

[Shri Rajiv Gandhi]

good of our peoples through cooperative solutions to shared problems.

Under the pioneering leadership of Bangladesh, SAARC has been nurtured from concept to reality in the first crucial year of its existence. During our Chairmanship we shall endeavour to consolidate these gains while giving new dimensions to interaction and enriching our cooperation with new content.

The areas of cooperation identified directly affect the lives and well-being of the majority of our peoples. They include agriculture forestry, meteorology, natural disaster management, the upliftment of women and child development. We have also resolved to jointly combat the twin, the often inter-related, evils of drug trafficking and terrorism. Our cooperation has been institutionalized with the decision to set up a permanent Secretariat in Kathmandu for monitoring and coordinating the implementation of programmes. The basic thrust of our effort is to promote people-to-people contacts at all levels to cut through constraints and close the gap in our knowledge of each other.

At Nehru Nilayam in Nandi Hills, my colleagues and I identified further areas of possible cooperation for strengthening popular participation and interaction. These include radio and television programmes, tourism, the exchange of scholars, a regional documentation centre and an organized volunteers' exchange programme for work in agriculture and forestry extension.

I believe that such people-to-people contacts would not only supplement inter-governmental effort but open up new areas of untapped potential collaboration. More important, such contacts would lead to a greater appreciation of common aspirations and needs, as well as of the complementarities in our economies. It would strengthen friendship and trust, which would create the climate for greater collective self-reliance and inter-

dependence. This in turn would inevitably enhance the collective stake in regional peace and stability. There is perhaps no surer way of breaking out of the old moulds of our colonial heritage and combating the tyranny of lingering suspicious and animosities than by creating an enduring structure of regional co-operation.

The Bangalore Declaration and other documents adopted at the Second SAARC Summit made an important contribution towards the realisation of these common goals.

SAARC is not a political association. Bilateral issues are outside its framework. The Bangalore Summit did, however, provide a useful opportunity for an exchange of views with other leaders on bilateral, regional and international issues. I had meetings with the President of Bangladesh, the King of Bhutan, the President of Maldives, the King of Nepal, the Prime Minister of Pakistan and the President of Sri Lanka. A separate statement on these bilateral meeting will be made later this week by Government.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR
GRANTS (GENERAL) 1986-87—
Contd.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota) :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants presented by the hon. Minister of Finance. Obviously, these are the outcome of the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission. The recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission will result in an additional burden of Rs. 6,000 crore on the country and of about Rs. 2,000 crore on the Central Government alone. It has also affected the States. The Government employees of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan are on strike. Everywhere the State Government employees are demanding the same facilities and enhanced bonus as

recommended by the Fourth Pay Commission for the Central Government employees. It will create an additional burden of Rs. 700 crores on Uttar Pradesh and Rs. 200 crores on Rajasthan. I would like to submit that Government employees in various States are on strike for the last 5 to 10 days but the financial position of the States does not permit them to bear the additional burden of enhanced salaries. Therefore, the Central Government should come forward to help the State Governments by allocating additional grants to them so that they may deal with the situation arising out of strikes. In this regard I would like to submit one more point that whenever any report of famine, floods or drought is received by the Central Government from any State, the Central Government sanctions only 1/10th or 1/15th part of the actual demand made by the concerned State for the relief work. My constituency, i.e., Kota was affected by floods and a Central team was sent to assess the flood situation which submitted its report after on-the-spot inspection of 2 to 4 hours. We had asked for a grant of Rs. 32 crores but only Rs. 7 crores were sanctioned. This should not happen. Whenever the Centre sends a team for inspection, they should issue clear instructions to the team to make a through inspection of the actual damage caused.

Similarly, the famine situation in Rajasthan is grim and all the 27 districts are in its grip. Rajasthan Government has submitted a memorandum to the Centre demanding Rs. 800 crores to deal with the famine but no action has yet been taken by the Centre. I would request the Minister of Finance that since there is acute paucity of drinking water, fodder for cattle, and shortage of employment opportunities in these areas, he should take immediate action on such memoranda and the Centre should sanction *ad-hoc* grant to the State Government immediately. The people are migrating from these villages and 25 to 30 per cent people have already migrated along with their cattle and are living 200 to 300 km. away from their villages. Under such circumstances, about 80 per cent population of

Rajasthan has been affected by the famine. The Central Government should, therefore, pay immediate attention to their memorandum and sanction *ad-hoc* grant to the State Government.

16.12 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

Moreover, prices are rising rapidly. The prices of sugar and oil have risen very fast. We are blindly importing various things in the name of new technology which has destabilised our economy. If we go on doing so, it will affect our economy instead of helping it. Government should stop the concessions being given on imports and should fully assist the exporters. With these words, I once again request him to take immediate action on the memorandum submitted by the Rajasthan Government regarding famine in Rajasthan.

[*English*]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to intervene in this debate very briefly. The demands are there. They are 107 in number. It amounts to Rs. 3038.54 crores.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is only the Minister, who intervenes.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I have been representing the Jammu and Kashmir State. I have the same figure.

Mr. Chairman, it is not a very big amount of money with the Ministry of Finance wants us to sanction and it is customary to have a discussion and pass these demands.

While, I agree with the people who have supported these demands, but I want to invite the Ministry's attention to one area of thrust and the area of thrust which Mr. V.P. Singh and his colleagues must consider is the area of correcting regional imbalances. While I invite the Ministry's attention to this aspect, I request them to consider my plea for

[Prof. Saifuddin Soz]

greater funding for Jammu and Kashmir, for its overall development.

I will not delve deeper and get involved in details, but will repeat what I have been saying, viz. that Jammu & Kashmir has not received an adequate share in public sector industries. I will not quote figures; they must be known to the hon. Minister who is sitting here. But I would request the Minister to see whether J & K has received a share, so far as public sector industries are concerned. It is roughly Rs. 30,000 crores—I mean the amount the nation has invested on public sector industries. It is now for you to see whether J & K has received any share: apart from the HMT factory at Srinagar, there is hardly any public sector industry. I do not say it is a deliberate policy; but here and there are imbalances. But now we feel safe in the hands of the couple of Ministers that we have in the Ministry of Finance. They must now correct these imbalances, not only in J & K, but throughout the country.

So far as Jammu & Kashmir is concerned, I would invite your particular and pointed attention to correcting imbalances so far as investment in public sector industries is concerned. The next area which I would request you to consider for investments would be, for instance, the electronic industry. It was Madam Indira Gandhi who made a statement in Parliament that she would consider Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and other mountainous regions in the country for the establishment of these electronic industries, because these industries are capital-light, and they do not create any pollution. But Government of India has yet to take the initiative, so far as electronic industries are concerned, i.e. so far as their setting up these industries in Jammu & Kashmir is concerned.

Another area would be Tourism; we have our own Ministry of Tourism in J & K. But ultimately it is the responsibility of Government of India. Recently,

we were fortunate to have the Prime Minister in Jammu and Srinagar. He himself saw that our State required attention, so far as tourism was concerned. One area where he could come directly and help the State Government is to remove pollution in the Dal Lake. That is a fine lake. I once saw the Geneva Lake, and how human beings in Geneva were very careful about pollution. And God has given us a very great gift in Dal Lake, and that is a centre of attraction for international tourists. And that lake is full of pollution, as was seen by the hon. Prime Minister recently. The removal of pollution from Dal Lake could be a project in which you could directly help the State Government.

The Prime Minister made certain commitments in Jammu & Kashmir, and I am very sorry to say that this document does not reflect the commitments made before the people of J&K. He said there, that he would ask for funding for certain agro-based industries, for removal of pollution of Dal Lake, and for organizing a very big project of sewerage for Srinagar. He also, at Jammu, committed himself to greater funding for the completion of the railway line upto Udhampur. The work there has been very sluggish. It was a project for five years; and Rs. 70 crores were to be spent. It is already the seventh year, and to my knowledge, only Rs. 11 crores have been spent, out of Rs. 70 crores. But the Prime Minister was conscious of this. The Minister's commitment now will perhaps involve Rs. 20 crores to Rs. 30 crores. But this document does not reflect the hon. Prime Minister's commitment.
(Interruptions)

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Wait for the Budget.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : But he has come forward with these Demands; and he must have respect for the hon. Prime Minister's commitments.

So, if not more, we have a very limited period of working in Jammu & Kashmir

State because of climbing. So, I would request the hon. Minister that when he replies to the debate—in this debate, I have invited his attention to certain areas of Jammu & Kashmir State—he will kindly give his ideas as to how he wants to organise his Ministry's action, so far as these areas are concerned. He will kindly convince me as to why he has not reflected the hon. Prime Minister's commitment to certain very important areas, which he wanted should receive attention of the Government of India over a period of time.

Now, Prof. Ranga, the senior-most member in this august House—when he corrects me, I feel honoured—says that I must wait for the Budget Session. All right, I can wait for the Budget Session.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI) : You need not have any apprehension. If the Prime Minister has committed anything, it will be honoured.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Thank you very much. Out of overall saving, he can organise the effort to respond to the demands from the Jammu & Kashmir State. When the Budget Session is there and the budget is framed, you will take into consideration water resources and source of energy. We have tremendous water resources in Jammu & Kashmir State, and most of the waters are flowing wastefully to Pakistan. We could generate electricity not only for the State of Jammu & Kashmir but for other deficit areas also of the country.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, our hon. Minister has presented total Supplementary Demands of about Rs. 10,000 crores. The demands of about Rs. 3,000 crores have been presented now and the same were presented earlier also. Whenever they want, Supplementary Demands are presented in every session and that increases the inflation. When there is inflation, the deficit

budget will be there and when there is deficit budget, the prices go up. I would like to submit that at present total amount of annual budget is increased almost every year. Let us see the condition of price rise. The prices of all articles have gone up and the inflation has increased by 9.5 per cent.

In addition to inflation, Shri Poojary, while replying in the Rajya Sabha on 11.11.86, had stated that at present we had a debt equivalent to Rs. 27,43,220 lakhs. Apart from this debt he also informed us about the amount they had to spent on subsidy. I would like to know the rate at which dearness allowance has increased. I would like to give the figures of the price-rise and you will come to know the extent to which prices have gone up.

The most important issue which is troubling the poor is the price rise. The main reason for the price rise is that Government goes on increasing its expenditure every year. Wasteful expenditure and non-developmental expenditure of the Government goes on increasing. Government declares in the newspapers that they will curtail their expenditure. The price rise creates difficulties for the common people. I would like to submit that due to price rise, people have to pay higher rates for the essential commodities and that creates much difficulty to the general public. Apart from this, there is one more point that the number of rich people, who pay direct taxes, has come down and the number of those people who pay indirect taxes, has increased. I would like to prove it by giving figures. In 1951, the extent of direct taxation was 43.3 per cent whereas during 1985-86 it has come down to 19.3 per cent. Similarly, the indirect taxation in 1951 was 56.7 per cent which has now increased by 18.7 per cent. It means that more burden has been put on the poor. Now the people, who had capacity to pay, did not pay. By doing so, Government have not done any good. As per Government policy, they can neither curtail wasteful expenditure nor non-

[Shri Mool Chand Daga]

developmental expenditure. So, they must change the present policy.

Rajasthan is in the grip of dreadful famine for the fifth time. It appears that Government considers famine in Rajasthan as a general phenomenon. Our hon. Minister is our neighbour and perhaps he is aware of our plight very well. At present, the people of Rajasthan have no purchasing power. Drinking water is not available to them, fodder is not there, cattle are about to die, people are fleeing and vacating their houses. Thus, their condition is deteriorating. I have requested the Government several times to kindly provide help to the State Government but they have not yet taken any decision. Our agriculture Minister, Shri Dhillon, is present in the Houses and he knows the conditions in Rajasthan, but the necessary help, which should have been given to Rajasthan, is not being provided. For this I request the Minister of Finance to provide full assistance to Rajasthan. I would like to tell you by giving figures as to how non-developmental expenditure of Government is increasing. Shri Gadhvi has stated in a reply on July 22, 1986 as follows :

[English]

From 1974-75 to 1984-85 the main expenditure, non-developmental expenditure, namely Defence, interest and payments, police and Food subsidies, increased from Rs. 3,670 crores to Rs. 14,794 crores.

[Translation]

It is a recent reply. It is also because of non-developmental and wasteful expenditure that Rs. 200 crore of the Banks are written off every year. There is shortage of time and the hon. Minister and the hon. Chairman will say that we do not maintain discipline. I want to say that Government should impose discipline on those who break it but he should not impose it on our speaking. This discipline is not being imposed on wasteful and non-development expenditure. When Mr.

Chairman occupies the Chair, he imposes discipline on the speakers but there is no such discipline imposed on wasteful expenditure.

We are doing a lot of work in the field of family planning. But whereas Japan has succeeded in reducing its population what have we achieved in this regard? Government has spent billions of rupees on it but what have we achieved? We could not reduce our population. Government should find out the shortcomings in this programme. I want that targets should be fixed for every town and every village. At present targets are fixed for the districts. Targets should be fixed at village and town levels to make the family planning programme a success. If the population growth is not checked, it would be very dangerous for the country.

Similarly, much wasteful expenditure is being incurred on irrigation projects which is also causing great loss to us. We are not moving towards irrigation even by a drip. Our canals are not brick-lined. In Punjab, on the one hand and is being spoiled by excess water and on the other, water is flowing unutilised. The entire expenditure is being incurred at wrong places. This wasteful expenditure has considerably reduced the percentage of G.N.P. I want to point out only one thing that if Government does not reduce its wasteful expenditure, the deficit will increase and the prices will go up and that is what is happening.

In the end, I would like to bring a very important issue to your notice. In Rajasthan, about two crore people have been affected by the recent dreadful famine. Shri Gadhvi is our neighbour and he knows the condition of famine-stricken areas. Shri Dhillon is also sitting in the House, so I want that both the Ministers must make an announcement about the assistance to be given to Rajasthan. All the Members from Rajasthan have laid more stress on this point. I hope Government will consider this matter on priority basis. I want that both the Ministers, Shri Gadhvi and Shri

333 St. by member re : certain
informations given by
Minister of Textiles on
behalf of

KARTIKA 28, 1908 (SAKA)

Minister of Water 334
Resources on 6-11-1986
in reply to SQ No. 41

Dhillon should jointly visit the famine-stricken areas to know the actual condition of the people and then do something for them.

Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, repeated the same answer even when I put a supplementary question pointing out that the reply was not based on facts.

16.33 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MEMBER RE :
CERTAIN INFORMATION GIVEN BY
MINISTER OF TEXTILES ON BEHALF
OF MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES
ON 6.11.1986 IN REPLY TO SQ
NO. 41 REGARDING INCHANPALLI
PROJECT

[English]

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, With your permission, I make the following statement under Direction 115 :—

Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha, deputising for the Minister of Water Resources on 6th November, 1986, while replying to S.Q. No. 41 had categorically stated that the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had not sent any reply to a letter of the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, dated the 2nd May, 1985 on the subject of holding a ministerial level meeting to sort out the problem of Ichampalli Project and to constitute the task force to assess the area under submersion. I quote what Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha had then stated repeatedly :

“The Chief Minister of Maharashtra wrote as back as 2nd May, 1985, no reply has been received from the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh to this letter. Why cannot he speak to the Chief Minister ?”

“But I could not understand why the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh cannot reply to letter of May, 1985 and write back”.

“But there should be some keenness or desire on the part of the present Chief Minister to take up this matter and reply to the letter”.

As a matter of fact, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had been relentlessly pursuing the matter with the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh regarding such a meeting.

The Chief Minister of A. P. replied to the letter of Maharashtra Chief Minister of 2nd May, 1985 referred to in his reply by Hon'ble Minister Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha on 13.7.1985 agreeing to the Inter-State meeting at the ministerial level and suggesting 26.7.1985 for the meeting. A letter was also addressed to Shri Motilal Vora, C.M. of Madhya Pradesh regarding the convenience of Madhya Pradesh.

Sri Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar, C.M. of Maharashtra through his letter of 22.7.1985 conveyed his inability even to depute the Minister for irrigation for the meeting in view of the budget session of the State Legislature, which he said would continue till 7th August, 1985. He agreed for a suitable date for the meeting after this.

Shri Motilal Vora, C.M. of Madhya Pradesh also replied on 22nd July, 1985 stating that since the Vidhan Sabha was in session which would continue upto 14th August, 1985, the proposed ministerial level meeting may be held sometime in September '85.

Once again on 22nd June, 1986 the C.M. of A.P. wrote to Shri Chavan, C.M. of Maharashtra requesting him to indicate a convenient date for the meeting. Simultaneously Sri Motilal Vora was also addressed for his convenience.

On 17th July, 1986 Shri Motilal Vora replied that while the ministerial level meeting should precede a meeting at the level of Chief Ministers, the date of the meeting was left to the C.Ms. of A.P. and Maharashtra.