices, which is a direct result of the policies pursued by this Government.

Now, in view of the limited time at my disposal, I would like to touch upon another aspect, i.e. increasing dependency on foreign imports. The striking feature of the new growth policy or path chosen by this Government is the increasing dependency of the Indian economy on foreign inputs. Domestic savings rate has come down to 24 per cent at the end of '70s. It is less than 22 per cent at present. Reliance is placed on foreign capital. This will erode economic independency. Continued large scale import of foreign technology has perpetrated the country's dependency on multi-nationals. On the one hand, the Prime Minister cries hoarse that the multi-nationals have been adopting the policy of de-stabilisation, on the other hand, you welcome with both hands the multi-nationals. Here the situation is congenial for them to come and occupy the economic scene. How is this double policy being pursued by the Government? If we look into the last year's figures, about 957 proposals of foreign collaborations have been finalised. If planning is to benefit the poor, it has to be based on increasing mass productivity. It has to result in increasing the purchasing power of the people in general. The production of basic wage goods is an absolute necessity. I will have to mention a very important point over here. Now,

it is said that instructions are issued that necessary administrative measures may be adopted and savings may be effected for various outside expenses and items which are clearly mentioned here. Now I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister that not small items but major issues are there. Just like brain drain, the funds of this country are being stacked in Swiss banks. These things are continuously being done. Why do you not do something in this behalf? Why not put a stop to this and see that this is not done? India is one of the worst affected countries on account of flight of capital which is a serious matter of grave public concern. Yet Government does not seem to have made any estimate of the amount of capital which has gone to other countries. In the case of United States of America, may I point out here, they instituted a study and two reports were produced which are being studied. Now, in this particular case, has the Government considered at all the question of instituting at least a study? Is it such an impossibility? If an economist of IMF has succeeded in getting information and arriving at a figure of Rs. 3000 crores Indian money, which is lying in Swiss banks, how is it impossible for the Government of India to do something positive about this? On the question of generation of black money and operation of black money the Government pays least attention or no attention at all. This is not a healthy trend. This is not generally good. The practice generally followed is under-invoicing and over-invoicing. And this is what is being done.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please wind up.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: How much time is given to me?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your party has been allotted 12 minutes and you have already taken 20 minutes. Therefore, please wind up.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Generally the misconception is that as far as this illegal practice of under-invoicing

or over-invoicing is concerned, only the private sector is involved. No doubt it is true. But the Government themselves have dispelled this doubt. I cite a quotation from the book 'Aspects of Black Economy in India in 1985'. This is a Report of the study made by the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy. It is stated here and I quote:

"In the purchase of major civil and defence equipment from abroad, the vending company makes payments usually into accounts held overseas, to keep participants responsible for the award of contract."

Not only that, it is further said:

"The participants can include both officials and Ministers. The amount of such payments is naturally built into the price of equipment.... Even if a mere five per cent of the money is involved in the Indian foreign trade, which is to the tune of Rs. 30,000 crores per year, the amount of money siphoned off in the course of last fifteen years would have been Rs. 10,000 crores."

ONGC, STC, MMTTC are the various organisations and if you have got to find money, these are the organisations where there are some loopholes. You will have to plug them. You will have to find out how money is being dashed in other countries.

Then again is smuggling. Some unofficial figures, some estimates which are readily available now, show that it is Rs. 15,000 crores which are involved in smuggling every year. Even if ten per cent of it is accumulated in foreign banks, this again is a loss of foreign exchange. I would like to humbly request and urge upon the Minister that this aspect of the problem cannot be lost sight of and one day or the other they will have to come to brass tacks and take a firm measure and see to it that the entire money which is dashed in other countries is reverted back and properly utilised for the development of this country.

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Bombay South): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir.... (*Interruptions*). I am speaking on your behalf. There won't be much difference in my speech and yours. Sir, I rise to support the first batch of Supplementary Demands for this year. I would very humbly remind the hon. Minister and I hope that he does not repeat what happened last year. In the last year, the original budgeted deficit was Rs. 3,703 crores and three times the Government brought the Supplementary Demands which took the overall deficit last year to Rs. 8,285 crores. When the Prime Minister himself presented this year's Budget, he had promised to the Parliament and to the nation that he will be very careful and the Government will see to it that this expected deficit of Rs. 5,688 crores will not increase. But unfortunately, the first Supplementary Demands themselves are to the tune of Rs. 687 crores. I only hope that it will not follow the second and the third Demands in the eight months of this year to come.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): What will you do if it comes?

SHRI MURLI DEORA: That is what I am requesting the Government that they should be careful. Sir, out of these Demands, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to two major items. One item is Rs. 153 crores to the International Monetary Fund, and the second item is Rs. 121 crores loans to the shipping companies in respect of past commitments of Shipping Development Fund Committee. I know of the fact that the Department of Shipping, Government of India, in order to promote private acquisition of ships from international market, has given this loan and has stood as a guarantor. But why should the Government subsidise or why should the Government pay from the national exchequer this Rs. 121 crores? Mr. Somnath Chatterjee was just talking about the nationalisation of shipping companies. I want to tell him that even in this Rs. 121 crores, there are private shipping companies in India—I am giving the names Great Eastern Shipping Company and Ishar

Shipping Company are not taking advantage of it. Their commitments for buying ships are met from other sources. But several other companies which have other industries in India, I would not like to name.... (*Interruptions*)

I would not like to name. Scindia does not have. There are some industries which have other business. They are making money in other Department and losing in this Department and this Department is subsidised by the Government. So, I would request the hon. Minister that the Finance Ministry or Department should have a little more effective communication with the Department of Shipping and see to it that this loan of Rs. 121 crores is not converted into out-right grant. Although you are writing as loan, but I will tell you that this will never be recovered.

The second point is Rs. 153 crores for maintenance of International Monetary Fund. The hon. Minister has given explanation that no net cash outflow from the Consolidated Fund of India is involved as payment was made by creation of non-negotiable, non-interest bearing rupee security in favour of IMF. This money pertains to the minimum rupee fund, to be kept with IMF. This only shows what my predecessor said earlier—the falling rate of Indian rupee vis-a-vis the foreign currency whether they are dollars, deutsche mark, or Swiss currency or the yens. (*Interruptions*)

You are allergic to that. I am not allergic to that. You may be allergic

This only shows the Indian rupee has fallen to an extent of Rs. 153 crores for the original five billion SDR loan - the Government of India bought from IMF which was not used but used upto 3.8, 3.9 billion SDRs only. I would request that the Government should take more measures to build up our exports and see that the balance of trade does not come down. The only thing one can say is that the debt

service ratio of India which was nearly 14 to 15% has gone up as high as 24%. This shows our exports are not doing well, our imports are more. Government must do something on war footing. Otherwise this debt service ratio will further go up and we will fall into a debt trap, like Latin America, South American countries.

When we talk of deficit financing, one most important item is internal debt. The money that the Government borrows in the international market as well as local markets, today the Government of India is paying interest charges of Rs. 10650 crores for this Budget against the net revenue of Rs. 27000 crores. That is 39 to 40% of the net tax revenue of the Union Government which they are giving as internal and external debt charges. This is highest in the history of our country. Now the time has come when this high rate of interest must come down. There are advertisements all over in the international magazines - the international banks are giving advertisement that India has the highest rate of interest in the world except one or two countries in Latin America and New Zealand. I do not think any other country has such a high rate of interest.

I will give you two or three examples. Today the Reserve Bank of India's lending rate—commercial—to the industries is 16½% to 17%. It is very high. Even the public sector bonds are 14% to 15%. Even tax free Government bonds are 10%. When you say 10% tax free, that means the real interest would be 18% or 19%. Now the time has come when it is easier for a person or an entrepreneur to invest money on interest rather than putting an industry. This is acting as a disincentive for production or for investment. Why should anybody invest and take the trouble of putting industry and organise things and increase more production when he can get the same amount or more amount on fixed deposit by putting the amount on interest. Government has reduced the rate of interest by 1% after the Budget. There is further need for reduction in the interest payment. This rate of interest should also be reduced for

industry, Government borrowings or for any other purpose. This will reduce Government interest charges as well as this will give a boost to the industry, because their cost of money which they buy from the banks and other market will go down. Sir, regarding the investment climate in India, in the last 7 or 8 years, the capital investment has gone up from Rs. 570 crores to nearly Rs. 5,000 crores. Thanks to the confidence of the investors all around in our country and the stability of the Government, let me tell you that it has come to Rs. 5700 crores this year. But unfortunately, the time has come now when the investors' confidence is slackening. Several major issues cleared by the Controller of Capital Issues are not finding enough buyers. I would warn the Government that the Government must come to the rescue of the investors and see what is lacking, which has shaken the confidence of the investors recently. I am not trying to say, whether the stock market has gone down. It does not matter whether the stock market has gone down or gone up. That is not necessary. But if Rs. 6000 crores of capital investment, every year, was allowed by the Controller of Capital Issues and if the new issues as well as the old issues are not subscribed by the general public, it will not be good for our economy. One suggestion in this connection is that if we try to mop up the rural saving to buy the debentures and invest it in industry, that will be the best thing. Today, in the rural areas, the farmers, etc. are not investing their money because there is a dual tax on the stock debentures. The Government is charging tax on the dividend as well as the recipient of the dividend and most of the people in the rural areas—they are ready to pay tax - do not want to come into the tax net. They do not want to maintain 'khatas' or any 'hisab' and go to the Income-tax Department. This is done in all over the developing countries. In order to mop up the public savings and specially the rural savings from smaller people, this has been done all around and I would request that the Government should investigate this.

One other point which I want to raise is

that there was something called investment allowance which has done a very very good job as far as Indian economy is concerned. Unfortunately, in the last two years, the investment allowance has been withdrawn. This year it has been effectively withdrawn. I would request the hon. Minister that this investment allowance be re-introduced. This will really give boost. At least this should be re-introduced for the indigenous equipment industry. Today, it is cheaper for an industry to import equipment rather than buying equipment manufactured in our own indigenous equipment company. If this incentive is given to the buyer to the new industries - that is, the investment allowance will only be available if you buy the indigenous equipment - this will help the economy. This will boost the production and this will protect indigenous manufacturers of equipment who are in a serious crisis today.

Sir, our revenue has shown good results during the last year. Of late although the Government has not given the figures for the last three months' performance of the tax collection, I have read some articles in the newspapers that the collections are not satisfactory. One reason is that the Government's licensing policy and the Government's fiscal policy should be made in a way which gives more production which collects more excises, more tax for the Government. I would give one example, that is, cement. We used to produce about 30 million tonnes of cement during 1980-81. The market price was Rs. 60 or Rs. 65 per bag and the official price was Rs. 20 or Rs. 18 per bag. What was happening? Everybody was making money, thanks to the liberal policy of the Government. The Government allowed the cement to be manufactured by the big or large or multinational or FERA companies, whatever they are. A plant which manufactures one million tonnes of cement costs Rs. 130 crores. So it cannot be manufactured by a small company. So, now we are producing 41 or 42 million

tonnes of cement due to the policy of the liberalisation with regard to Cement. Previously we were importing cement. Now, we are self-sufficient in cement and the net tax collection from the Cement from the Government is higher than what it was in 1980-81. It is now more than six times in 7 years.

So also in regard to the textiles, 17% of the organised employment in the country is in all the textile sectors. Unfortunately, the main reason for slackness in the Textile sector - whether they are in Bombay or in Calcutta or any where is due to large-scale smuggling of textile goods into India, specially the synthetic fibres which are smuggled into India. According to Government survey, 2,000 million metres of cloth is smuggled into India. I will give you one example. If the hon. Minister has time, he has been in Bombay, I will remind him. Dr. Datta Samant will agree with me you can buy a shirt in the Bombay market, imported shirt from Taiwan, Hong Kong or South Korea at half the price of what you can buy from textile manufacturers in India. It is because of the protective excise duties and protective customs which are so exorbitantly high. What it, cost here the kilo of yarn, the international price is 1/10 of that. What we are doing today is, instead of giving the boost to our local industry, our own indigenous textile industry, our policy is such that all these textiles in South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong are running on the imports in India. If somebody will see the Indian Airlines, *Swagat* magazine, you see there is an advertisement of Kashmiron saree. Kashmiron sarees are not being all wed to import in India. Then, why they are advertising it. It is because, they know, they are being smuggled into India. The Government will say, they will stop smuggling. I am not only talking to provide speedy boats and arrest the people. But what I am trying to tell you is, if the fiscal policies, if the import levies are correct, this will stop smuggling and will help the Government.

With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I think, we are in, for further deficit inspite of the apprehensions expressed by my preceding speakers and the request made by them to the Government not to go on increasing the deficit. I think, we are now having the first dose of our supplementary budget, supplementary grants. I think, more of such demands for grants will come in the future. Well, one of the reasons why we have supplementary grants at all is the lack of Government initial capability of planning things properly. One example of this which stares our eyes is this. They say, for shipping development fund, a loan of Rs. 121 crores is being given. Now, this is included in the supplementary demands for grants and they say, this is in respect of past commitment.

If it is in respect of past commitment, why was it not included in the original budget? Was it to reduce the deficit in the original budget or is it because somebody forgot about it? In any case, it is a bad planning and the hon. Minister of State for Finance, Mr. Gadvi, who is here and who tries to save Government money in all sorts of ways—probably not the proper and right way—should perhaps rethink that if this money has not been utilised yet, whether in the current conditions of shipping companies, should they not go slow? Another thing is the special equipment for Bombay offshore project for Rs. 52.97 crores. This is astonishing because ONGC is one of the most profitable companies in the public sector in India and ONGC must have or ought to have the capacity to generate funds or at least to raise funds from internal and external sources and need not require Government funding at all. I suspect what has happened is, that the Government might have used the ONGC credit worthiness to borrow from external sources and transfer the money to itself and now the Government has to fund the ONGC. Otherwise no suitable explanation can be found for this particular entry of not in considerable amount when compared to total grants which are being sought to be passed.

13.00 hrs.

The total Budget deficit which is indicated in the introductory remarks is about Rs. 397 crores. That will be added to the initial original Budget deficit of Rs. 5688 crores. This is the plain arithmetical calculation. But, of course, it involves an assumption that the Government's revenue estimates made in the original Budget will come true. Now, I do not think they are going to come true and as a result, the deficit will increase much more than what the Government is now willing to admit.

With all this, I think, the only welcome feature which we can say that it is perhaps not so bad, I cannot say it is good, it is not so bad, is the small transfer of funds which have been made to the States amounting approximately to Rs. 318 crores

Again, you will notice here that for all the States together, excepting Punjab, the additional foodgrains for drought relief amount to Rs. 175.64 crores.

For all the States for drinking water, it is another Rs. 50 crores.

Rs. 225 crores in all, for all the States, excepting Punjab and, for Punjab alone, it is Rs., 91.60 crores.

I would like the hon. Minister to explain to this House and through the House to the nation, whether it is not a discrimination against other States.

By assuming that what is being given to Punjab is not in excess to the needs of Punjab, if that is so, surely the other States deserve more than Rs. 225 crores. If Punjab gets Rs. 91 crores, the other States having a population of 30 times or 40 times of Punjab is getting only 2 1/2 times.

This is not treating with fairness and charity the people of India.

The information that I have got from my State, West Bengal, is that there are heavy

[Shri Amal Datta]

floods and the Prime Minister was to make a visit today. It was postponed to tomorrow or, it was yesterday postponed to today because the flood water has still not receded. It has been there for the last three weeks or so. There, the State Government has already exhausted the margin money allotted to the state Government by the Finance Commission which amounts to Rs. 11 crores. But the Central Government has not replenished that money, thereby disabling the State Government from proceeding with the relief work as they must and have to do.

The Central Government has not sent a preliminary team for assessing the assistance required for flood relief work in West Bengal and Assam. This is a very curious state of affairs that you are already putting for one State an enormous amount of money and in respect of other States, you could not care less. Whether it was flood or drought, it is being neglected. Of course, how can one blame a Government which is on its tenterhooks all the time because some of the sins committed in the past are now coming to light. It is now so much in the defensive. There is no time to think of the people of India (*Interruptions*). Let me speak. You can have your opportunity later.

It is only all the time engaged in thinking how to save a certain number of VIPs from the wrath of the nation expressed through Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. That is the only headache of the Government now. What is happening to the people affected by floods or afflicted by drought, is the smallest of Government's concerns, because it is only engaged in saving its top leaders from the wrath of the nation and, of course, it is ridiculed by the whole world.

That being the condition of the Government, the fact that Rs. 225 crores is being budgeted for to be given to the States is somewhat astonishing that it has at all remembered that there is a flood and there is a drought and it has to be budgeted for.

Sir, I think that the other few important things on which I may comment are that the Government has made many promises. Regarding revival of sick industries, a Board has been set up with much fanfare, an Act has been passed and all that a long time ago, more than two years ago, the Act was passed and only about three or four months ago, I am told, that the Board has been set up with a very competent person as the Chairman of the Board and all such kinds of things are there. But, Sir, there is nothing in the Budget. So, what is the intention? The intention is to make it a show through the legislation, to take the legislation and make the legislation for the purpose of telling people "we are at it. We are so honest" But, in fact, the Budget does not take a single paisa for the sick industries. We have been in dialogue with the Government for revival of one sick industry which has now been closed down with a unit in West Bengal and another in Kerala. This is the Associated Babcock Limited which is the supplier of boilers for Thermal Power Generating Stations, employing 5000 people who have not been paid for the last one year. About one year, they have not been paid. We have been in constant touch. Every week, practically we have been going to the Industries Minister, Power Minister etc. and doing all these kinds of things so that they get the orders; they get the money. The Ministry of Industry, I am told, has come to certain figures; a proposal has been sent and it is awaiting the Cabinet's approval. It is only for Rs. 13 1/2 crores. If Rs. 13 1/2 crores is provided, 5000 people will get back their livelihood in two units and the industry will not be closed down. Ultimately, it will be of a great benefit to the nation because it adds to the capacity of putting up of Thermal Power Generating Stations. Yet, this lackadaisical attitude, this dilatoriness will only ensure that the people are either to starve or go to some other industry and ultimately all this cannot be put together and the industry cannot be revived. This is exactly what has been happening with other industries, some of which have been closed down 2,3,4,5 or 10 years ago and some industries are on the way of being

closed down. But no attempt is being made; lakhs of industrial units are being closed down thereby crores of people are becoming unemployed and they are not getting their wages and salaries. No effect is there. Why should the Government need such money to spend such funds in these matters. There is no contract, no commission in this. So, Sir, the Government goes on a spending spree. They go on buying from abroad. The gap between imports and exports is ever widening. It cannot be closed. The deficit, balance of payments, can be just about barely closed by the Non-Resident remittances, the capital borrowed from abroad, these are the two main ways by which this gap is sought to be closed down by the Government. Then, the latter amount which has to be borrowed from abroad is going up and up. We have to pay commercial rate of interest on that, thereby increasing the interest burden in foreign exchange. About the interest burden in rupees, in the domestic money market, Shri Murli Deora has already spoken. So, I need not dilate on this. But that also has to be looked into and reduced. Rs. 8000 crores, 10,000 crores is not a very small interest burden with a budget of Rs. 55000 crores. So, Sir, I think we have to see to it. We can very easily discern that the Government has not been able to make any dent by its economic policies in improving the efficiency of the economy. It can only fall back, as a last resort, which it always does in times of need, to juggling with the Statistics, juggling with the figures. It is a very easy task. We have seen that the Government has claimed an increase in the foodgrains production in the past, compared with certain figures of certain years when the foodgrains production was low. Similarly, the Government, claims to have an increase in industrial production, again compared to the base year when the production was low. Then, they choose only those commodities where the production rate is high and therefore they change the basket of commodities. They throw out the commodities where the production rate is low, although they are important... and take commodities which are unimportant but

are having a higher production rate, give them greater weightage and thus manipulate the index of production.

One vital thing in which the Government has taken the country for a ride— in fact, it is a confidence trick which the Government has played on the country—is about the effectiveness of the poverty alleviation programme. We have been told that, because of the poverty alleviation programme, the number of people living below the poverty line has gone down from a little above 50 per cent to something like 37 per cent, and because the statistics came out in the end of 1985, the Government or the people concerned with the Government, without understanding the implications of that, were claiming that it was as a result of the poverty alleviation programme. It is totally wrong because the figures on which this claim is based, about 35 or 37 per cent of people living below the poverty line, are statistics belonging to 1983 when the poverty alleviation programme had just started, it was barely a year old. In one year did it have this effect of decreasing the percentage of people living below the poverty line by 13 per cent? In that case, in three years you would have totally eliminated the people living below the poverty line which you did not. So, this kind of deception through statistics has become the hallmark of this Government, and because it has been able to take the country for a ride for some time, it thinks that it can go on cheating the people for all time. But that is not going to happen. The current political climate makes it clear how much disillusioned the people have become with the Government. The dissension in the ruling Party is only a small reflection of the disillusion which pervades the country-side, which pervades the urban intelligentsia, the middle class, the lower middle class, everybody

Some attempts had been made to at one stage to eliminate corruption, but may be only a little time was given....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please try to conclude.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: But whatever attempt was made earlier has now been totally given up so that the corrupt people, the people against whom cases for evasion have been made or are pending have been given a pride of place in the public sector industries. The highest-earning public sector industries today in India are managed by those business magnates against whom tax-evasion charges have been made or are still pending. And the charges are not being investigated. We ourselves know; the MPs forward such complaints to Ministers or officials, but such complaints are not attended to. I can say for the information of the Minister, if at all he is interested, that I have forwarded complaints of tax-evasion in a large scale to officers and Ministers, but they have not been attended to. Therefore, it is right and proper that this Government has lost the confidence of the people; the people have no confidence in this Government. It is high time the Government resigned and paved the way for a new election, for a new Government having the confidence of the people to come.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): Sir, I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the current year 1987-88. Budget is an instrument to manage the economy. The very fact that Supplementary Demands for Grants have been brought in indicates that something has gone wrong with the budgeting. This is only the first batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 1987-88, as enunciated in the introductory remarks in this booklet, and it covers 22 Grants and involves a gross expenditure of Rs. 687.77 crores. Of these, transfer to State Governments is Rs. 317.74 crores; Foreign Governments Rs. 16.86 crores; releases to Public Sector enterprises Rs. 1.20 crores; other expenditure Rs. 351.97 crores - of which the Plan expenditure is Rs. 179.33 crores and the non-Plan Rs. 172.64 crores. All these bring out the very fact that even in the middle of the Seventh Plan, after the Sixth Plan has been completed, and at a time when we are going to have the mid-term appraisal of the Seventh Plan. Our

entire economic development is dependent on only one factor and that is water. The very fact is that in the transfers to State Governments of Rs. 317.74 crores out of it Rs. 175.64 crores is additional foodgrains for drought relief and Rs. 91.60 crores is assistance to Punjab on account of natural calamities, Rs. 50 crores is provided for drinking water to drought hit areas and Rs. 50 crores to other including credit cooperatives

Only last week, we discussed the phenomena of drought in a very extensive manner. After that we are in the midst of incomplete discussion on floods. So, water is the essence and water management is the essence to our country's problem and to our economic development. While the debate on drought and floods was going on, even Hon. Members had said that more than Rs. 4,200 crores has been spent in the last seven years only on drought and flood relief. Therefore, Sir, the need of the hour is scientific water management so that 64% of the water resources which are flowing down to the sea as waste has to be husbanded and the neglect of ecological and the environmental protection which is responsible for these calamities like drought and floods should be looked into.

Sir, while on this subject, I would like to highlight the problems of my State which has been beset by these three calamities for the last 25 years. Right from 1964 onwards, the State of Orissa which has a very high percentage of weaker sections of society, in fact, the highest in India of those living below the poverty line out of which 41% are Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This State, due to these three calamities in which it has had to resort to giving massive relief and aid to the people affected, is in a situation where its resource mobilisation base has shrunk. As a result, the formulation plan development, in the Five Year Plans the State has been affected. Also various Finance Commissions have not taken a realistic and objective view of the number of people living below the poverty line. The Criteria of proportion of population which are Scheduled

Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the measures like the Gadgil Formula and the other *ad hoc* help which has been given from time to time has not really solved the problem of Orissa and it is still at the bottom of the economic level of this country's economic picture.

Therefore, Sir, my first point is that in some of the irrigation projects major and medium which have been started with the aim of husbanding the water resources like the Rangali Multipurpose Project, for which the foundation stone was laid in 1973, the cost has gone up to nearly three times of the original estimate. The barrage has been completed water has been reserved but it cannot reach the farmers because there is no canal system.

So is the question with the Indrawati Multipurpose Project in the Kalahandi and Koraput districts where the water will be reserved but again, there is no arrangement for taking it down to the farmers. Therefore, the investment made by Government as of today is of no use to man or beast because water is not there and the people are not getting the benefit of the investment which has been made by Government. Therefore, I urge through you Sir, to the Government to see that some of these projects which have been started like Rangali Multipurpose Project, Indrawati Multipurpose Project, the Subarna Rekha Project, the Upper Kolar Project are completed expeditiously so as to enable the people as well as the nation to get the benefit of the investment as well as to save them from these calamities like drought and flood.

Along with it a number of medium and minor irrigation projects like Sapua-Badjore are there. In this House, on a number of occasions I have raised this issue. The Orissa Government has been sending letters which have been lying with the Environment Ministry. I have met the Minister, the Secretary, and every agency of the Government of India. I have been given assurances that the moment the inti-

mation for environmental clearance comes, within a week it will be sanctioned.

The latest letter was on the 1st of June 1987 Today is the 25th of August. It is nearly three months now; but still the clearance to these projects has not been given. I urge upon the Government to clear them immediately.

With the availability of water our people are still having some wet fields and some growth. The water table has gone down, the water is just running down to the main river and then to the sea. Therefore, projects like Sapua Badjore can be expeditiously sanctioned, commissioned and work started on them.

The same is the question of Derjang, Stage-II This is a Third Plan project. we have been asking time and again that water is available; but the field channels and the drainage system is not being extended. We even gave the suggestion that it can be taken up under NREP and RLEGP programmers because there is no masonry work involved Only earth work is necessary which will give gainful employment to the people. It will also produce permanent assets for the community as well as it will save the fields from drought and crops from dying.

The same is the question of Aunli project in Dhenkanal District, the Jhampuli-Manjor Project in Dhenkanal District, and Kutul Singa and Dhauragoth in Athmallik Sub-Division. These projects have been lying for the last four years with the Central Water Commission. The Harihar-jor Project has been going at a snail's pace. There has been a tremendous amount of investment in it; but there is no sight of its being completed.

The same is the question of Kanyagoda, Bega and Lower Bega, Tinni-Muhani, Kapasia, Matala, Kumar Singa, Sureswari, Mandar-Bahal, Khardali, Barjora-Mankira Diversion Weer and Kankara-Jhar Projects. For the last six or seven years these have been lying with the various Depart-

[Shri K.P. Singh Deo]

ment of the Government and they have not seen the light of the day. As I was saying, if these projects are taken up, it will result not only in providing gainful employment to the poor people - the rural labour - but would also husband the vast unutilised water resources for productive purposes, create permanent assets and be an insurance against droughts and floods leading to misery, distress and decay and also provide a healthier environment for the people.

One of the things which has been the resultant of drought and flood is the ecological degradation. This has given rise to various forms of diseases like Cholera, Diarrhoea and Dehydration. Now, everyday we read in the papers about people dying in Koraput and Kalahandi districts. There is a debate going on whether it is because of starvation, mal-nutrition or gastro-enteritis. People living in these districts are going off to far away places like Raipur and even to Punjab and Ladakh to work in the GREF and Border Roads. Sometimes they even go to the northern coal fields in Madhya Pradesh. So, to arrest all these things, if the irrigation projects are taken up, the rural road works are taken up, then the local people will get gainful employment and permanent assets

The Government of Orissa as well as the Members of Parliament of Orissa have requesting the Central Government that projects like Talcher-Sambalpur railway line can be taken up on NREP and RLEGP work which will help the Railways and also at the same time create permanent assets and give jobs to the rural labour who are subjected to calamities like droughts and floods.

Sir, suggestions have been given and only two days back the Hon. Minister of Finance came on TV where he was emphasizing on the question of micro-level planning. Sir, in my State the State Government has appointed district level

planning board where MPs and MLAs are supposed to meet once a quarter. We have been giving our suggestions where even chairmen of the Panchayat Samitis are there but we find the suggestions of the district planning board where it is presided by the Cabinet Minister of the State Government do not at all find place either in the State Plan or Central Plan. Therefore, this sort of exercise in futility can be more counter-productive. If you at all wish to make micro level planning a success then the proposals given at the district level based on local conditions, requirements and resources must find place both in the State Plan and Central Plan so that it is an indicative way of planning rather than a coercive planning imposed from Delhi. It is like having a shell of a building and then deciding what should be inside the building. It is a totally negative attitude. I would urge the hon. Minister to at least carry out the wish of his senior colleague in an effective manner so that micro-planning becomes a success.

In the same way there are perennial streams. In Orissa there are lot of perennial streams which flow down to the rivers. These perennial streams must be harnessed so that small catchment and ayacut areas are developed. It will be a permanent insurance against drought and floods.

Yesterday I read in the newspaper that the Prime Minister has also emphasised on the watershed management concept. The Territorial Army composed of ex-servicemen in 1982 did start three of these watershed management schemes - one in Shahjahanpur block of Dehradun; second in Mussorie area and the third one in the Bikaner area. There have been a tremendous success. So I urge upon the hon. Minister to see that such type of micro watershed management schemes in these perennial streams can be taken up. It may not be cost effective or the Territorial Army may not be deployed everywhere but a land army of that area can be commissioned to do this. Along with this the question of the micro-hydel which can be easily

and more effectively utilised in some of these hilly streams which have four to five feet drop can be examined.

Now I come to the ITDP and MADA areas because there is a mention here regarding the weaker sections of society.

Now in this drought and floods the worst sufferers are the people living in the tribal areas. In 1985 we had an integrated scheme between Ministry of Finance, Food and Civil Supplies, Welfare, Women's Welfare, ICDS and cheaper foodgrains were supplied to the tribals. I am positive that in this worst drought of the century the tribal areas will be brought into this integrated approach but what is to be careful and cautious about is that the cheaper foodgrains and any governmental work in connection with this drought relief must reach the tribal people. In 1985 as some of the organisations like ITDP and LAMP schemes were not functional the benefits did not reach the people. Along with this there are certain tribal craft and training cum production centres which have been on the anvil for the last five years. They have not seen the light of the day. I can quote two. One is in Kankrajhar and the other is in Thakurgarh areas. The Central Government has already allocated funds three years ago but not a single penny has been spent. Some amount from the Welfare Ministry be allotted to see that production in training centres comes up so that the tribals living there can learn certain crafts and trades and supplement their income.

Only yesterday, there was a question on horticulture. The Minister for Agriculture mentioned that the Central Government in the Ministry of Agriculture has been helping the State Governments wherever horticultural farms have come up to strengthen research. I was asking about the development of oranges, lemons and mangoes and he replied about apples. We don't grow apples in Orissa. Here I would like to urge that wherever the State Governments have established horticultural farms, the Central Government, the IARI, that is the

Agriculture Ministry must help in setting up research centres so that the small and marginal farmers can get supplementary income.

In Nakchi, Angul, Saptasajya, Gondia, and Kamakhyanager in Dhenkanal district, there are very good farms set up by the Government of Orissa during the last three decades. These must be improved.

My last two points are from the human resources development angle. One is for the last so many years, we have been demanding a low power transmitter of the Doordarshan at Angul which has the Talcher coal-fields, the biggest coal-based fertiliser factory in Asia, the biggest aluminium plant in Asia and heavy water plant. There are many Central Government employees. This demand has not seen the light of the day in spite of three Information & Broadcasting Ministers having given me the assurances in writing that that is under consideration right from 1980.

Sir, one of the largest villages in India, Bhuban, was burnt down. The Prime Minister immediately rushed aid and Central teams there. An aid of Rs. 8.8 lakhs was given as relief. Another Rs. 8 crores worth of loan by HUDCO is being processed to be given for fire-proof house building. I have been pressing upon the Minister for Urban Development to sanction integrated development of small and medium town schemes as well as the urban slum clearance schemes for Bhuban and Angul. Sir, these schemes may please be considered and sanctioned soon.

The last point is about the British aid. In the field of health, for the last six or seven years, we have been pressing for British aid. Only five out of 13 districts are included in the scheme under the British aid. I would urge upon the Government that the remaining 8 districts should also be covered under British aid. At the moment, it is under consideration. Therefore, this would go a long way in improving the health of the people of Orissa, majority of whom are very very poor.

Sir, I conclude by saying that the Prime Minister and the Government of India have been very quick in responding to the drought situation and declared massive relief programme for combatting it. But what is necessary is a sustained war on drought, flood and cyclone. It should not be only a war on war footing for a short time and then forgetting about the entire thing. What is necessary is a permanent solution so that we are able to manage our water resources. It should be considered a national asset and we must also protect the environment because both are complementary to each other.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to make a few comments on these supplementary demands. We are discussing them at a time when there is unprecedented famine in our country. I was just going through the supplementary estimates presented to this House. Out of nearly Rs. 687 crores, a sum of Rs. 317.74 crores are meant to be transferred to the State Government under which a sum of Rs. 175.64 crores is towards additional foodgrains for drought relief, Rs. 91 crores for natural calamities in Punjab only and about Rs. 50 crores for drinking water in drought-hit areas. In this connection, I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister how this amount is going to be distributed.

Sir, I am really surprised at the rate at which the Central Government extends assistance toward natural calamities, particularly the drought. I am speaking out of experience in my own State of Karnataka. Sir, the drought assistance given by the Central Government has been only a token. Just now the hon. Member, Shri Singh Deo mentioned about his State. I would like to quote the amount that has been spent by the Karnataka Government and the loss incurred by the State and also the assistance given by the Centre. Sir, it may beheart, rending to know that due to consecutive drought for the last 3 years and

this year also the State of Karnataka has incurred a loss of agricultural and industrial production of worth Rs. 2,800 crores; the direct revenue tax loss is Rs. 600 crores and the Government has spent more than Rs. 800 crores towards the drought relief and contrary to this the assistance given by the Centre is Rs. 180 crores. Even for that the State has to submit a number of memoranda, team after teams are sent and finally the assistance given is not even 15 or 20 per cent of the amount sought for. Sir, this must change. The Minister for Agriculture said that he is helpless because the Eighth Finance Commission has fixed up the norms. Sir, it is high time that the Government of India should change the norms for giving assistance for drought. Sir, now out of Rs. 175 crores that has been given to several States Rs. 90 crores is loan and only Rs. 85 crores is grant. Sir, the drinking water, which is the basic necessity, I would say even after 40 years of independence we do not have drinking water in all of our villages. Out of Rs. 50 crores which is provided, Rs. 35 crores is loan and only Rs. 15 crores is grant. So, you can understand what sort of relief is given. Sir, I would request the Government to change the very norm of giving assistance to the State Government. Where from does the Government of India get fund? Is it not from the State? Then, is it not your duty to come to the rescue of the State when they are in distress? Of course, for floods 75 per cent grant is given but assistance is given far below the amount sought for.

Only the other day, the Assam Government requested Rs. 200 crores immediate advance grant but the Centre gave merely Rs. 3 crores assistance. So, if that is the way you give assistance to the States during natural calamities, how can the States have confidence? So, Sir this attitude should change.

I now, come to the present price rise. Sir, I would like to mention that the price rise has been phenomenal. It has reached sky high. I gave some figures while speaking on the Essential Commodities Act. The hon. Minister says that the inflation is only

marginal and it has no impact on the consumers. That is wrong. So far as the whole price is concerned, it is nearly 6 per cent. If the whole sale price is 6 per cent, the retail price would be hundred per cent more than it, i.e. 12 per cent increase in the retail price and that too in the normal situation. In the drought situation it will be much more.

I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister the fact that during the Budget Session Hon. Prime Minister, who was the Finance Minister also, announced a number of Tax relief measures under the MODVAT scheme for the industries. May I know whether that relief has gone to the consumer because only the other day the hon. Food Minister was saying that all that has been absorbed by the industry and has not been passed on to the consumer? That is how you come to the rescue of the consumers. The consumer prices are going up. We should think about it seriously. The aftermath of drought is not felt now but after 3 or 4 months you will come to know about it. With 23 million tonnes of buffer stock you feel that we are well placed. But it is not so. We may be having 23 million tonnes or even 200 million tonnes. But that is not important. What is important is as to how many people are eating two square meals every day. You please see that point. How many people, who are below the poverty line, take food every day? These buffer stocks are nothing but a mirage and our telling the whole world that our country is happy with its food situation is not at all realistic. I want the Government to realise this. Sir, what is the purchasing power of an ordinary person in this country? Leave alone poorer classes, even the middle class people's purchasing power is eroded day by day.

In this regard my suggestion is that people below poverty line should be supplied foodgrains from the buffer stocks at subsidised rates. It is absolutely necessary for their survival. We are doing so in our State Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh is also doing the same. We should give subsidised foodgrains to all the weaker sections

in every part of our country. You are doing it for tribals. Well and good. But the other weaker sections also must be covered.

I have just two or three points more. The hon. Minister has sought for certain funds for the expansion of telecommunications. In this connection, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that there is a very dangerous proposal in the Ministry of Communications. Of course, you are not directly concerned with it, but I would request you to kindly bring it to the notice of the Communications Minister. The Ministry of Communications wants to bifurcate or trifurcate the telephone industry. This step is killing this the industry in this country. Indian telephone industry is the most prestigious organisation and it is doing very well under the public sector. The employees and in particular people of Bangalore city, whom I represent, are very much agitated over this issue. I had submitted a short notice question also in this regard, but unfortunately, it could not be admitted. Since you have provided funds for expansion of telecommunications, I request you to look into this aspect also.

I just want to bring one sorry feature to the notice of the hon. Minister. At present, in my constituency there is a strike by the employees of the Reserve Bank of India. For the last four days, this strike is going on. This strike is due to the misbehaviour of the manager of the RBI. In our country, Government should be a model employer. I have not got the full details, but I understand from reports that the Manager is very arrogant and he is ill-treating the employees. He has suspended three employees and that is why they are on strike now. I would request the hon. Minister to send some senior officers to Bangalore to see that the strike is called off and matters are sorted out. I would urge that under any circumstances, public should not be put to inconvenience.

I will mention one more point which directly concerns the hon. Minister. Our State is facing acute power crisis. There is a power famine for the last so many years.

[Shri V.S Krishna Iyer]

Power cut in our industries is to the extent of 80 to 85 per cent. And from the reports it appears, that if the monsoon fails this year also, a time may come when there will be one hundred per cent power cut, as a result of which some industries may even have to face closure. To tide over this crisis, the Ministry of Energy has sanctioned the installation of 120 megawatt gas turbine plant. Clearance is given by all other Ministries, except yours. I request you to kindly give clearance for importing plants and machinery for installation of 120 megawatt gas turbine plant on a deferred payment basis.

There is another demand by the people of Karnataka and this is also in connection with the India telephone industries. Government of India gave us an assurance and the Telecommunications Minister also assured us on the floor of the House that the second digital electronic exchange factory is going to be established at Bangalore very soon. When the Minister was in Bangalore recently, then also he assured us. But so far, the Ministry has not given the clearance. I understand that they have not yet decided about the technology to be adopted by this factory. I request the hon. Minister to look into it and take the necessary action at the earliest.

Lastly, I would like to say a few words about drought and flood conditions. Drought is very severe this year. I thought that the Supplementary Demands would reflect the situation with regard to drought and floods that is obtaining in the country today. Maybe, it is a bit too early. Anyway, you may come with many more supplementary demands. And at that time, I request you to give topmost priority to fight drought and flood conditions.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (Ladakh): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I rise to support the first Supplementary Demands for grants, 1987-88 in which 22 grants involving 16 Departments are listed. The total grants amount involved is Rs. 687.77 crores including plan

and non-plan, of which the net requested by the Ministry of Finance is Rs. 466.82 crores. involving 16 grants.

First of all, I would like to say a few words about telecommunication services. Although the sum involved - an amount of just Rs. one lakh - is very meagre, the Government is planning to expand telephone services by setting up new exchanges. But I am very sorry to say that though we have requested the Ministry of Communications to set up a small automatic exchange in Leh, and in spite of the fact that the Ministry was kind enough to sanction it, the work has been held up for want of power. But recently in Leh, the Stakna Power House has started supplying electricity to Leh town and surrounding areas. Although power house has not been formally inaugurated, but the Power Department has already started giving power for 24 hours. So, I would request the hon. Minister to kindly see to it that the automatic telephone exchange commissioned this year.

In a recent question, I had requested the Minister for the commissioning of the auto telephone exchange but I am sorry to say that the reply given was as under:

"the Exchange can be commissioned within six months of the availability of power supply. Regarding the installation, it will be done only when the Srinagar-Leh road is opened to traffic."

Although the road was opened to traffic since June, but they are still saying that "when the road is reopened for traffic."

The power has already been given to Leh and the surrounding areas.

So, I would request the Ministry concerned to kindly look into it and meet the long standing demand of the people.

Secondly, I would like to say a few words about the Ministry of External Affairs. The amount now asked is Rs. 13.38 crores. In

this connection I would like to state that, recently the Chinese intruded deep into our territory near Chushul and a gate popularly known as "India Gate", which is lying well within our territory, they came right upto that point and dismantled that gate. The people of Ladakh are feeling really insecured.

In this connection, I had tabled a question on the 21st August, i.e. only days back and I am sorry to read the reply which was given by the Ministry of External Affairs. My question was:

- "(a) whether it is a fact that Chinese Armed Forces had entered into Indian territory in the first week of July, 1987 and dismantled and removed the gate popularly known as "India Gate" near Chushul in Ladakh;
- (b) whether any protest has been lodged by the Government of India to the Chinese Government for the intrusion; and
- (c) if so, result thereof?

The reply given to my question was:

- "(a) As a result of the 1962 conflict, a so-called Line of Actual Control came into existence in the Western Sector of the India-China boundary. There are differences of opinion on this so-called Line of Actual Control and therefore no fully agreed line of Actual Control. In the first week of July, 1987, Chinese troops dismantled the structure popularly known as "India Gate" near Chushul in Ladakh at a point which we regarded as on our side of the Line of Actual Control.
- (b) & (c) The matter is under discussion with the Chinese Government. It is the policy of the Govern-

ment of India to resolve these problems through peaceful negotiations "

It seems the Government of India has never lodged a protest with the Chinese Government. It is a well known fact that this particular gate is lying well within our territory. It is also really strange to know that the Government of India is still not in a position to know where the actual line of control lies-between China and India. It is a well known fact that people living in those areas know where the Chinese position was in 1962 and where is ours. So, the Government should not take this thing very lightly because this involve our national interest, our integrity and honour.

Next, I would like to say about Demand No. 42 of the Ministry of Home Affairs in which the Ministry has asked for Rs. 5 crores.

I would only like to mention here that Leh - Manali road which is far away from the international boundary or the line of actual control in the Western Sector, we had been requesting the Ministry to remove the restriction of inner line which is applied to certain portion of this Leh-Manali road so that foreign tourists as well as other Indian tourists who would like to visit this area could cross through this road.

I may tell you that the present road between Srinagar and Leh just passes about a few kilometres from the line of actual control on the Indo-Pakistan side, and at certain points, this road is within the firing range of the Pakistani forces. On the other hand, this Leh-Manali road is hundreds of kilo metres away from the border. So, there is no question of involvement of any security risk if it is thrown open for foreign tourists. I request the Ministry kindly to look into it and reconsider this issue because this is a very vital road. By opening this road, the distance between Chandigarh and Ladakh via Srinagar, and via Manali will be shortened by about 300

[Shri P Namgyal]

Kms. That will be useful both for the Army and to the civilians.

About broadcasting services, I would like to say a few words. Recently, in the first week of July, a programme was telecast by the Doordarshan showing a Ladakhi dance. Wide publicity was given well in advance, and we were eagerly waiting to see that programme. I am very sorry to say that the programme was so unrealistic, and it was complete a distortion of Ladakhi culture. It is really unfortunate. They presented almost everything artificially: headgear made of paper or something else, etc. (*Interruptions*) I cannot speak about other areas.

There are so many video cassettes of Ladakhi folk dances available with the Doordarshan. Last year also, during the *Apna Utsav*, a cultural team from Ladakh had visited Delhi, and they presented Ladakhi cultural programmes in their original costumes and in the original style. Doordarshan could have shown one of those video cassettes. Unfortunately, what they showed was really a distortion of Ladakhi culture. I protest, through you, to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. I had tabled a question also on it. The reply they gave me is this: I will not read the question, but I will read only the reply. It says:

"The programme was presented by Ladakhi artists, and there was no distortion of their culture and music. Doordarshan have not received any adverse response from the viewers."

When I have tabled this question, don't they think that this is a protest from the representative of that area? Our people do not know anything. If something wrong is shown on the television, or if they hear something wrong on the radio, what do they do?

14.00 hrs.

They do not have the inclination sense of protesting; they are just innocent; they are just illiterate. The Ministry should take proper care in future to present any cultural programme in any part of our country in a decent way. Sometimes, it is really agonising. It is very bad on their part not to present the real culture of that part of the country.

With these words, I support the demands and at the same time I must say that perhaps in the near future the Government have to come forward for more grants in a bigger way to meet the needs of those people who are affected by floods and drought. The Prime Minister is taking a lot of interest and pains to see that the people who are affected by floods and drought are rehabilitated properly. To help the people who are affected by floods and drought, in the near future, some more demands will be coming. But in the meanwhile, we are hopeful that every pie of the money given by the Government will be utilized properly.

*SHRI M. MAHALINGAM (Nagapattinam): Hon Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am glad to support the supplementary demands for Grants for 1987-88 on behalf of the AIADMK.

This year the expenditure of the Govt. on account of contingencies like drought etc. is on the high side. Severe drought is prevailing in almost all the States. In certain States on the other hand, there are problems due to floods. These two natural calamities have wrought heavy damage on the country.

Tamil Nadu is badly affected by drought. Thanjavur district in Tamil Nadu used to be called the rice granary of the State. Drought conditions have not spared even that district and the total loss to crops in that district alone is estimated at Rs. 250 crores. Rabi crops have been affected very badly. Unabated drought conditions, I do not think, would spare the Kharif crops.

* The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

Sir, there are nearly 6 1/2 lakh agriculturists in Thanjavur dependent on agriculture. The severity of drought is such that the whole State is heading for unprecedented famine conditions. I request the Govt to provide alternative employment to all the agricultural labourers affected by drought to save their families from starvation.

Many of the agriculturists do not have money even to purchase seeds for sowing purposes. In view of the prevailing drought conditions these agriculturists must be provided with seeds, fertilizers and pesticides free of cost. Further, deep water wells may be dug for providing water for irrigation. District-wise Committees must be set up to assess the extent of damage caused by drought in every district and to recommend suitable relief grants.

Today, Tamil Nadu is not sparing any effort in providing the necessary relief to the drought-affected in the State. The Govt has spent crores of rupees on the relief schemes. Ground water level has gone down further. Water is not coming from hand-pumps. Giant wells are being dug for provision of drinking water. For providing drinking water to Madras city alone, the State Govt has spent enormous amounts. Water is being brought from Mahanadi and Krishna rivers and from the Neyveli mines on rails and by sea. Every care is taken to see that the city's population gets the minimum quantum of drinking water every day.

Sir, the main reason for the difficulty in coping with the present drought conditions in the State, is that the Govt of Karnataka has built many dams on the course of Cauvery river flowing to Tamil Nadu in violation of the terms of 1924 agreement between the two States. The water from the dams is used to irrigate nearly 13 lakh acres of agricultural land in Karnataka. At a time when Tamil Nadu is reeling under severe drought conditions, such diversion of water from Cauvery by the Karnataka Govt has considerably hampered the relief operations in the State. I, there-

fore, request the Govt to refer the Cauvery waters issue to a Tribunal.

In this connection, let me submit that the waters flowing all over India are not being fruitfully utilised for the balanced development of the country. Some parts of the country are drought affected and some other parts are affected by floods. Rain water which flood the rivers and go waste into the sea after causing enormous damage to men, material and crops can be fruitfully used in those areas where there is no rain and drought conditions prevail. I would like to offer a permanent solution. As far as South India is concerned, a National Water grid can be formed by linking Mahanadi, Godavari and Krishna rivers. This would lead to the balanced and prudential use of all waters in the country.

Many of the lakes in Tamil Nadu are dry today. Adequate funds must be allocated for desilting the lakes.

The Tamil Nadu Govt, as I said earlier, has spent crores and crores of rupees on drought relief measures. I, therefore, request the Central Govt to come to the rescue of the State Govt and provide the grants asked for.

The Tamil Nadu Govt has also approached the Japanese Govt for acquiring the technology of converting marine water into water fit for drinking. This conversion technology would also yield generation of 100 MW electricity.

Sir, loans and other financial assistance are being provided to the rural poor under IRDP and various other programmes. However, there are complaints that the necessary financial assistance is not being provided by the banks in time. I request the hon. Minister to look into this.

Lastly, Sir, Thanjavur district is wholly dependent on agriculture. There are no major industries in that district. However, gas and oil finds have been located in Cauvery basin in Thanjavur district and in Narimanam and Kalappal areas. Establish-

[Shri M. Mahalingam]

ments must be set up in these areas to tap gas oil available and, in the process, Govt could provide employment to the local population affected by drought.

I also request that a refinery may be set up in Nagapattinam for refining the oil drilled in these areas.

I would also like to make a fervent appeal to provide relief assistance to Tamil Nadu Govt. expeditiously.

*SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakkonam): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak a few words in support of the supplementary demands for grants for 1987-88.

Sir, no specific mention of the amount allocated for Tamil Nadu under the head "Agriculture" has been made in the Budget Statement. Tamil Nadu is reeling under severe drought. Water is not available even for drinking. Agriculture has been badly affected. Ground water is not available even at depths below 200 ft. I, therefore, urge upon the Hon. Minister to make increased allocations for drought relief measures in Tamil Nadu. I learnt from Newspapers that the Tamil Nadu Govt. has asked for Rs. 400 crores as drought relief assistance. I do not know how far these reports are true. However, my arithmetic says that the demand of the Tamil Nadu Govt. is not adequate.

Sir, if it rains in Karnataka, the Thanjavur District in Tamil Nadu will prosper. Sufficient water will also flow in Palar river in my district if it rains in Karnataka. Even if there is no water in Palar, at least ground water level will increase and cultivation can be carried on by well-irrigation with the help of electricity. That is how North Arcot district used to rank next to Thanjavur in food production in Tamil Nadu.

But, today, Palar river is dry. No water is

there in the river. One can see only the sand bed of the river. Newspapers report about the proposed visit of the Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi to the drought affected areas in Tamil Nadu. I request that his tour must include North Arcot district also. I request the Prime Minister to visit Dharmapuri district which is the constituency of our Hon. Dy. Speaker.

I need not details the damages this drought has caused to agriculture; extensive damage has been caused. I request the Govt. to provide an *ex gratia* payment of Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 per acre to every affected agriculturist in the State.

Next is about the demand in respect of the Finance Ministry. I wholeheartedly welcome the loan melas. Though, at present, there exists financial constraints to organise these loan melas on large scale any further, I would like to request the Govt. to provide loans to 2000 to 3000 farmers or weavers in every block particularly when severe drought conditions are prevailing. These loans may be provided either under the famous loan mela schemes or under any other new scheme. Finance Ministry may kindly consider this.

Sir, there are coin mints situated in many parts of the country. There is no coin mint in Tamil Nadu. I request the Govt. to set up a coin mint in Pallipattu in my constituency.

Sir, there is a large BHEL unit in Ranipet in my constituency. Before the establishment of this unit and thereafter, the authorities of this unit always resorted to employing personnel outside the district and the State. Local labour is not at all preferred. The local residents are aggrieved over this particularly when their families are starving due to the prevailing drought conditions and when the employees in the unit who are from outside the district and the State are well off. I therefore request that Govt must issue

* The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

necessary directives for employment of local residents of North Arcot district in the BHEL unit in Ranipet. Even many apprentices who were given 9 months training in that unit were not provided with regular employment.

Besides, these administrative malpractices, the BHEL unit in Ranipet is placing orders for manufacture of ancillary equipments needed for the unit on private firms, thus, fattening the pockets of certain private individuals. These ancillary equipments can be manufactured in the very unit of BHEL itself. This would save enormous amount of expenditure by the Govt.

I also came to know of an order in public sector companies, perhaps recently issued, empowering the top brass in these companies to fix certain pecuniary benefits allowable to them. This power should not be vested with the Managers of these companies as it would lead to financial mismanagement.

Lastly, I request the Central Govt. to increase the allocations provided to the State Govt as drought relief assistance.

It is my bounden duty to convey, at this juncture, the deep faith the people of my constituency have in the leadership of the country under the hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

I thank you for the opportunity given.

14.15 hrs.

[SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI *in the Chair*]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): I do not want to cover the points which have already been covered by many of my colleagues in the opposition bench. I will just refer to them and then confine my observations particularly to one point about which, I am sure, you will be very interested.

The points that have already been

covered are double digit inflation, the promise during the Budget that deficit will not increase. These are very pertinent questions which have already been put. I just support them and do not want to go into elaboration because I will not be allowed that much time.

I also want to observe one thing that most of the supplementary demands for grants except the drought, are not of such a nature that suddenly they have fallen from the sky. Most of them were known during the presentation of the Budget. Do we take that these were not shown at that time in order not to show a huge deficit? So this is the first batch of supplementary demands which have not come. This could have been very well thought about earlier.

Today I want to concentrate on one small grant because that is connected with a heinous agreement which has the potential danger to our national security and national health. I do not know whether the Minister himself is aware of the implications of Grant No. 19, which is very unusually presented in this Supplementary Grants. Grant No. 19 deals with.....

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): Vaccine. Before you speak I can visualise.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: In that case, my conclusion should be immediately supported by you because it is a question of national concern.

This Grant is for buying land by the Department of Biotechnology for this vaccine programme. This is a new vaccine programme. This new vaccine programme has been widely reported by the PTI on 16th. What is the opinion of our very many important people in the field of defence science as well as medical department. This agreement for which this land is being bought has been signed between the Department of Bio-Technology of ours and the Government of United States.

[Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee]

What is this supposed to do? This agreement envisages cooperation across the entire spectrum of vaccine-related technology, vaccine field trials and vaccine delivery methodology. It is a very wide range and it has been pointed out by many that under this agreement which is a five-year project, and for which United States will be funding 1.2 dollars - we will have to fund the rest of that 7.2 million dollars I believe - they will get what? They will get access to very important data relating to our people's 'herd structure', that is, their sense of immunity, to what they are immuned, to what extent they are immuned, etc. This is one part of it. The latest bio-technology will be imported by the United States for it. Now, what is being said about this by our various experts, let us see. This very PTI report which I referred to earlier, quotes Dr. P.K. Ramachandran, Director of a research institute under Defence Ministry. He says: "I was shocked to see the agreement being signed on television. This is precisely the sort of thing we should avoid." Why he wants to avoid this sort of thing? Because it is being widely discussed that under this agreement this data and samples pertaining to the immunity profiles of and disease patterns among our populations will pass over to the United States. These are potentials which can be misused for Biological weapons against our people by the United States Government. Very important people in Defence Ministry have that danger that they are meant to. This is one part of it. So, that is why I am saying that national security is involved in this heinous agreement. Then also the national health. The agreement envisages the field-testing of vaccines. That is one thing about which the ICMR itself also have spoken in a very derogatory manner. The Director General of the Indian Council of Medical Research, Dr. A.S. Paintal has made it clear that he will not allow any vaccine to be tried on Indians unless the same is also approved for use in USA. The ICMR is opposed to foreign funding for epidemiological centre or for the vaccine trials. Why? They have

made it clear. When the Argentinian Government entered into some agreement like this, they found that the field-testing that are taking place and also the type of vaccines that are being used, are likely to create a situation where some virus will escape into the environment and the entire environment may be polluted. So, it can create a big danger. In fact the Argentina Government has asked for scrapping the earlier agreement that they made with the people. So why all this big talk about American imperialism destabilises our Government, though we are destabilising our country, and why should our Government enter into agreement with the Americans where the data will be passed on to them, or give them potential to biological warfare and weapons.

I would like to know after all about these talks of non-alignment, how come it may, that these American Bio-technical industries want to come into the third world countries because they cannot directly under certain conditions have their things exported to our country. Through field test they clandestinely want their workers to come to us and thereby affect our country's health. This is not my innovation. This has been widely reported. Even in the *Times of India*, a friendly newspaper to the Government has demanded scrapping of this deed, this kind of agreement that you have gone into. This is Grant No. 19. It relates to this particular agreement. I want the Minister to scrap this deed and even now withdraw Demand No 19 and take measures that these things do not happen.

Because of shortage of time I will not go into details.

Let me again say about drought. Government has provided some funds. About that also our other friends have raised that question - how much is the grant and how much is the loan. I would like to know how much are you keeping for floods or taking into consideration that contingency? My State Government has asked for Rs. 100 crores for floods, as we are facing problem of rehabilitation and all

that. Naturally, I believe, you will have to come out either in the second round-Budget of Supplementary Demand or else, what provision have you made, apart from margin money that this Government is having with you. Much more than that will be required for rehabilitation of the flood victims. I do not see any provision here. Will the Minister tell us?

With these comments, I do oppose the Supplementary Demands.

[*Translation*]

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna): I rise to support the Demands for Supplementary Grants. There are floods in some parts of the country whereas the other parts are facing severe drought. Madhya Pradesh is facing the worst drought of this century. I would concentrate on Madhya Pradesh with special mention to my constituency, Satna, which is a backward area and predominantly inhabited by Adivasis, Harijans, weaker sections and the poor. A very big project named Bansagar irrigation project is coming up in that area. The concerned Minister said a few days back in this House that out of the total allocation for the project, Rs. 175 crores had been spent on rehabilitation alone so far. I would like the hon. Minister to ensure that at least monitoring is done in this matter. He should try to find out to what extent the people whose land has been submerged in dam have been satisfied in so far as their rehabilitation is concerned. I am sorry to say that the funds have not been utilised the way they should have been. We have not been able to provide them adequate compensation so far. Nobody knows when this Bansagar dam will be completed. It may take five, ten or even twenty years to complete. There is no deadline, but other developmental activities in the area have been stopped. No roads are being constructed there. No electricity connections are being given to the farmers and no work relating to irrigation is being taken up. Keeping in view the apprehension that this area is likely to be submerged no development activity is taking place. This

is most unfortunate and I would like the Government to pay necessary attention to it.

Today, the people of that area are crying for water. There is a river called Chhoti Mahanadi in that area. It is full of water. I took up this matter and asked the State Government as also the State Electricity Board to provide electricity connections to the farmers living along the Chhoti Mahanadi river, for which the latter were prepared to pay, but in vain. No development worth the name is taking place on the pretext that this area is likely to be submerged.

My second submission is about Bargi Dam. A canal project was sanctioned from this place and this canal was to pass through Maihur, Nagar and Satna districts beside other areas. The project had been sanctioned four years back but the Central Government and the Planning Commission have not sanctioned funds till date. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister that funds should be made available for digging this canal up to Satna district under Bargi Dam project. It will be quite beneficial for the development of the backward area in difficult times like the present one. I submit that attention should be paid towards this.

Thirdly, there is unemployment, starvation and backwardness in that area. The people have been exploited there for centuries. Till today, no public sector industry has been set up there. The private factories do not provide employment to the local people. Even the lower posts like class III and class IV are filled from outside, whereas there is no dearth of qualified people there for these posts. They are not at all cared. There is actual unemployment in the region. The Central Government should pay attention towards this and should see that some suitable industry is established there, keeping in view the needs of the area. This will provide jobs to the people.

Another thing I want to say is about TV. The areas which have a population of 1.25 lakhs to 1.5 lakhs have already got a TV

[Shri Aziz Qureshi]

transmitter. I do not know why the Central Government has been 'kind' not to provide the same facility to Satna. For the last three years I have been raising this demand with all the force at my command, but my voice has not been reaching the authorities. In spite of the announcement made by the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi about TV facility, the same has not been provided to Satna. I request that the Government should pay attention towards this and TV transmitter should be installed there. Similarly, it has been said that Vayudoot service will be started from that area. There is an aerodrome which is 30 to 40 years old, the funds for the maintenance of which are provided by the Central Government. But it seems that due to political pressure, Vayudoot service is proposed to be started not from Satna but from a nearby place. The people of Satna will not tolerate this. I would like to request the hon. Minister to look into the matter and see that a place is selected for this service which is economically and commercially viable. We shall vehemently oppose it if this service is started from somewhere else under political pressure.

Reference was made here yesterday in regard to the implementation of the 20 Point Programme. I had to say something but as the time was short, I could not express my views. I would like to tell the Hon. Minister that perhaps Madhya Pradesh was the First State in the country where Land Ceiling Act was passed. I was also a member of the Cabinet there and the Land Ceiling Act was passed there in 1972.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda): It was passed in Hyderabad in 1954.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI: I would like to point out one thing that the Nawab of Bhopal had set up a Sugar factory at Schore near Bhopal and 8 to 10 thousand acres of land were acquired for this purpose. The farmers were given compensation at the rate of Rs. 10 to 15 per acre. The whole

Chunk of this land is irrigated. Dams and ponds have been constructed around that land and every inch of it is irrigated. That land was acquired for growing sugarcane to be used to produce sugar. But later on the Nawab sold the factory to some private party. The position now is that wheat, soyabean, rice and other crops are being grown on this 6 thousand acres of land. These persons are in possession of the bureaucrats and officers they are manipulating so as to save their land from the provisions of Land Ceiling Act. Although this matter concerns the State Government yet I would request that the Central Government should look into the matter and after taking over land under the Land Ceiling Act, may distribute it among the poor.

I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. One thing more and I am done. There are some mines belonging to Bokaro Steel Plant in Satna. Regrettably, even now contract system is continuing in this Government Undertaking. The management employ the labourers and give them wages. In some cases private parties or the contractors bring labourers and do not give them even half of the minimum wages. In this way, they are exploiting human beings. How can we tolerate this thing? I had raised my voice against this but no action has been taken in this regard. I want that action should be taken in this regard. I want that action should be taken in this matter.

With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted was only 4 hours. So, Mr. Janga Reddy is the last speaker. You take only 5 minutes and conclude. After that, the hon. Minister will reply.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda): I want 10 minutes.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. only 5 minutes
The time allotted was only 4 hours.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise only a few points on this important issue. One thing that I want to point out is that in the Central Hall, the Government employees approach us for gas connections. There is no such thing in Warangal and Hyderabad. Then why such thing is happening in Delhi? In Warangal and Hyderabad, one can get gas connection in a very short time but the same is not true of Delhi. I would like to say that more connections should be released where the demand is more so that the people may not have to approach M.Ps

Now I come to the Communications Department. You have imposed ban on opening Branch Post Offices in villages. They are not being opened even after granting sanction because you have imposed financial restriction saying 'please do not open' The hon. Minister should withdraw this ban as soon as possible. It is essential to open small post offices in the villages. Andhra Pradesh is not having the requisite number of post offices. If post offices are opened there at smaller distance, the rural economy as also the rural development will get a boost

People have fought war of independence against the Nizam of Hyderabad. Now they are being granted freedom fighter 'Samman Pensions' But this pension is not being given to the genuine persons who have actually fought this war of Independence. For this purpose, you have formed a committee comprising Sarva Shri (i) Govinda Saraf (2) Thirumala Rao and (3) Chandrakar. Members from three areas, namely the old Karnataka, Maharashtra and Telengana have been included in it. Now one more member Shri K.V. Narasimha Rao who is closely related to one of our senior Union Minister has also joined the Committee.

(*Interruptions*)

An hon. Member was saying loudly that Brahmins are running the country. In this Committee also all Members are Brahmins. I would also like to say that such persons are being granted pensions who have neither undergone imprisonment nor have any evidence to the effect that they were associated with the war of Independence. As I said earlier, there are four members in this Committee. Only such persons should be granted pensions who went underground to work for Independence or were sent to camps. But they are not being given pension. Sitting in Vijaywada and other cities, the members of the Committee are granting pension to such persons who have never handled even a gun. These persons have accepted Swatantrata Samman Pension also. When the Committee was asked how many such persons are there, they submitted a list of 1100 selected names. They said that when so many thousands of persons are being given pension what is the hitch in granting pension to these 1100 persons.

DR. G S. RAJHANS: How all this is related to supplementary demands?

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR CHAIRMAN: What is this? You have been given only five minutes. Please conclude.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI. C. JANGA REDDY: On this issue, he was given Andhra Kesari Prakasam.

[*Translation*]

Crores of rupees are being wasted. I am telling this in order to bring it to your notice. All these things are taking place in the name of war of Independence. We know what is war of Independence.

Shri. B. Satyanarayan Reddy, whom Shri Ranga knows had written an article in

which he has mentioned about the Hyderabad Independence Struggle in 1947-48.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why are you talking in Telugu? You started to speak in Hindi.

[*Translation*]

In that article he has written that there were hardly twenty persons associated with it.

[*English*]

SHRI. C. JANGA REDDY: I am giving some statistics.

[*Translation*]

This book was published in 1972. The Congress Party had given a list of 1100 persons so that scheme could be sanctioned but ** and by using the influence they got the list of underground workers sanctioned and by now six thousand persons are getting pension. A 17 years old girl, a youth aged 37 years and a person aged 45 years are getting pension.....(*Interruptions*)

I know about the scheme. It is like selling water mixed in milk. Shri.B. Satyanarayan Reddy had written an article in 1972 in which he referred to twenty camps. But at the time of sanction it went up to 42. Shri K.V. Narasimha Rao, who is a member of the Screening Committee had also submitted a list carrying names of 100 persons and by the next meeting got the name of 250 persons sanctioned.....(*Interruptions*)

I would like to tell that this thing is causing loss to the tune of crore of rupees to the exchequer.....(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Janga Reddy, you have made enough. You have made your

point very clear. Please conclude.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad): He should give a notice when he wants to make some reference....

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: This is the list which was given by the State Congress people.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: When a name is to be mentioned, a notice should be given to this effect.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: I am not making allegations. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR CHAIRMAN: Why do you get into controversies? As far as possible, try to avoid names. They are not to be mentioned without permission.(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: At the time when pension was not being granted, there were twenty camps and when pension was started, the number of camps rose to 42. In 1974, 81 and 82 when the Congress prepared list in the name of State Advisory Committee, there were 600 persons in the list of underground workers. It was rejected because there was no evidence. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI: This is not authentic. I challenge. This is wrong.

[*English*]

Who knows it? You should give notice before making any reference.....(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot do like this.....(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Everything looks pale to the jaundiced eye.....(*Interruptions*).

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Qureshi, please let him conclude. Mr. Janga Reddy, I have given you only five minutes.....(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted for this item is only 2 hours. The Minister has to reply now.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: If you want, you can see the recommendations of the State Advisory Committee. If this is wrong, you tell us in the next session what is the truth. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI: The reference to Shri * * has to be expunged. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda): He is not mentioning about Shri * * but he is mentioning about Shri * *

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not want that any name should be mentioned. He should not have referred to it. That will not go on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: When asked from the Camp Incharge as to how many persons worked, he initially mentioned very small number but later on instead of 1000, cases of 6000 persons were sanctioned. (*Interruptions*)

This is bogus. The members who are in the committee do not understand even the

meaning of independence. Most of the persons who are getting pension are not freedom fighters. A number of cases have been rejected by the Advisory Committee because they have no evidence. Actually the persons for whom this Committee has been constituted are not getting any benefit. Those who greased the palms of the members and the incharge of the Committee are getting pension.

[*English*]

I am not a freedom-fighter. My father is not a freedom-fighter I was a spectator. I know what was the movement. I was a small boy, a 11 year old boy at that time.

[*Translation*]

I was a student of fourth class at that time Another child who was then a student of second class is getting pension. Are these the recommendations of the Committee on Freedom fighters? I will not hesitate in telling his name * *

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. I am going to call the next Member Mr. Janga Reddy, I am asking you to conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: It is a dole programme for the Congress workers. It should be discontinued. I would like to tell. ...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA: On a point of order Under rule 353, no allegation of a defamatory nature can be made against anybody without giving prior notice Therefore, all those names which he mentioned should be expunged.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The name are no going on record. I have already said that names will not go on record.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: This is the bogus screening Committee. I have worked in the Chanda Committee. I have submitted an application saying that if the Committee is not recognised, send it to the Mahendra Committee. I know about it. It seems from the report that 95 per cent people out of six thousand belong to Warangal and Karim Nagar.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: MR. Janga Reddy, I am asking you to conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: What is Swaraj, what is Nizam. Those persons do not know anything about it. One who paid Rs. Ten thousand, his application was sanctioned. We have worked but our application was not accepted. Such type of bogus work is going on. You get the recommendations of the Committee investigated by a magistrate. Our State Government is getting them investigated and a number of persons are being detected.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you going to conclude or not? I have to call the next Member. Then I will say that nothing will go on record. I will ask them not to record anything. Please conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: I would like to say that it is not a programme for granting pension to the freedom fighters but a programme to grant dole to the Congress Workers. I would like to demand that this Committee should be scrapped at the earliest. None of their recommendations should be accepted.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will call the next Member, if you do not conclude.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: You also belong to Andhra, Madam.

[*Translation*]

Shrimati Dikshit You may, just listen, please I want that he may be placed under suspension early and issued show cause notice. It may also be ascertained who is its incharge. These people travel by first class.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Ranga. I have called the next speaker. Mr. Janga Reddy, nothing will go on record. I am asking them not to record whatever you say. Prof. Ranga.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY **

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): Madam Chairman, I wanted to speak on a very important question but Mr. Janga Reddy has successfully confused the whole House by his speaking about something which is absolutely irrelevant. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is not yielding. Please resume your seat.

PROF. N.G. RANGA: He went on quoting my name. Thank God he has not said that any of my relatives are involved in any of these Committees. Committees were appointed by the Government of India, by State Governments. Now those Governments were liable to be controlled by their own legislatures. It is for them to say whether a Committee is a bogus one or not, whether a Committee should be dismissed or not, whether a Committee's recommendations were accepted. Thousands of people who did not deserve to be

* Not recorded

given concessions are being given and they are all enjoying I thought they were Razakars and not these ordinary villagers. They were somebody else. But, instead my Hon friend wants us to believe the ordinary folk Razakars in Hyderabad. Anyhow, whatever it is, it has no relevance at all to this particular question which we are discussing. I do not want to accept any responsibility.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He should not interfere like this. Please resume your seat

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)**

PROF N.G. RANGA: Now I can understand. Madam Chairman, how my Hon friend must have stumped his

(*Interruptions*)

The way he has managed to come over to this House by producing before them things which did not exist, which he brought out somehow or other from his pocket, from juggler's box and made them confuse to such an extent that they voted for him and sent him here to this House

I wish to draw the attention of the House to a very important Demand No.69. I wish to express a word of praise, Madam to the Government and also to the Finance Ministry for having brought this Supplementary Demand 69 for Surface Transport and for having brought into existence what is known as Inland Waters Authority of India. From the days of the birth of Congress itself, we have been decrying the British team of not developing, undermining the inland water ways, inland surface development also in preference to the development of railways which was then a private enterprise of the British industry and for

which the British used to guarantee a minimum profit also There used to be a great canal known as Bakhingom canal that used to run over a distance of 600 or more miles, all the way from Kakanada right down to Madras and even further down to Nagapattanam But that was discouraged, that was afterwards abandoned as an Inland Waterways by the British in preference to the railways At long last, now our Government has come to realise that although they have doubled the railway line, it is not enough to carry on the ever increasing transport demand that we are having because of our economic and industrial development

15.00 hrs.

Therefore they have thought of renewing and renovating this great canal; I congratulate them on this. I also congratulate on having chosen one of our old colleagues, Mr.Arakal as its Chairman. He is a very dynamic man; I wish him all the success in his venture.

I want that some attention should be paid to two-three other aspects also. The Nagarjuna Right Canal and the Nagarjuna Left Canal are being developed principally for irrigation purposes. I want them to be reorganised in such a manner, with the necessary technical equipment, that they can be utilised for waterways also.

Similarly, the Telugu-Ganga project, which my Hon.friend was talking about, was known as Sangameswara Project at one time. That should be developed as a multi-purpose project, so that it should serve as surface water canal from Madras to Nagapattinam—also it should be extended to Buckingham Canal.

I know that from Allahabad right upto Calcutta the Ganga is proposed to be developed further as a waterway. But I want greater attention to be given in all these directions. Hundreds of crores, even thou-

[Prof. N G. Ranga]

sands of crores are well worth investing in this. I would like that the Government must make haste about it because we know that as a matter of industrial development it is not possible, however anxious we may be, to develop more and more of the railways. It is not possible for the Government to manufacture the necessary equipment like wagons and the rest of it needed by the railways. Therefore, in order to supplement the railways, waterways have to be developed. They have to be developed just as fast as we are now trying to develop the railways. Everyone knows that it is many times cheaper to develop surface waterways than to develop the railways. The sooner the Government makes up its mind to place funds at the disposal of these authorities, not merely the year-to-year grants, but permanent grants as capital investment, the better it would be for the development of our country.

So far as the political pensions are concerned, I can tell you that I am not satisfied with the tardy manner in which the Central Authority here is disposing of the thousands of applications pending before them. Here or there, there may be one or two black sheeps. I don't know anything about the Telangana *tamasha*. But on the whole, 90 to 95% of the people who have applied for it are the genuine sufferers. But quite a number of them do not satisfy all the conditions that are stipulated. Therefore, some people die without getting anything at all. Only the other day I found a friend of mine who had worked with us. He was in the hospital suffering from diabetes. His head was operated and he died. Now his wife is there, we have to ask for the pension. Would she get it? It would not be possible. Why? Because a condition was not satisfied. When he was in the underground, he had to be in the under ground in houses the owners of which are not his relatives. But unfortunately for him, he was hiding in a house which belonged to one of the relatives of his father-in-law. Therefore, he could not be given any pension. Now he died and his wife cannot get it. How old are

these people who have been asking for this pension? They are past 70 years. Many of them are even older than that. They are in a very dilapidated condition, physically incapable of looking after themselves. Here and there inspite of some mistakes made to grudge granting of pension to such people who have suffered for the sake of the country is not a dignified thing.

DR.DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): Mr. Chairman, on page 8 it has been mentioned as International Monetary Fund. I think it is International Monetary Loan. The amount mentioned is Rs. 153 crores. Perhaps at the Budget time there will be another Rs. 339 crores. So it will come to about Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 crores every year. We are making this payment towards the external loans. The total amount of these loans is Rs.39,000 crores. It is a huge amount. These amounts are increasing so much that inspite of making this payment the amount is going to increase because the value of rupee as compared to 1960-61 and 1987 has gone down from 100 paisa to 14 paisa. So we should not take such external loans because the rupee value is going down. It is a serious danger for our economy.

On page 13 there is mention of Rs. 5 crores for organising Return Festival of USSR, Japan Month, etc. I am not against it. I think it is only an advance and the Government is going to spend much more. Another Rs. 4 crores have been shown for the celebration of the 40th year of Independence. When the country is facing such a drought there should be considerable reduction in the expenditure of all these things.

Now a word about ONGC. You are giving Rs. 52 crores for the special equipment. I am concerned with that because I am dealing with their workers. Equipment worth Rs. 100 crores is lying. The work is not being given to Mazagon Docks but is being given to the Korean Company. So you should see that whatever you are spending is used for the national interest

as a whole. Time has also come that when you are spending for the public sector you should consider all these things.

Now after giving the loans to the few big houses what is happening. I think there is no record in any office of the Government about it. Lot of talk of black-money and parallel economy is going on in this country. Now time has come when in our country free economy, giving of concessions to big industrialists is not going to work because ours is a backward country. Only about fifty to hundred big houses are taking all the advantage. On sick industries crores of rupees are going to be wasted. In the textile industry, as has also been mentioned by Mr. Murli Deoras Rs. 1500 crores bank money has been cheated. Who is going to recover it? Another Rs. 750 crores we are going to give for modernisation. These big people have cheated and kept the money in the Swiss and other banks. A parallel economy is rising in the country. Rs. 2000 crores worth of cloth is smuggled in this country. There is black-money to the tune of Rs. 50,000 crores in the Swiss and other banks. The big houses taking all the advantages by way of concessions etc. is resulting into black-money. That is a very bad picture of this country. If such a thing goes on then I am afraid nothing will get solved.

The per capita income as per Seventh Plan is Rs. 35 per family. That means Rs. 7 per man per day. I want to know how many people in this country are getting Rs. 7 per day and per family Rs. 35 per day. It amounts to Rs. 1000 per month per family. Last year it was Rs. 6.50. Now it has been shown as Rs. 7. I think not even 90 per cent families are earning Rs. 35 daily. In your whole economy the advantage is given to the top five-six people as their interests tally with the top politicians. The distribution of this economy in this country is going on very poorly.

Madam, regarding unemployment, during the Seventh Plan period, about four crore people are unemployed. The Government is not giving figures during

the last two budgets. Every year, 80 lakh people are to be given jobs. In the private sector, the industrialists having a share capital of one crore of rupees have done wonderfully well. Their assets, profit and turnover have gone up but the employment potential has not risen. Their exports have gone down by 30 per cent. The bank borrowings went up by 66 per cent. This is the picture of the big industrial houses. It shows that they are taking money from this Government. These big houses are expanding too much, but only at the cost of national economy where there is no employment potential; the export is going down. The country is going to dogs. This shows that all these people are running the business with the Government money as their bank borrowings went up by 66 per cent. Such type of economy is going on in this country.

Madam, it is high time that the Government should come out strongly to handle such types of economic offenders and see that the interests of the average men are protected. Nothing is passing on to the lower strata, to the village level. The interests of the poor man must be protected. You call it any 'ism'. But I don't think by giving a sum of Rs. 100 crores to the Tatas the economic conditions of the workers in U.P. would improve. That type of economy is being followed during the last 40 years. Therefore, I oppose this demand and conclude myself.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI) . Madam Chairman, I am thankful to all the Hon'ble Members who have participated in this discussion about the Demands for Grants, I very much appreciate the main points they have raised showing their concern about the price rise, natural calamity situation particularly drought and flood in the country and about meeting the hardships of the people. These are the main points which have been raised. Before I dwell on them, certain other individual points concerning various Ministries also have been raised. In some

[Shri B.K. Gadhvi]

areas, even the duties which need to be performed by the State Governments also have been brought to our notice.

So far as Government of India's various Ministries are concerned I would assure that we have noted down scrupulously all the points raised by you concerning those Ministries. They will be sent to the concerned Ministries with a direction that they be attended to and replied to you under intimation to us.

Madam, one apprehension and criticism which came from the Members sitting opposite was that it is going to increase the deficit. Because we have come with supplementary demands at this juncture, to come to a conclusion that it is going to add to the deficit is not a right conclusion. Even when the budget was presented, at that time, Prime Minister as Finance Minister had assured the House that this deficit projected in the budget papers would not be allowed to grow. If at all we come for supplementary demands, we would try to locate either matching savings or the increased revenue receipts. Therefore, in these supplementary demands brought before the House, out of a total of Rs. 687.77 crores, so far as the savings are identified, although there is no cash outgo from the Consolidated Fund, it amounts to Rs. 291.41 crores. So, it has got no relevance at all. The balance at present, where savings are yet to be identified, is Rs. 396.36 crores only. This is needed because of various pressing demands, and particularly the Members must have observed that in the area of helping the States in meeting the natural calamities situation. I am sorry to observe that one very senior and learned Member observed that there is discrimination; West Bengal is not being given and that Punjab is being given more.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: I said all the States.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: His reference was to Punjab. What did we give to Punjab?

Yesterday only was passed the Supplementary Demands for Punjab. From February to May there were very severe rains, hailstorms and storms in Punjab and consequently, the farmers suffered a great damage to their crop which was already on the threshing floor, which was about to be harvested and, therefore to go to their succour relief was granted and that has been included. It is not in any other way.

But I can tell you one thing that so far as drought relief or so far as relief because of the floods, or because of the earthquakes—last year we had earthquake in Himachal Pradesh—is concerned, Government of India would never discriminate between State and State and relief is to be given to the people and people belong to this nation and we belong to the people. Therefore, there would never be any discrimination, but the amount given as a relief is based on certain norms. When the Central teams go, when they assess the situation, when they assess the demand, when they recommend, then a very high level Committee is constituted and that assesses and proposes what should be the relief given based on the memorandum submitted by the State Government as well as the information and the expenditure figures etc. provided by the State Government. Therefore, I once again can reiterate that there is never any discrimination. So far as some of the States are concerned, what they were entitled to get by way of help, they were granted over and above that. Successively for 3,4 years Rajasthan, Gujarat and some other parts are under heavy drought. Not a drop of water came from the sky. We gave a grant of wheat because we have taken a vow that there should not be any starvation death in this country. As far as the implementation programme is concerned, the State Governments manage the relief programmes. We only give them the money and the necessary equipments. We give the help, wherever it is required, by providing wheat, rice, etc.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Sir, in Andhra Pradesh all the parties including the Congress Party felt that they

were given a raw deal and the necessary assistance is not forthcoming from the Centre. May I request you kindly to look into that and give an answer?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: That claim is untenable. There is no question of party. As per the norms, as per the requirements, and as per the assessment Andhra Pradesh has also been given the necessary assistance. And here I may tell you that last year when the heavy flood came in Andhra Pradesh, it was not in a position to spend even the amount that was given to it.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: That is a wrong Statement. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: And therefore they sought extension for the... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen to him.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I will tell you, do not jump. And, therefore, they sought extension for spending that amount on the plea that because there was floods they could not put up the bridge. Then even the extension was granted.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: How can they spend money when the flood is on? So, please do not say like that. (*Interruptions*)

Why cannot you say that how much money was given and for what purpose? You are speaking here like a layman, not like the Minister. Give the figure.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Datta you should not say like this.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: How many times do I have to repeat it? You cannot force him like that.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: He has got the figures with him. So, he should quote the figures.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please have patience. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not proper Mr. Reddy.

MR. RAGHUMA REDDY: Are we here to keep quiet? We are not here to keep quiet.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I am not pointing to any of you.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Madam, I have a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, what is your point of order?

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: The Minister can emphasise on the performance of the State Government without any valid reasons and the basic data and should we take it silently without protesting against it? I think it is in our right to demand the figures from the Minister. No justice is meted out to the people of Andhra Pradesh. All the political parties have joined together and have made a representation to the Central Government

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not a point of order. You want to have certain clarifications.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: May I ask the Minister that whether in course of speech he will justify that when Punjab is given 91 crores while the rest of the State of India together have been given 225 crores which should have got 30 times what Punjab has been given, so what is the rationale behind it?

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Because they are killing people there.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: I do not know, let him say so.

(*Interruptions*)

(*Translation*)

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: You give more to those who create disturbances.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I am not going to yield. You take your seat.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: You give more to those who create disturbances.....
(*Interruptions*)

(*English*)

MR CHAIRMAN: Mr. Reddy, you please take your seat.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: I had posed a question but you have given a very general reply that no one is discriminated against. You justify how Punjab can be given 91 crores and the rest of India only 150 crores.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: If you do not have patience, then I cannot help it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You first hear him Mr. Datta.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: You only said that nobody is discriminated against but...

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I have not finished my speech. You should not be so impatient. Unnecessarily you are jumping to the conclusion.....

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Datta please do not interfere.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I do not know whether there is any rule for running commentary?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please hear him first. He is still replying.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: He is saying things for which he does not have any figure.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: The point which I was trying to make was that for relief measures we do not even go into the technicalities. Therefore, even in the cases where technically a financial year might be over

and a State would have been obliged to spend a particular amount within a particular time frame, even in such cases we have made relaxations on the legitimate ground and we have given the extensions. That was the point which I was trying to bring to the notice of the House. So far as drought in Andhra Pradesh is concerned, I am sorry to say that up till now we have not received memorandum from Andhra Pradesh seeking for the assistance.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: We have submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister when he visited Andhra Pradesh on the 8th of this month. Without finding out the exact facts don't cast aspersions on the State Government.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Raghuma Reddy, please sit down. Whatever he wants to say, please let him say. You have to hear him. When you have spoken, he heard you patiently. Do not interrupt him. Let him reply.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: He is not giving the correct picture. Why don't you pull him up? Why can't you ask him... Why did he come without facts (*Interruptions*) You please tell him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot compel the Minister to speak either this way or that way. He is replying. You please listen.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: We did give a memorandum to the Prime Minister. A team from the State Government came here yesterday. Unfortunately, they could not meet the Prime Minister. He is not giving the correct facts. He is casting aspersions on the State Government.....
(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are interrupting too much.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I do not know it exactly. They might have requested the Prime Minister. But the memorandum as such giving details about assistance required for drought has not yet been received by us. I maintain that.....
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: I repeat that our State Government has given a memorandum to the Prime Minister on 8th of this month. You may find out.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Reddy, this is not proper. Please take your seat.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: The hon. Minister is misleading the House. Don't we have a right to set the record straight?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please listen. He is replying.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Some people claim the expertise of frogs in jumping. I cannot claim to have such expertise..

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: What is he saying?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Well, I may be weak in English. I am not an Oxonian.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not like these direct exchanges.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I would like to inform that Government of India is more than keen to tackle the drought and flood situation and we have taken action to meet the situation.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Uptill now, what have they done?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I am not responding to you. Why do you disturb me? We already have a Cabinet Committee on drought.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Cabinet Committee on drought....(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not like these interruptions. You please listen to his reply.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: He should have the facts. Without any facts, why should he come before the House?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I am not yet to take advice from you. When you become a Minister, you behave in your own way.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: He will become a Minister.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I wish him well.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not reply to them. You please go on with your reply.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: But they are interrupting me Madam.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is our birth right to interrupt.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Then, enjoy your birth right.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: If the Minister has nothing concrete to say, he need not say anything. He is not replying to the questions raised by us.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: On this count, we already have five parameters. We have written to the Chief Ministers. The Prime Minister has written to the Chief Minister to give check points and we are making all efforts on a war footing to meet the situation. Steps are being taken to help. Already, huge demands are there. We assure the House and the nation that so far as drought is concerned, no efforts will be spared in meeting the situation and in giving succour to the affected people.

[Shri B.K. Gadhvi]

Now I would like to mention a point about price rise. So far as price situation is concerned, we know that because of seasonal factors and also because of drought, there are difficulties and the prices of essential commodities are on the rise. We are taking care of essential commodities through the public distribution system. We are strengthening the PD system. More foodgrains, more sugar and more edible oil are put in the market through the Public Distribution System. It goes to the people and the Government is keeping a watch. Therefore, the picture which is visualised by my friend sitting opposite always with pessimism, is not correct.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: I am optimistic that something will come out of pessimism.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: For the first time, I am yielding. You get up and tell me. Don't sit and talk. This is not the decorum of the House. If you know about the decorum, then please get up and tell me what you want.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Amal Datta, I have been telling you not to have direct exchanges. If you want to ask anything, you ask him. You get up and take the permission of the Chair and then ask.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: I want to ask one thing.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I have permitted only Mr. Amal Datta.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will you explain what had happened in Kalahandi, Orissa?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I am not yielding to you.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: He is asking me to stand up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Amal Datta, I don't like this.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: He is saying that like a Headmaster.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: He is not even fit to be the Headmaster. That is the difficulty.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: At least he is not fit enough to be a Minister in that sense.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Mr. Amal Datta raised a point about SFDC's loan to shipping development. He claims to be a studious man. He says that why this was not included in the Budget. I told him that when the Budget was presented, SFDC was in existence. It was wound up only on the 3rd April, 1987. After the wounding up, the fund came to the Government. Therefore the commitment which that company made in the past were to be honoured. Therefore, there is no cash outgo. So, it was not included in the Budget.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Where from the SFDC got the money?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: At that time, it was a company. The money came...

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA: The company is depending on the budgetary grants.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: At that time whatever money was there, it came back to the Government and therefore the commitments were to be honoured. So there is no cash outgo. It was already mentioned.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Have you mentioned that it has come back to the Government? You have not mentioned that.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: On the 3rd April, 1987, it was wound up. Till then, it was in existence.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: Have you mentioned it in your Supplementary Budget.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: It needed to be mentioned in your mind, not here.

Mr. Murli Deora also has raised this point. And this is the clarification for him.

So far as high interest rate is concerned, Mr. Deora has admitted that we have already brought it down by one per cent.

Regarding other grants, I very well appreciate the observations made by Prof. Ranga. He is very much right in saying that we have to augment the other means of transport. Therefore, the inland waterways are being developed.

The projects which Mr. K.P. Singh Deo referred for Orissa and Prof. Ranga also referred for Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, I would pass on their requests to the concerned Ministers.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Madam, with your permission I want to ask one question. When I pointed out about this infamous Vaccine Action Programme and the agreement...

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Again you are impatient. I have not said that now.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Oh, I thought, because you are winding up.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee referred about the grants on vaccines. That grant is merely made for the acquisition of land. But so far as the hazards she has pointed out are concerned i.e. about the collaboration, I can assure her this much—of course, vaccines are needed in the country for immunizing people from the diseases. (*Interruptions*) There are various types of vaccines—not one; there are various types of vaccines for various types of diseases. But I can assure you that the fear that she has expressed, viz. that there would be a chemical warfare on the country by America or that it would lead to so

many reactions because of passing the information to America—about all these things, I can say in one sentence that so far as the detrimental aspects of that project are concerned, we will keep a close watch and we would ensure that it would not be on the lines of what Argentina feared.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: How can you do that? Our scientists themselves are protesting...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Our scientists are capable of taking care of this. On that count, there should not be any apprehension in your mind. We have come across Press reports, but we would ensure that the red signals pointed out in the Press reports do not really occur. On that, we will strictly keep monitoring and vigilance, and you need not have any fear over this.

With these words, Madam, I think generally I have covered the main points of the Members; and regarding specific points, as I have already stated, whatever they have stated will be kept in mind.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: What about that bungling of Rs five crores in the payment of pension (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Your point has already been covered by Mr. Ranga, and, therefore, I need not advert to it.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Mr. Ranga was there...(*Interruptions*) Will the Commission of Enquiry be constituted?

(*Interruptions*)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Reddy, please resume your seat. Why do you go back to the Supplementary Demands? Nothing will go on record.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1988 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof—

Demands Nos. 10, 18, 21, 22, 24, 27, 40, 42, 44, 46, 53, 58, 64, 66, 69 and 77."

The motion was adopted

15.39 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE: SITUATION ARISING OUT OF DEVASTATING FLOODS IN ASSAM, BIHAR, WEST BENGAL AND OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY—
Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up further discussion on the situation arising out of the devastating floods in Assam, Bihar, West Bengal and other parts of the country resulting in immense loss of life and property and remedial measures taken by the Government in that regard.

Now Mr. Haren Bhumij will continue his speech

SHRI HAREN BHUMIJ (Dibrugarh): While going to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of India's Independence the country faced severe drought in one part as well as devastating flood in the other part. Assam, Bihar and West Bengal and some parts of the country are now in the grip of flood. Sharing the woe and misery of the flood affected people of these States, I confine myself to the State of Assam.

Monsoon greeted the N.E. region in April-May in time showing a deaf ear to the other parts of the country. The first wave of flood in May-June was a blessing divinely bestowed upon the human being of the State of Assam. But because of heavy and continuous rainfall in June-July, particularly in Arunachal and Assam the water level of the Brahmaputra and Longal and their tributaries rose alarmingly above the danger level inundating hectares and hectares of paddy land. In the successive second wave of flood in June-July vast area of 13 districts viz. Nalbari, Borpeta, Dhubri, Goalpara, Kamrup, Darrang, Sonitpur, Lakshimpur, Jorhat, Sibsagar, Nagaon, Kokrajha, including Dibrugarh came under the grip of flood. According to the official record of the State affected, the figures are like this: area being—2.12 lakh hectares; population—25.56 lakhs; villages—2716 nos; families—527.9 thousands; loss of life—12 nos.; loss of cattle—1146; roads affected—729; bridges & culvert—1093 nos; damage to roads including erosion—1117.8 kms; crop affected area—177.7 thousands hectares. The total loss estimated to be incurred as a result of flood damage to the crops was Rs. 24.85 crores; value of crop loss being estimated at market rate. This was the official report of assessment upto mid of July; unofficially damage and loss were much more.

Occurrence of flood in Assam is not a news, but recurrence of successive waves of flood within the year and every year is certainly most pathetic and deplorable. While the central team at the initiative of the Government of India visited the State a few days ago to assess the loss and damage caused by the flood of June-July, the State has come under the grip of successive third wave of flood which spread over to all the 18 districts of the State of Assam, submerging new areas including the 37 & 52 National Highways and rail tracks in several places causing disruption of traffic both roads and rails till yesterday. Even Indian Airlines could not operate beyond Gauhati because of worst weather. Army was out to help the authorities as the flood