

[Rao Birendra Singh]
term loans for purchase and distribution of agricultural inputs during the current Kharif season have also been sanctioned. These five States have also been allotted foodgrains under the National Rural Employment Programme, besides cash assistance.

Drinking water posed a serious problem in the affected areas of these States. At the request of the State Governments, the D.G.S.&D. placed orders for 97 fast rigs for boring drinking water wells in hard rock areas. Thirty six rigs were supplied before the onset of the monsoon. On the intervention of the Prime Minister, 42 fast rigs were supplied, mostly along with crew, by other States. The total number of rigs deployed in the affected States was 688. Special allocation of cement was also arranged for these States.

In order to mitigate the distress to the cattle population, the State Governments set up cattle camps and fodder banks in the affected areas. A sum of Rs. 46 lakhs under Plan and Rs. 530 lakhs under Non-Plan has been sanctioned for this purpose. Special trains were arranged in Andhra Pradesh for transporting fodder to the critical areas.

The twelve-point Programme for drought management suggested by the Prime Minister during the severe drought of 1979-80 continued to provide the basic strategy and guidance at all levels for meeting the drought situation. A crop-weather watch group at the Centre has been continuously monitoring the situation and suggesting remedial measures to the States Governments. The States have also been advised to set up similar groups at State and districts levels. Steps have been taken to maintain supplies of cereals and other essential commodities through Fair Price Shops in the drought affected States. It is gratifying to note that no starvation death or cattle mortality or epidemic on account of drought has been reported, by the State Governments.

I am happy to state that the distress which the people in the drought affected States were passing through ended with the onset of monsoon this year. The rainfall in practically all parts of the country has been very satisfactory. However, the Government is alive to the recurrent drought conditions and is taking all possible steps to mitigate the effects of such aberrant weather conditions on plant, human and cattle population.

श्री मूल चन्द डागा : इतने वर्षों के बाद भी अभी तक प्रकृति की जो विनाश लीला होती है, जो प्रकोप होते हैं बाढ़ के रूप में या अकाल के रूप में और अरबों रुपया खर्च करने के बाद भी, उन पर हम काबू नहीं पा सके हैं। ये आपदाएँ, नेशनल क्लेमिटीज बार बार आती रहती हैं और इन को हम रोक नहीं सके हैं। सरकार ने इन पर काबू पाने के लिए विशाल धनराशि खर्च की है फिर भी देश के कोने कोने में राजस्थान, कर्नाटक, आन्ध्र प्रदेश तथा दूसरे हिस्सों में भयंकर दुष्काल की स्थिति है। मेरा समझ में नहीं आया कि मंत्री महोदय अभी की हालत के बारे में उत्तर दे रहे थे या 1980-81 में जो स्थिति थी उस का उत्तर दे रहे थे। इन को चाहिए था कि ये 1981-82 को स्थिति का उत्तर देते। मेरा सवाल था मंत्री जी हरियाणा और पंजाब को छोड़ कर राजस्थान में चले जायें और बतायें कि वहाँ जोधपुर, पाली, सिराही, जालौर, भालवाड़ा में क्या हाल है, और इसी तरह आन्ध्र प्रदेश में काडप्पा, अनन्तपुर, चित्तूर और करनूल में क्या हालत है। जो खबर आप के पास आज है मैं ए : बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज देश के अन्दर आदमी भूखा है अकाल के कारण। राजस्थान में लगातार 3 साल से अकाल है और आज भी भयंकर दुष्काल है। गाँवों के अन्दर लोगों का देखें तो उन की आँखों में आंसू हैं और बच्चे भूख में तड़फ रहे हैं। कितने जानवर मर चुके हैं उस की कोई शुमार नहीं है, आज उन के लिये चारा नहीं है, पीने का पानी उपलब्ध नहीं है। और आप खबर दे रहे हैं

और आप के चेहरे से मालूम नहीं हो रहा है कि आप को लोगों की तकलीफ का कोई एहसास है। आज राजस्थान के उन जिलों में जिन का मैंने नाम लिया 90 लाख लोग और लाखों की संख्या में पशु सूखे की चपेट में हैं, और तीन साल से बराबर उन की हालत यही चल रही है। और मंत्री जी यहां पढ़ रहे हैं : —

"I am happy to state that the distress which the people in the drought-affected States were passing through ended with the onset of monsoon this year."

यह क्या उत्तर है ? आप प्रसन्न है कि अब बहुत अच्छी हालत है। प्रशासन में एक बात जरूर है कि आदमी आज भी भूखा रहता है लेकिन फाइलें भूखी नहीं रहती और फाइलों का पेट भरा जाता है। फाइलें मोटी होती जाती है और आदमी दुबला होता जाता है। यह कौन सी फाइल आप के मंत्रालय ने बनायी है ? कहां से आप को यह रिपोर्ट मिली है। आप कृपया यह बतायें कि पाली, जोधपुर, जालौर, सरोहा और भीलवाड़ा में कितने सेंटीमीटर वर्षा हुई है अभी तक ? आंध्र के उन चार, पांच जिलों में कितनी वर्षा हुई ? क्या आप के पास इस के आंकड़े हैं ? क्या गांवों में पशुओं के लिए चारा उपलब्ध है ? कितने पशु आज अकाल की बंदी पर चढ़ चुके हैं यह मैं आप को बताना चाहता हूं। मेरे गांव के पास एक बड़ा किसान जो अपने मवेशी लेकर जा रहा था वह अपनी गायों की दशा नहीं देख सका उन की आंखों में आंसू थे, उस ने कुएं में कूद कर आत्म-हत्या कर ली। एक रु० की एक किलो घास है, यह सही घटना आप को बता रहा हूं। आपने कह दिया कि बड़ी अच्छी मानसून है? मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि कृषि विभाग के पास कौन से आंकड़े हैं जिस से वह बताना चाहते हैं कि पाली, जालौर और राजस्थान के जिन हिस्सों

को मैंने गिनाया है, उस में कितनी मानसून हो चुकी है, कितनी बरसात हो चुकी है ?

सरकार एक बात कहती है कि 2 लाख 25 हजार सस्ते धान की दुकानें खुल चुकी हैं, यह अच्छी बात है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जिन गांवों का मैंने जिक्र किया है, ग्रामीण आंचलों में कहां कहां सस्ता धान उपलब्ध है ? मैं चेलेन्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इस बात को और कहता हूं कि हमारे किसी गांव में सस्ता धान उपलब्ध नहीं है। हमारे यहां ढाई और पीने तीन रुपए किलो पर भी गहूं नहीं मिलती।

स्वास्थ्य विभाग वाले कहते हैं कि जो आदमी मेहनत करता है, उस को 3,000 कैलोरी फूड मिलना चाहिए और उस में 110 कैलोरी प्रोटीन होना चाहिये। 3, 3 साल से अकाल के पीड़ित लोग भूख से दुःखी हो रहे हैं और वह विकलांग हो रहे हैं। कइयों की आंखें चली गई हैं, कई कुबड़े हो गए हैं क्योंकि उन्हें खाने को नहीं मिलता है। लोगों के पीने के लिये पानी उपलब्ध नहीं होता है। आप बताइये कि राजस्थान सरकार ने इस योजना के बाद कितने गांव में पीने का पानी उपलब्ध कराया है और कितने गांव अभी भी इस के शिकार हैं ? मेरा ख्याल है कि कुछ दिनों के बाद पाली और बाड़मेर के कई गांव और जोधपुर शहर बिना पानी के रह जायेगा। आज लाखों लोगों के लिये पीने का पानी नहीं है। जो बांध हैं, वह खाली पड़े हैं। सूखे बांध और सूखी जमीन, हरियाली वहां की जल चुकी है और लोगों की आंखों में आंसू हैं, बच्चे सिसकते हैं, पशु बेचारे चल नहीं सकते हैं।

मेरा निवेदन है कि आप एक स्टडी टीम भेजिये और जांच कराइये। हम लोगों ने आज जो काल अटेंशन मोशन भूख किया है, इस पर आप बताइये कि हिन्दुस्तान के

[श्री मूल चन्द डागा]

किन-किन जिलों में अकाल है और वहाँ पर अब तक कितनी मानसून हुई है, और कितनी फसलें लोगों ने बोई है? मेरा कहना है कि जिन लोगों ने फसल पहले बोई थी, वह सब जल चुकी है?

आप को क्या दर्द है, आप और हसिये, क्योंकि "जिस के पैर न फटो बिवाई वह क्या जाने पीर पराई"। आप को क्या पता है कि वहाँ क्या हालत है। आप तो यहाँ पर खूब पानी से स्नान करते हैं और वहाँ लोगों को पीने के लिये पानी का एक गिलास भी उपलब्ध नहीं है। दर्द उन लोगों का पृष्ठिये जहाँ पर यह हालत है पीने का पानी नहीं है।

मैं आज अपने कृषि मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह हरियाण की हरियाली छोड़ कर राजस्थान के प्रचलो में चले और देखें कि वहाँ पर गावों की क्या हालत हो रही है?

मैं यह भी पूछना चाहता था कि राजस्थान में पशुओं के लिये कहाँ-कहाँ पर आप ने शिविर लगाये हैं और कितने कैम्प्स ऐसे हैं जहाँ आप घास उपलब्ध कराने हैं पशुओं के खाने के लिये? यह भी बताइये कि कितने काम इस तरह के अब तक किये हैं?

आप ने एक योजना बनाई थी और उस में डा० स्वामीनाथन भी थे। उन्होंने कहा कि तबाही से बचने के उपाय किये गये हैं। उस योजना के अन्तर्गत अरबों रुपया खर्च करने के बाद कितने हिस्सों पर आप ने काबू पाया कि जहाँ पर अकाल पहले होता था, अब नहीं होता है या पीने के पानी की समस्या आप ने हल कर दी हो?

जो बाढ़ से इम्पैक्ट हो रहे हैं, यह बाढ़ का विषय नहीं है लेकिन आप इस बात का भी उत्तर देने का कष्ट करें। मझे मालूम है कि

राजस्थान में 90 लाख लोग इस अकाल और सूखे की चपेट में हैं। वहाँ पर लोगों को काम नहीं मिल रहा है। कहा जाता है कि मजदूरों को 7 रुपये रोजाना दिया जाता है, लेकिन उन्हें साठे तीन, चार रुपये रोजाना भी नहीं मिलते हैं। वहाँ पर मिनिमम वेजिज एक्ट को लागू नहीं किया जा रहा है। उन लोगों के पास पीने के लिए पानी नहीं है, वे भूख है। लेकिन हमें उस की फिक्र नहीं है, हमें फिक्र है टी बी की, रेडियो की और बातों की। हमारी दुनिया अलग है। जो लोग गांवों में रहते हैं, उन की दुनिया अलग है।

मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिन राज्यों का मैंने जिक्र किया है, क्या वहाँ पर स्टडी टीम भेजी जायेगी। अगर इस बारे में कदम नहीं उठाए जायेंगे, तो आने वाले समय में चारे, पानी और अनाज, इन तीनों को अकाल का हमें सामना करना पड़ेगा। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि मनुष्यों और पशुओं को जिन्दा रखने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं?

राज बोरेंद्र सिंह : डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, श्री डागा ने जो कुछ पूछा, उस के मुताबिक मैंने सारी स्टेट्स के बारे में पूरा बयान दे दिया है। डाउट दो वक्त का मैंने बयान किया। एक पिछले साल—1980—का, पोस्ट मानसून, अक्टूबर के बाद और दूसरा इस साल प्री मानसून पीरियड में क्या हालत थी, किन-किन इलाकों में कहता था। हम आज इन दो वर्कों की बात कर रहे हैं। श्री डागा ने राजस्थान के बारे में और जानकारी हासिल करनी चाही। मैं उन्हें बता दूंगा।

राजस्थान में बाकई तीन साल से कड़त पड़ रहा है। लेकिन मैं ने बारिश की मौजूदा हालत बयान की, जब मैं ने कहा कि भगवान की दया से इस वक्त सारे हिन्दुस्तान में करीब करीब बारिश इतनी अच्छी हुई चुकी है कि इस से पहले बायेंद किसी साल में

भी बारिश के मौसम में ऐसे हालात नहीं थे। इस में भी शक नहीं जहाँ कहत ज्यादा देर तक चला, वहाँ इस बारिश से ज्यादा फायदा नहीं होगा, क्योंकि फसल बोने का वक्त गुजर चका है। हमारे देश में 387 के करीब कुल जिले हैं और 35 रैन फेड डिवीजन हैं। आज हालात यह है कि पंजाब कर्नाटक का कुछ इलाका छोड़ कर तीन चार जिलों में डेफिशेंसी है। बारिश की डेफिशेंसी हम उस वक्त मानते हैं, जब वह नार्मल से 20 परसेंट कम हो। नार्थ-ईस्ट के कुछ इलाकों में कुछ डेफिशेंसी है, वह भी माजिनल है। कर्नाटक में 22 परसेंट डेफिशेंसी है। नार्थ-ईस्ट में हम बारिश को इस लिए डेफिशेंसी नहीं बता सकते हैं। क्योंकि वहाँ बारिश बहुत ज्यादा पड़ती है, और कितनी बारिश वहाँ पड़ चुकी है, वह भी फसल के लिए कम नहीं है। ज्यादा बारिश होने से नुकसान होता है। बाकी हिन्दुस्तान में, जिस में राजस्थान का सारा इलाका शामिल है, बारिश लगभग सैटिसफैक्टरी रही है। वेस्टर्न राजस्थान में नार्मल से ज्यादा बारिश हुई है। वहाँ बाढ़ से नुकसान हुआ है। ईस्टर्न राजस्थान में बारिश नार्मल हुई है।

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: Please excuse me, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, for interrupting. But the hon. Minister must give specific answers to the questions which I have put. If he says that there is rain in my district or that it is there in Jodhpur, Barmer or Bhilwara, he should give details. He should not say things in general terms. I don't want to hear such answers from the hon. Minister. He should give a definite reply to the questions. There has been absolutely no rain. I said, absolutely there is no rain; there is no drinking water; there is no grass; there is no fodder. (Interruptions).

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: When I say that there has been normal rain, it means that an area which has been getting rain, there the average

rain fall has already been received. I cannot go into village-wise figures. If there is any particular place which has been left out.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you have got figures, furnished him.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: I can furnish him figures.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: What has he done about it? Is his Department having an upto-date knowledge about it or not?

गिरधारी लाल व्यास (भीलवाड़ा) :

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, कम से कम दस बारह जिलों के आदर एवरेज से कम बारिश हुई है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Everybody knows that you have also intervened because you are from Rajasthan. You give that prominence to Mr. Daga, not yourself.

राव बीरेन्द्र सिंह : अगर माननीय सदस्य मझ से इन्फार्मेशन लेना चाहें तो मैं दे रहा हूँ जितना मझे मालूम है। अगर मुझसे ज्यादा इन को इलूम है तो मझ से पूछने से कोई फायदा नहीं है।

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : आप को जानकारी दे रहा हूँ।

राव बीरेन्द्र सिंह : मुझे जानकारी बाहर दे दीजिएगा। यहाँ तो मैं जानकारी देने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ आप मुझ से सवाल कीजिए। जितना मुझे मालूम है, मैं बताऊंगा। लेकिन अगर आप हर एक गांव की पूछना चाहें तो मैं कैसे बता सकता हूँ ?

श्री सुद्धि चन्द जैन (बाड़मेर) : आप टाउन की बता दीजिए।

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: If that helps the hon. members they can continue to criticise us. But this discussion cannot be based on village-

[Rao Birender Singh]

wise, block-wise, tehsil-wise figures of rain fall. They should put certain questions and I will give them complete information, even with regard to fields if they like. It may take several years to collect them. That is a different thing.

Mr. Daga wanted to know how much relief had been provided for Rajasthan. Rajasthan has already been given an assistance to the tune of Rs. 40.30 crores during the year 1980-81. During the year 1981-82, the central assistance given to Rajasthan is Rs. 33.93 crores. Sufficient amount of money has also been provided for drinking water. They wanted to know what has been done in the matter of provision for drinking water. 2028 villages have been covered for supply of drinking water on a permanent basis in Rajasthan during this drought period. Ninety-six rigs are available in the State. Nine thousand nine hundred and ninety-six bores have been successful and are being used for drinking water. Two hundred and twenty eight cattle feeding centres and 132 migration depots for cattle have been opened and are being operated. He wants to know these details. I can give him as much detail as I have got readily available with me. But if he wants any further information, he can always ask me and I will write to him. He had asked about the money provided for drinking water. Under the non-plan provision during the post-monsoon period, last year, for drinking water schemes, Rs. 40 lakhs have been provided and under the plan head, Rs. 4.35 crores have been provided. During the pre-monsoon period this year, another Rs. 1.83 crores under non-plan and Rs. 5.82 crores have been provided under the plan head for Rajasthan State alone. If they want to know figures about all the States I can read the statements from my supplementary information papers. But it will be better if other hon. Members ask about their States and I give them the reply.

Drought is no doubt a recurring calamity in India. But steps are being taken to find a permanent solution. The first solution is irrigation to stabilise agriculture. Even in the most advanced countries in the world today agriculture mostly depends upon weather, monsoon conditions and other weather conditions.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur): But we have to insure against these calamities

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: That is a different question, Mr Ranga. For a long time the Government of India started looking into the problems of drought prone areas. There are large areas in the country, but you know, as long ago as 1970-71 the drought prone areas were identified and a programme was framed for those areas. It was called the DPAP, Drought Prone Areas Programme. Up to 1978-79 it was one hundred per cent subsidy for this programme. Similarly Desert Development Programme also was started for desert areas. During the Sixth Plan period we have allocated a sum of Rs. 175 crores for Drought Prone Areas Programme only. Another sum of Rs. 50 crores in the Sixth Plan outlay has been provided for Desert Development Programme. All these programmes aim at ridding drought prone areas from this recurring misery. Under Drought Prone Areas Programme alone, which extends to a large number of blocks and districts, 557 blocks in 13 States are covered and the Desert Development Programme similarly looks after 132 blocks in a large number of districts. About 15 lakhs is provided to each block annually under the Desert Development Programme. Similarly works for irrigation, soil conservation, afforestation, setting up of milk co-operatives, provision of milch animals for weaker sections of society and establishing sheep co-operatives and generating

employment—all these programmes are taken up under the Drought Prone Areas Programme and it has also been of immense use in these areas. About 2.5 lakh hectares have been provided irrigation facilities under the DPAP Programme alone. This is apart from our other irrigation programmes. We want to extend irrigation to larger areas. As you know, so many times, I have stated in the House that India perhaps stands first in the whole world in the fast rate that it has adopted for extension of irrigation. During the Sixth Plan period alone, we want to cover another 14 million hectares and this programme will look after the drought affected programme in the future. Similarly, we have taken about 12.5 lakh hectares in the drought prone areas under soil conservation measures, afforestation in 3.12 lakh hectares, 3,325 milk co-operatives have been started, 62,000 milch animals have been distributed up to the year 1978-79 and this programme is continuing.

So, it cannot be said, and the hon. Member has a wrong impression, if he thinks that the Government is not aware of the difficulties that the people are experiencing in the drought prone areas. But another fact I would like to mention is that perhaps the hon. Member is more worried than the Rajasthan Government itself. Because so far we have not received any memorandum or request from the Rajasthan Government for relief for drought in certain areas.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: When they are in Rajasthan, they will be very active.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: They are more active here in Parliament than in their constituency in Rajasthan.

These are some of the points that the hon. Member made and I think he would be satisfied.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: He has not replied to my questions.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: More than what you required has been furnished by the Minister. I am satisfied.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: Kindly tell me how many villages have been covered at least in my district, whether drinking water has been provided....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You go and meet him.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: People are dying of hunger.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: The difficulty is you do not appreciate the efforts that we are making.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Chandrashekhar Murthy.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY (Kanakapura): Sir, I rise to draw the attention of the hon. Minister for Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction to the severe drought conditions prevailing in the States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and other parts of the country. As rightly pointed out by my learned friend, Shri Daga, our country and our people are continuously subjected to natural calamities like floods, famine and drought. But these are acts of God, which no Government can prevent. But timely and speedy relief should be given. Otherwise, it would be meaningless. Suppose a drought affected area is to be identified, the Deputy Commissioner of that area gets a report from his subordinate officers and submits his report to the State Government. Ultimately, the State Government makes out a case for central assistance, which is a time consuming process. The Government should evolve some method to minimise or curtail these bureaucratic hurdles. I do not want to comment much upon this aspect. I want to know the Government's decision on the following points, viz., whether the Government is prepared to set up a famine and drought relief board at the State level, so that they can tackle the problem imme-

[Shri Chandrashekhara Murthy] diately and timely relief may be given to the people; if so, the details thereof. Secondly, what are the broad strategies the Government propose to adopt other than the 12 point programme proposed by our Prime Minister, to reduce the severity of the drought and famine in our country and how much money has been spent in the last three years for the State of Karnataka?

I want to say something about my State. Due to failure of rains and delayed monsoon, some parts of Karnataka are reeling under severe famine and drought and I urge upon the Minister and the Government to provide adequate funds to the State Government, so that they can tackle the situation in time. Further, I request the Minister and the Government to give standing instructions to all the State Governments to postpone the recovery of cooperative loans from those people who are hit by famine and drought.

13 hrs.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: I have already given some information in general about the method by which the Government is trying to tackle this problem. I have also given information about certain parts of Karnataka which are still deficient in rainfall. The question was about the existing drought conditions in some States. I am not in a position immediately to provide to the hon. Member figures or relief provided during the last three years. If he wants to know that I will give him the figures later on.

In fact, as the hon. Member knows, there is a famine code in each State and all relief operations are undertaken by the State Governments under the provisions of the famine code. I do not know whether this famine code has been amended by the Karnataka Government after Independence or it is the same as existed during the British days. If it has not been amended. It is open to the

State Government to amend it. I admit that the relief provided to the poor farmers and the weaker sections particularly in the rural areas, under the famine code as it exists in all the States in India, is not enough. Under the revenue laws, to my mind, it is only about 10 per cent of the damage that can be compensated. That is not adequate. But it is not possible for the Government of India to fully insure against damages and losses in all natural calamities. Somehow I do not know how it has happened. But for drought we do not give enough compensation because this is covered under the famine code. For floods upto 75 per cent of the approved expenditure incurred by a State Government over and above the margin money is met by the Government of India. I do not understand why we should be more sympathetic to people who are washed away than those who die a lingering death by starvation and thirst. But these matters can always be looked into.

For providing immediate relief every State Government has at its disposal a margin money which is a substantial amount of money.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: It is not a substantial amount.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: That was decided by the Seventh Finance Commission after taking into consideration the financial position of the Government of India the finances of the States and the intensity and magnitude of drought and flood in various States. It cannot be changed now. But this has been laid down by the Finance Commission. This amount is for immediate use. They need not ask the Government of India when and how to use it. It is only when the expenditure goes beyond that margin money that they come to the Government of India. We try to assist them as far as possible.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: What about postponement of collection of dues?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Remission of recovery of interest, loan, etc., all these are covered under the famine code. The Government of India has nothing to do with that. Action has to be taken by the respective State Governments. We shall certainly convey to the State Government the feelings of hon. Members.

SHRI B. V. DESAI (Raichur): I do not want to take much time of the House because most of the points have already been made by Mr. Daga and by my friend, Mr. Chandrashekhara Murthy.

In some of the districts of some particular States there is acute shortage of water and drought conditions prevail over there. In Karnataka some of the districts like Bijapur, Gulbarga, Kolar, etc., are very much affected. Just now the hon. Minister was pleased to state that the percentage of rains are already there and if it is 0.2 less than the normal rains, it is taken as deficient. I would like to point out to him that this is not the right way of dealing with this. The total rainfall may not be deficient, but if it is not timely, it will very severely affect the crops. Therefore, the Government of India should very definitely come to the aid of the States when they require it badly.

In the case of Karnataka, some of the demands which the State Government have made have not been sanctioned. According to the figures mentioned by the hon. Minister, the figures are as follows: 1978-79 Rs. 40.63 lakhs; 1979-80 Rs. 63.90 lakhs; 1980-81 Rs. 954.05 lakhs and in 1981-82 they have demanded Rs. 1,182.55 lakhs. To use his own words, the Government of India have fixed a ceiling of Rs. 806 lakhs. Although their Committee has visited the area, they have fixed a ceiling of Rs. 806 lakhs. Till 14-8-81 it has not been released. Once you fix a ceiling, the amount should

be released. I would request the hon. Minister that when the discussion is over and he goes to his office, he should immediately release the money and send them a telex message. There is no point in fixing a ceiling and then sitting tight on it.

Yesterday I asked a question, Unstarred question, regarding the drought conditions in Karnataka. The same reply was given that they have fixed a ceiling of Rs. 806 lakhs on expenditure for drought relief. If that amount has been sanctioned, it should be released so that it could actually be spent.

While Shri Daga was speaking, the hon. Minister was kind enough to say rather loudly that Rajasthan has not sent any memorandum till today. The Karnataka Government has sent a report long back. It is still with the hon. Minister and no action has been taken on it. In that memorandum, apart from temporary relief to the drought affected areas, the Karnataka Government have suggested some permanent solutions. I would quote a small para in this connection from the Memorandum:

"However, the truth stares us in the face that there are certain districts like Bijapur, Gulbarga and Kolar, where year after year, the whole district has to face conditions of scarcity—only its intensity being mercifully less in one or two years in a five year cycle. Logic would indicate that it may be wiser to undertake as part of the relief measures the creation of durable assets which would provide a lasting solution to the problem. We would commend to the Government of India the acceptance of this approach."

I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he will accept this perception of the Government of Karnataka for a permanent solution. Instead of giving doles year after year to the drought-prone areas, why not have a lasting solution, as suggested by the

[Shri B. V. Desai]

Government of Karnataka, for which they have asked for a total sum of Rs. 255 crores for Bijapur, Gulbarga and Kolar? It is still pending with the hon. Minister. Will he kindly look into it and see something is done in this regard?

Since both floods and drought are destructive in nature, they have to be equated. Certain areas of our country face a lot of difficulties due to floods. The same condition applies to drought also. Therefore, in order to minimise both, schemes were promulgated or schemes were actually brought forward by one Mr. K. L. Rao. Of course, every one knows him, he is an engineer and he was here. He had proposed Ganga-Cauvery link. Probably it was too ambitious a scheme and it was far-fetched, Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 40,000 crores were the expenses. Probably it was not thought fit to be considered by the Government of India. But again, one eminent company, Dastur & Co., have suggested Garland Scheme so that from the northern part of our country where the floods are always there, the excess water can be taken into South and other drought-stricken areas and thus a permanent solution can be found. I think now this is the time when we should take this up on a permanent basis and at least make a start in this regard. I do not say that the problem is very easy, it is very colossal, but nonetheless somewhere some beginning has to be made whether the Government has considered this problem as a flood-cum-drought measure by which we have to mitigate this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: By which the Cauvery water dispute also between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu can be solved.

SHRI B. V. DESAI: Yes, that also is possible. We will get more water, there is no doubt about it. There won't be any problem for that.

Therefore, as a permanent measure, I would like to ask the hon. Minister

whether any consideration has been given to this permanent solution about flood and drought.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN (Kolar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, only one point.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You cannot raise a point. There is no rule. You can get that information. You meet the Minister separately and get the information.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, you can meet the Minister separately.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Rules do not permit. You meet him separately and get this information. No, this will not be allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am sorry, I cannot make an exception in this. Please sit down. Please take your seat. We are guided by rules.

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This will not go on record. We are strictly guided by rules. Mr. Minister, you please reply.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: It would not be proper for me to go into the merits and demerits of the ambitious programme which the hon. Member mentioned, like the Garland Canal and linking of rivers in the North and then linking them with the Southern rivers. But as you rightly pointed out, Sir, the difficulty is that the States are not even prepared to settle their inter-State disputes even when it is only between two States. The Karnataka State has not even been able to fully utilise the Cauvery waters for its own State and you know there is a dispute pending between Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala. But we have already decided to establish a Water Resources Development Agency for that purpose and this national agency

will first survey all the rivers in the peninsula and see how best their waters could be utilised to irrigate the drought prone areas in all the States in the South.

Sir, the Central assistance to Karnataka during the last year was Rs. 6.65 crores. This year, as the hon. Member knows, it is Rs. 8.06 crores. We only recommend the assistance on the basis of a memorandum that we receive from the State. A Central team visits the State, goes into the details and then its recommendations are considered by the high level committee. I am not aware of the fact that the amount that was sanctioned for relief has not been released.

SHRI B. V. DESAI: Sir, there is a Telex addressed to him only. It was dated 14-8-81. It is only a ceiling which has been fixed and the amount has not been released. There is a Telex about this.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Immediately as the ceiling is fixed, this ceiling is also fixed by the Ministry of Finance and the amounts are also released by the Ministry of Finance. I shall talk to my colleague, the Finance Minister and certainly there would not be....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: His able deputy is here.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: I am sure there is no difficulty in the release of money that has already been sanctioned. Sanction might have been issued and the money might be on its way.

The Central assistance for minimum needs programme for Karnataka during the year 1981-82 is of the order of Rs. 9 crores. That for accelerated Rural Water Supply Scheme which is a 100 per cent grant by the Government of India, the State does not have to give a penny, the amount is of the order of Rs. 2.53 crores.

Drinking water needs are also being fully looked into.

I do not think there is any other point that needs to be mentioned here. But I only assure the hon. Members through you that....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He mentioned something about Memorandum.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: So far as my information goes, there is no Memorandum pending with us from the Government of Karnataka.

SHRI B. V. DESAI: It is just here Sir.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Every time when we receive a memorandum from the Government, we depute a Central team.

Action has been taken on all memoranda that were received. At present there is no memorandum pending with us.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for Lunch. We shall meet again at 2.15 p.m.

13.17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair

PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY MEMBER

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Personal Explanation under Rule 357. Prof. K. K. Tewary.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY (Buxar): With your permission, Sir, under Rule 357, I rise on a point of personal explanation....

श्री मनी राम बागड़ी : (हिसार) श्रीमान्, क्या है यह प्रश्न इनका ?