

[Shri Balgovind Verma]
by the President in relation to the
State of Tamil Nadu. [Placed in
Library. See No. LT-11235/76.]

(12) A statement explaining the
reasons for not laying simultaneous-
ly the Hindi version of the above
Notification. [Placed in Library. See
No. LT-11235/76.]

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I
have to report the following messages
received from the Secretary-General
of Rajya Sabha:—

(i) "In accordance with the pro-
visions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186
of the Rules of Procedure and Con-
duct of Business in the Rajya Sabha,
I am directed to return herewith the
Appropriation (No. 5) Bill, 1976,
which was passed by the Lok Sabha
at its sitting held on the 20th
August, 1976, and transmitted to the
Rajya Sabha for its recommenda-
tions and to state that this House has
no recommendations to make to the
Lok Sabha in regard to the said
Bill."

(ii) "In accordance with the pro-
visions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186
of the Rules of Procedure and Con-
duct of Business in the Rajya Sabha,
I am directed to return herewith the
Tamil Nadu Appropriation (No.
3) Bill, 1976, which was passed by
the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on
the 23rd August, 1976, and transmit-
ted to the Rajya Sabha for its re-
commendations and to state that this
House has no recommendations to
make to the Lok Sabha in regard to
the said Bill."

(iii) "In accordance with the pro-
visions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186
of the Rules of Procedure and Con-
duct of Business in the Rajya Sabha,
I am directed to return herewith the
Pondicherry Appropriation (No.
3) Bill, 1976, which was passed by
the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on

the 23rd August, 1976, and
transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for
its recommendations and to state
that this House has no recommenda-
tions to make to the Lok Sabha in
regard to the said Bill."

12.04 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

SCANTY SUPPLY OF WATER IN CAUVERY DELTA

SHRI K. GOPAL (Karur): Sir,
I call the attention of the Minister of
Agriculture and Irrigation to the fol-
lowing matter of public importance
and I request that he may make a
statement thereon:—

"The situation created in Cauvery
delta owing to scanty supply of
water from Krishnaraja Sagar and
other dams and poor storage in the
Mettur reservoir."

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur):
Sir, I rise on a point of order. My
point of order is regarding the proce-
dure. The scarcity conditions prevail
not only in Madras State but in other
States too in the country. Many
Members have earlier submitted re-
garding the scarcity conditions pre-
vailing in their States. Scarcity
condition is also prevailing in Kar-
nataka State. That notice has not been
admitted. When talks are going on,
the Minister is here making a state-
ment....

MR. SPEAKER: Order, please I
am very sorry. There cannot be any
point of order against the decision of
the Chair. I will not allow that.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will you
kindly listen to me, Sir? (Interrup-
tions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are raising
objection against that. I am sorry I
am not allowing that.

You cannot raise any point of order against the decision of the Chair on the question of admission.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I am not doing it.

MR. SPEAKER: You have said so.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I am asking whether it is in order and in accordance with the procedure....

MR. SPEAKER: You are again raising it.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Is it proper to raise this matter when a dialogue is going on between them for sharing of the water.

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. Shri Kedar Nath Singh.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH): The Cauvery is an inter-state basin covering the States of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Mettur is the lower-most reservoir on the Cauvery in Tamil Nadu. Krishnaraja Sagar is the next upper reservoir on the Cauvery in Karnataka. Two new reservoirs, namely Kabini and Hemavati have recently been constructed by Karnataka. The rainfall in the catchment area upstream of Krishnaraja Sagar has been substantially less than the normal during the current monsoon. As a result, the inflow at Krishnaraja Sagar was far below normal, being 1 TMC in June against the normal of 12 TMC, 20 TMC in July against the normal of 68 TMC, and 25 TMC in August (upto 20th) against the normal of 53 TMC. Krishnaraja Sagar had a carry over storage of about 4 TMC on 1st June while Mettur reservoir had a carry over storage of 24.7 TMC on the same date.

In the Kabini catchment also, the rainfall is inadequate and only 10 TMC of Kabini inflows have been im-

pounded. Owing to shortage of water, Tamil Nadu has thrown open 12.6 lakh acres area to irrigation against 16 lakhs in a normal year. Karnataka had released, during the first half of August, 15 TMC of water. Karnataka has given instructions on 23rd August for release of additional 10 TMC. About 44.5 TMC of water has been released below Mettur for irrigation in Tamil Nadu upto 24th August.

During the current lean monsoon, the officers of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka are in constant touch with one another, and are working out mutually acceptable arrangements. Both the State Governments are making efforts to ensure that available waters are shared on an equitable basis.

The above position relates to the situation during the current monsoon. However, regarding the main issue relating to use and development of Cauvery waters, discussions lasting six hours were held with the Chief Minister of Karnataka, the two Ministers of Kerala and the Governor of Tamil Nadu on 25th August. The discussions are still continuing.

SHRI K. GOPAL: First of all, would like to say that I was born and brought up in Tamil Nadu, but I spent the best part of my youth in Karnataka. When I raised this, I did so in the national interest and you in your wisdom admitted it. I do not know why my hon. friend, Shri Lakkappa, should be upset about this..(Interruptions).

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): Because you called it 'scanty supply of water'.

SHRI K. GOPAL: What is wrong in that? Please listen to me. There is nothing wrong in that..(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order.

SHRI K. GOPAL: I will give my arguments. The only thing I want to say is that when I raise this, it is because food production in Tamil Nadu suffers.

MR. SPEAKER: Ask your question

SHRI K. POPAL: Now the storage level in Mettur is only about 30 feet as against the normal 120 ft. The inflow is only 2,000 cusecs as against the normal discharge on alternate days of 10,000 cusecs. What I want to say with no malice to my friends from Karnataka is this. I do not say that they are just impounding water. I would like to say that which is a fact, that there are 36 TMC of storage in Krishnaraja Sagar as against the normal of 45 TMC, and the water that was let out in the first week was 5 TMC, which was coming. Even according to the statement only 1.2 million acres have been permitted to draw water and the rest four lakh acres did not get water at all. Therefore, I should like to ask the government whether they will see to it that there is immediate release of water so that the withering crops are saved. Kuruvai has already gone; samba is coming up. Secondly, will the dispute be settled once for all so that projects can come up quickly. For example in my constituency there is a project called Noyyal; it cannot be constructed because it is linked to Cauvery. Even though it is further up from Mettur Dam and water seeps down and during rainy season we can store some water by constructing a dam there, we cannot do it because it is linked to Cauvery dispute. I want to know whether he will find a settlement; the 50 year agreement had expired in 1974. The hon. Minister said that there were some discussions going on between the representatives of the three state governments. I should like to know the outcome of those discussions. When the discussions are over, will the government evolve a national water policy. It cannot be done right now. Just as there is a southern power grid, can there be at least on a regional basis some such arrangement. Between Kerala and Tamilnadu official level talks are going on and they are going to give some water to Coimbatore district and to Hinnevelley and Ramnad districts also. So, at least on a regional basis

please see some arrangement is made in this regard.

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: At this stage I can only say that the talks are continuing and they are progressing well. Yesterday for six hours the representatives of the three governments sat together and discussed the matter. Still they are discussing the matter and I am hopeful that they will come to an agreement today and we shall be in a position to announce in the House either today or tomorrow. As regards the difficulties encountered by Tamil Nadu, everybody shares the anxiety of the hon. Member and arrangements are being made so that the people there do not suffer. But at the same time there are conditions of scarcity and those conditions also should be shared by all the concerned states. On the 23rd of this month the Chief Minister of Karnataka has given direction to release 10 TMC of water and that shall be enough at least for a week because Tamil Nadu requires 1.5 TMC per day; and I think today or by tomorrow we shall be able to come to an agreement about the sharing of water.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN (Tiruttani): I should like to give you a small background

MR. SPEAKER: Background for what?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: For my question. Cauvery is one of the sacred rivers of India

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: All rivers are sacred ... (Interruptions).

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I request my friend not to interrupt me. When we perform Sankalpam we mention all the sacred rivers of India and the shloka runs like this:

मंने च मने चैव योदावरी मरुत्तरी
नर्मदे सिन्धु गङ्गेरी जलेस्मिन् सन्निभं कुरु ।

Then again river Cauvery has been celebrated in a very ancient Tamil poem called Pattinapalai and the poet

says: "Van potpinum than povva." It means that even if the sky fails in its bounty, river Cauvery does not fail. Evidently the poet did not take into account today's Karnataka Government.... (Interruptions). From literature. I come to historical facts.

MR. SPEAKER: You should not look to Mr. Lakkappa. If you look to the Chair, there will be no problem.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Rule 197 does not say that you can refer to literature history, etc.

MR. SPEAKER: I agree; you should not go into the background. Come to the present.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The great Chola Emperor, Karikala Chola, was the first man to train the river Cauvery and prevent flood damages, in the Tanjore delta. If you refer to the learned book written by our ex-Minister for Irrigation and Power, Dr. K. L. Rao, you will find that the Grand Anicut on Cauvery was built in the first century A.D. In the middle of the last century, Sir. Arthur Cotton, an eminent British Engineer, was fascinated by the construction of Grand Anicut. Taking the cue from the Grand Anicut, he designed the weirs on the Godavari and Krishna and also the canal systems of the Godavari and Krishna rivers. Another British Officer, Proby T. Cautley...

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: British officers names should not be mentioned at all. What is the relevance?

MR. SPEAKER: Don't go into the past too much.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: He designed the Ganga canal system and the Yamuna canal system. The irrigation system of Cauvery is as ancient as the first century. All other canal systems and irrigation systems are at least 18 to 19 centuries behind

it. The Cauvery delta had been developed for such a long time. So, there should not be any dispute that this old delta should be fed by the Cauvery. There was an agreement in 1924....

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: It is irrelevant to the calling attention. By way of calling attention, he cannot bring in agreements and all that. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Alagesan, don't convert it into an inter-State dispute. Confine yourself to the terms of the calling attention, i.e. the situation created in the Cauvery delta on account of scanty supply of water. Do not go into history and all those things.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The minister himself has said in his statement that discussions were held with the Chief Minister of Karnataka, the two Ministers of Kerala and the Governor of Tamil Nadu. So, this relates to the long-term agreement that they propose to arrive at. So, I am within my rights to refer to the 1924 Agreement. You cannot shut me out like this... (Interruptions). By shouting I cannot be stopped. Sir, I seek your protection... (Interruptions) There is reference to that.

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIA (Bangalore): Sir, May I make a suggestion? I agree with you that this kind of controversy is unseemly when the negotiations are going on. So, let there be no more discussion on this. Let Shri Alagesan resume his seat.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not refer to the inter-State disputes, whatever they may be.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: That is exactly the point here.

MR. SPEAKER: That is not the point. If that is the point, I would not have allowed this Calling Attention Notice. Shri Lakkappa's point is correct. I allowed this because

[Mr. Speaker]

the subject was the scarcity conditions in the Cauveri delta as a result of inadequate water. Please confine yourself to that. Do not go into the Inter-State dispute and do not go into the history.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Sir, I am grateful to you.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Sir, I bow to your ruling.

It has been admitted in the statement that there is not less than 38 TMC water in Krishnaraja Sagar and 16 TMC in Kabini. There is no mention about Hemavati, but we are told that there is 4 TMC water there.

SHRI N. SHIVAPPA (Hassan): This is another encroachment.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Sir, I should not be interrupted like this I want your protection.

MR. SPEAKER: I would request the other hon. Members to leave it to the Minister to reply. Why should they take up his role?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It comes to 58 TMC of water. What is the requirement of the ayacut in Karnataka? It is a very relevant question. The hon. Minister was very kind enough to make a remark that when there are scarcity conditions, they should be equally shared by the States concerned. If any sacrifice has to be made because of want of rain in the catchment area, the sacrifice has to be made equally by both Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. This will be a very reasonable proposition. Supposing they do not grant even that and Karnataka wants water for the irrigation of the entire ayacut, what is the total water required by Karnataka? We are told that they require only 20 TMC of water. As it is, there is 58 TMC of water.

The area that has to be cultivated in the Tanjore delta has been reduced

from 16 lakhs to 12 lakhs of acres, according to the statement. This is the time when there is transplantation of *kuruvai*, a short-term crop. That crop is going to last only for a few months. There used to be *kuruvai* crop over half a million acres. Now only a lakh of acres are transplanted with *kuruvai*. Then, more than a million acres used to be transplanted with *samba* crop, because we used to get that much water. Now I do not want a sister State to adopt what is called the dog in the manger policy. When there is shortage of irrigation water, they should equally share it. It is a well-known principle. So, I would suggest: let them keep 20 TMC of water for their requirements, for irrigating their ayacut. They have got 58 TMC of water with them. Why not let out the balance after their requirements? If, God willing, there are rains, we will not draw the full quota. There were years when even in September it used to rain and the Cauveri was in floods. So, it is quite possible that there may be rains and we may not be left to depend on this water alone. While the rest of the country is being flooded, and in our very doorstep the Yamuna is swallowing chunks of Delhi, it is very unfortunate that the Kaveri is rather dry. So, let them keep as much water as they want for irrigating their Ayacut and let them allow the rest of the water to this Ayacut, which is the oldest and has been there for 2,000 years, so that it may be protected.

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: He is a very senior Member of the House and I am really very much educated by his observations, but because the talks are still going on, I am sure the hon. Members can wait for a few hours more and they will get the result, as I am very hopeful. Therefore, I would not like to go into any controversy as to whose share should be more or less. As there is shortage, that should also be shared equitably. Therefore, at this stage I can only say: let us wait for some time more for the discussions to be completed.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: He is referring to the long-term agreement, but what about the short-term arrangement?

MR. SPEAKER: We go to the next item.

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM (Tiruchirappalli): I want to make a submission to you. I suggest that you allot some time for a discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: No discussion on calling attention.

12.27 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

FIFTY-THIRD REPORT

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR (Karimganj) I beg to present the Fifty-third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the Ministry of Education, Social Welfare and Culture (Department of Education)—Educational facilities for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Union Territory of Delhi.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

TWENTY-NINTH REPORT

SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA (Chamarajanagar): I beg to present the Twenty-ninth Report of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House.

12.28 hrs.

KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EXTENSION OF DURATION) SECOND AMENDMENT BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the further extension of the duration of the present Legislative Assembly of the State of Kerala.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the further extension of the duration of the present Legislative Assembly of the State of Kerala."

The motion was adopted.

DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMED: I introduce the Bill.

CONSTITUTION (FORTY-THIRD AMENDMENT) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI OM MEHTA): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI OM MEHTA: I introduce the Bill.

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, dated 26-8-76.