

(2 At statement (Hindi and English versions) showing (i) reasons for laying the above document; and (ii) reasons for not laying the Hindi version thereof. [Placed in library See No. LT-8242/74].

12.44 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED FAILURE OF SCHEMES UNDER THE CRASH PROGRAMME FOR EMPLOYMENT

श्री राम सहाय पांडे. (राजनंदन गुंज)
अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित समाचार की ओर माननीय योजना मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकषिप्त करता हूँ तथा उनसे अनुरोध करता हूँ कि वह इसके सम्बन्ध में अपना वक्तव्य दें —

“रोजगार के फौरी कार्य क्रम के अन्तर्गत योजनाओं की कथित विफलता और उसके परिणामस्वरूप 170 करोड़ रुपये की राशि व्यर्थ चले जाने के समाचार।”

12.45 hrs.

(SHRI VASANT SATHE in the Chair)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the Fourth Plan the importance of providing adequate employment opportunities was recognised. However, in the course of the Plan period, it was found that the growth of employment opportunities was not up to the anticipated level. Therefore four special programmes were taken up for being implemented. These programmes were—

- (i) Crash Scheme for Rural Employment;
- (ii) The Programme for educated unemployed;
- (iii) Special Employment Programme; and

(iv) Half-a-Million Jobs Programme.

The first Programme, namely Crash Scheme for Rural Employment was initiated in the year 1971-72 and was continued during the years 1972-73 and 1973-74. It aimed at creating employment for at least 1000 persons in each of the districts in the country with an average annual allocation of Rs. 12.5 lakhs per district. During the three years of the operation of the Scheme, the expenditure incurred has been of the order of Rs. 124.8 crores. It resulted in employment generation of over 3000 lakh mandays which is equivalent to providing employment to about 4 lakh persons annually for about 250 working days a year.

The second Special Programme, namely, the Programme for Educated Unemployed including engineers and scientists was in operation during the years 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74. The Programme provided, *inter alia*, for assistance to small entrepreneurs, setting up of agro-service centres and surveys and investigations of different projects. The total expenditure during these three years amounted to Rs. 93.09 crores and provided employment to 40,000 educated persons during 1971-72 and 71,000 educated persons during the year 1972-73. In the year 1973-74, the level of employment generated during the previous year, was more or less maintained.

The third programme namely, the Special Employment Programme, was taken up in the year 1972-73 and was continued in the subsequent year. The total expenditure during the two years under this programme amounted to Rs. 48.62 crores. The scheme provided employment on a full-time basis to nearly 3.8 lakh persons. In addition, it created employment amounting to over 380 lakh mandays.

The Fourth special programme, namely Half a Million Jobs Programme, was initiated during 1973-74. The objective of the programme was to

provide employment to five lakh educated persons, with an outlay of Rs. 100 crores. The actual expenditure, was nearly Rs. 54 crores and it resulted in creating 3.34 lakh job opportunities. Emphasis was laid in creating self generating employment under this scheme.

In the Calling Attention Notice, there is a reference to an expenditure of Rs. 170 crores. It may be clarified that during 1973-74, the actual expenditure on the four programmes, mentioned above, incurred by the Government of India was in fact Rs. 157.38 crores with the following as the break-up:—

	(Rs. crores)
Crash Scheme for Rural Employment	41.78
Programme for Educated Unemployed	39.17
Special Employment Programme	22.44
Half a Million Job Programme	53.99
Total	157.38

These Programmes are estimated to have generated during 1973-74 employment of the following order:—

- (i) Crash Scheme for Rural Employment 924 lakhs mandays
- (ii) Programme for educated unemployed 71,000 persons (approx.)
- (iii) Special Employment Programme 98,807 persons and 142 lakh mandays
- (iv) Half-a-Million jobs Programme 3,34,184 persons.

In addition to generating significant order of employment, these programmes have also created productive assets relating to sectors such as minor irrigation, land reclamation, afforestation, rural roads, industrial infrastructure etc.

Before concluding, I would like to stress that all the four programmes

were newly conceived and were executed all over the country. It would be appreciated that the organisational effort required for these programmes was massive involving, as it did, various agencies at different levels. In this context the possibility of deficiencies in implementation was obvious. However, in the light of what I have stated earlier, the results of the various programmes have been by and large commensurate with the expenditure incurred on them. I may also add that in the Fifth Plan from the current year onwards the various employment programmes have been rationalised and suitably integrated with sectoral development programmes. The only special employment scheme now in operation is called as the Employment Promotion Programme for the educated with a thrust on self employment.

राज सरकार : सभापति जी, योजना मंत्री जी ने जो बक्तव्य दिया है उससे ऐसा लगता है कि हम बहुत काम कर सके हैं। चौकी योजना में पर्याप्त रोजगार के अवसर सुलभ करने के लिए इस मंत्र को स्वीकार किया गया था कि संभावित छोटी छोटी योजनाओं के द्वारा हम कम से कम 5 लाख नौजवानों को काम दे सकेंगे। इस प्रकार की योजना जिसका उत्पादन से सम्बन्ध था, जिसका रोजगार देने से सम्बन्ध था, खाली हाथों को काम देने से सम्बन्ध था, योजना का इस प्रकार का उद्देश्य था लेकिन ऐसा अनुभव होता है कि हमारी योजनाएँ योजना भवन में बनती हैं, वहाँ वह जन्म लेती हैं और वही उनकी मृत्यु हो जाती है केवल कंरा गाने के लिए मंत्रियों को बुलाया जाता है। घासबास योजना और कल्याणों को कोई कमी नहीं है। आप किसी भी योजना के प्राप्ति को पढ़िये तो ऐसा लगता है कि एक स्वर्णिम युग का उदय हो गया है लेकिन जब कार्यान्वित होने की स्थिति आती है तो हमारी एकाउन्टेबिलिटी और जो लाभ मिलना चाहिए उसकी कमी से ग्रसित हो जाते हैं। इसको एकाउन्टे-

बिलिटी फिक्स करनी चाहिए। आपके विचार अच्छे हैं, आप कल्पना लेकर चलते हैं और एक योजना बनाते हैं लेकिन उसको कार्यान्वित करने का क्षेत्र आपके हाथ में नहीं है। उसके लिए ब्यूरोक्रेट्स हैं। आपको देखना होगा कि आपकी योजनाएँ जहाँ बनती हैं वहाँ मर जाती हैं या जो बाहर भी गई वह मैदान में मर गई उसकी वजह क्या है। आपने अपने वक्तव्य में स्वयं इस बात को स्वीकार किया है कि काफी मात्रा में रोजगार सृजित करने के अलावा, इन कार्यक्रमों ने छोटी सिंचाई, भूमि उद्धार, वन संवर्धन, ग्रामीण सड़कों, और औद्योगिक बुनियादी आधार आदि क्षेत्रों में उत्पादक परिसम्पत्तियों का भी निर्माण किया।

यह आपने स्वीकार किया है लेकिन 170 करोड़ का जो व्योरा आपने दिया है, जहाँ आपने उसको योजना में बाध दिया और यह कल्पना का कि उससे उत्पादन भी होगा लेकिन उत्पादन नहीं हुआ। हम इसको रचनात्मक दृष्टि से देखते हैं। आपने 1971-72 में 40 हजार लोगों को काम दिया और 1973-74 में 71 हजार लोगों को काम दिया। हम स्वीकार करते हैं आपने काम दिया लेकिन आप यह बताये कि सड़कें जो बनीं वह कच्ची सड़कें ही बनकर रह गईं, छाटी छोटी सिंचाई की जो योजनाएँ थी वह पूरी नहीं हुई, उनका कोई लाभ नहीं हुआ, जो सड़कें बनीं वह सिर्फ कागज में बन कर रह गई और उनका पेमेंट हो गया। कोई रजिस्टर नहीं रखे गए। रजिस्टर भी रखे गए ता गलत पेमेंट किया गया। इस प्रकार 170 करोड़ रुपए की जो हमारी योजना चली उसकी झूल-हत्या हो गई। आप एक बात समझ लीजिए कि जो नौजवान बेकार हैं, चाहे ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के या शहरी क्षेत्र के, वे बहुत दिनों तक आपके आश्वासनों को स्वीकार नहीं कर सकते हैं। आपने बड़े आश्वासन दिए हैं और आश्वासन देने के साथ साथ जो कार्यक्रम बनाये वह कार्यक्रम चलते नहीं हैं। उसका कोई परिणाम

अच्छा नहीं होता है। बोगस रजिस्टर और बोगस एनरोलमेंट करके सड़कें कागज पर बना दी गईं, वह कागज में ही बनीं रह गईं और उनका पेमेंट भी हो गया।

समापति महोदय . सवाल पर भी आ जाइये।

श्री राम सहज पांडे: इन सारी की सारी परिस्थितियों के संदर्भ में मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, केरल, महाराष्ट्र, राजस्थान, उड़ीसा, मध्य प्रदेश, कर्नाटक और हिमाचल प्रदेश में जो काम हुआ—यह मैं बिटेल में देख रहा हूँ कि कहा कहा आपने पैसा दिया और कहा कहा काम हुआ। यानी सोकाल्ड वर्क हुआ, वहाँ काम बहुत धीमी गति से चला जिसका कारण यह बताया गया कि सड़कें बनाने के लिए जो उपकरण थे वह हमको प्राप्त नहीं हुए, इंट्रे भी नहीं मिली, गारा और सीमेंट भी नहीं मिला, लोहा भी नहीं मिला (व्यवधान) तो जैसा दरबारा मिह जी कह रहे हैं फिर मिला क्या? जो पैसा मिला वह कहा गया? पैसा खागये तो क्यों खा गये? यह कैसी काउन्टेबिलिटी है—यह प्रश्न है? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ योजना के माध्यम से अपने कार्यक्रम के द्वारा जो आप नौजवानों को काम देना चाहते हैं क्या उनकी देख-भाल के लिए कोई मशीनरी या सेल है जो इस बात को देख सके कि जिन कार्यक्रमों के अन्तर्गत आपने रुपया दिया विभिन्न राज्यों को उन कार्यक्रमों का काम पूरा हुआ या नहीं?

समापति जी, सभी लोग जानते हैं देश में शिक्षित बेकारों की संख्या बढ़ती जा रही है। देश के नौजवान बहुत दिनों तक इन्तजार नहीं कर सकते हैं तो हम बेकारी की समस्या को हल करने के लिए आपको क्या कल्पना है इसका आप उत्तर दें। उन को आप कैसे संतुष्ट करेंगे कैसे काम देंगे आश्वासन के प्रतिरिक्त कांग्रेसी शब्द में आप उनके लिए क्या व्यवस्था करेंगे जिससे कि वे अहसास कर सकें कि चलो

घड़ी तक काम नहीं मिल सका लेकिन अब काम मिलेगा। तो इस सम्बन्ध में आप अपनी कल्पना जो हो वह बतायें।

इसके साथ ही बेकारी की समस्या की जब हम कल्पना करते हैं तो उसमें केवल वही बेकार नहीं है जो आप कहें हैं या भाषे पढ़े हैं बल्कि जो शिक्षित बेकार है जैसे इंजीनियर्स और टेक्नोक्रेट्स उनको वह वर्गों में बांटने के बाद में जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो अर्धशिक्षित और शिक्षित बेकार इंजीनियर्स और टेक्नोक्रेट्स लाखों की तादाद में हैं जो इस देश से बाहर चले जाते हैं लौट कर नहीं आते हैं जो यहां रह जाते हैं वह बाहर की तरफ देखते रहते हैं क्योंकि यहां उनकी कोई गुंजायन नहीं रहती उनके सम्बन्ध में आपकी क्या व्यवस्था है जिससे उनको काम मिल सके ?

12.58 Hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

एक किसान अपने बेटे को इस भाषा से पढ़ाता है कि वह इंजीनियर या डाक्टर बनेगा टेक्नोक्रेट बनेगा लेकिन जब उसको काम नहीं मिलता है तो उसके बाप को बड़ी चिंता होती है। तो इस सम्बन्ध में आपकी क्या व्यवस्था है ?

एक बात में और जानना चाहता हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जी जिस प्रदेश में आते हैं वहां महाराष्ट्र की सरकार ने योजना बनाई है जिसके अन्तर्गत रोजगार की गारंटी दी गई है। महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने बेरोजगार लोगों को गारंटी दी कि हम तुम को श्रमिक समय में काम अवश्य दे देंगे तो महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने जो पैटर्न एडाप्ट किया है उसको योजना आयोग ने इनकार कर दिया इसका कारण क्या है वह बतायें ? इसके अतिरिक्त मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि जितनी एजेन्सियाँ आपने क्लिष्ट की हैं उनमें तालमेल लाने के लिए या क्या प्रावधान करने जा रहे हैं जिससे लोगों को आप काम भी दे सकें और उत्पादन के क्षेत्र में जो विफलता मिलती जा रही है वह विफलता भी दूर हो ? यह मेरे कुछ सोंचे सारे प्रश्न हैं जिनके आप स्पष्ट उत्तर देने की कृपा करें।

13.00 hrs.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: The hon. Member has raised several important issues. At the outset I would like to say that, whatever are the deficiencies, and particularly as they are pointed out in the Supplementary Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, we take a very serious view of the matter. These schemes were taken up under special circumstances and it was very necessary to provide employment in both rural and urban areas. However, the Central Government had given proper guidelines; they had told the State Governments that productive and permanent schemes should be created while implementing the schemes, and at the same time in every district jobs should be made available to 1,000 persons in one year. All these suggestions and guidelines were given. But in some States, as was pointed out by the hon. Member, it is true, they were not implemented. As I have said in my earlier statement, we have already taken a decision to integrate such programmes in the economic development of the country and in order to have them properly implemented, we have emphasized the need of having planning machinery at the State level and also of having district plans so that the plans are properly formulated and by involving the people they would be efficiently and effectively implemented. Not only that, we have also offered two-third of the expenditure to the State Government who will strengthen their planning machinery at the State level. We are well aware that it is no use only creating plans in Yojana Bhavan and not getting them implemented. Therefore, we have taken all the steps. Particularly in the Fifth Plan we have laid emphasis so that these programmes become a part of the sectoral development in the country.

As I have said earlier, several assets were generated. It would be argued, whether these figures are correct or not. I am prepared to stand for correction because these schemes are

directly under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. As per my information, the permanent assets that were generated in two years, 1971-72 and 1972-73 were as follows: minor irrigation 1,31,000 hectares; permanent improvement works...

AN HON. MEMBER: Which State?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: All over the country. Land reclamation 15,600 hectares; soil conservation 24,350 hectares; water conservation and ground water recharging 1,450 hectares, afforestation 27,753 hectares drainage and anti-waterlogging 104,000 hectares; flood protection 1,72,000 hectares; construction of community assets, community orchards 442 hectares; Panchayat land development 568 hectares; pisciculture tanks 2,433 hectares roads and culverts, roads constructed 59,527 kms. and culverts constructed 7,338 numbers. So, these are the permanent assets that were created. (Interruptions) It is no doubt a complicated problem. As I said, we take a very serious view. It is very necessary that the State Governments properly cooperate in implementing the programmes otherwise, it may not be possible for us to man the Programmes sitting in Delhi.

Coming to the problem of educated unemployed, I would like to say in this House that it is not possible to solve the problem unless and until the economic growth rate is properly achieved. However, because of the several schemes that were taken up by the Central Government, this House will be happy to know, the number of engineers unemployed as was on 31 December 1972 was 22,000 and that was the number also as on 31 December 1973; therefore, it was possible to absorb the number of engineers that had come up in the country during that period and further unemployment was contained. We had, last year, taken up a massive programme for the educated unemployed engineers, mainly those who were unemployed as on 31 December 1972. The number of 22,000 engineers unemployed on 31-12-72 has come down

to about 2,000 to 2,500. It is because of the major and positive steps taken by Government. The hon. Member made mention about Maharashtra employment programme. It is known as Guarantee employment programme and in the current year on amount of Rs. 10 crores is provided for in Maharashtra Budget and it is approved by the Planning Commission and we are thinking how this programme could be extended, and how more assistance could be given. But there are various constraints of resources which have created several handicaps in our way.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I have read the statement and I have heard what the hon Minister said with such rapt attention as I have at my disposal. I have here this automatic document with me and it is very clearly stated here:

'It was envisaged that as far as possible only those labourers should be employed on the projects who belong to families where no adult member is employed. If it was not always possible to adhere to this principle persons should be selected for employment in such a number as to give preference to those not likely to find any employment elsewhere. In some States including Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh as also in many areas of other States like Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, those who sought employment were employed.

Then it says:

"Employment generated as reported by a number of State Government to Government of India was found to be inaccurate. A few instances are mentioned below. Errors ranging from 7 per cent to 50 per cent were noticed in the calculation of employment generated against 20.62 lakh mandays of employment said to have been generated the actual number of mandays

generated the actual number of mandays generated was found to be 15.76 lakhs."

The employment generated in 1971-72 as per monthly return in March 1972 is 107.69 lakhs. The employment generated in 1971-72 as reported in half-yearly report by end of March 1972 is 104.35. The employment generated for 1972-73 as reported in monthly return of March 1973 was 62.55 lakhs. But the employment generated in 1972-73 as per half-yearly report by end of March 1973 is 59.23 lakhs. The employment generated as collected by Audit from local record for 1971-72 is 28.10 lakhs. In 1972-73 this is 26.71. Please see this report regarding employment generated, the figures given by State Governments to the Government of India. Against 25.10 the figure is 32.71. Against 26.71 it is something else. Then the report says:

"The figures of mandays of employment reported to have been generated in all districts out of 21 districts test checked in UP included 14.46 lakhs unreal mandays because the cost of materials purchased through contractors and transportation charges thereof were converted into mandays 6.62 lakhs after dividing the expenditure by the wage rates prevailing."

So, in this context what you have been saying is not correct. This is the position.

In reply to Mr. Jagannathrao Joshi's question it has been stated that half-a-million jobs programme for educated unemployed was undertaken by Government during 1973-74. What are the figures? In Assam, percentage of employment generated as related to employment potential is 46.85 per cent. In Gujarat, it is 36.89. You deserve special award Mr. Dharwadkar and your sons or colleague. In Himachal Pradesh it is 13.95. In Karnataka it is 34.62. In Madhya Pradesh it is 41.01 and in West Bengal it is only 20.61 per cent, where unemployment is in its acute form.

In U.P., prior to the last election during pre-election—may I use the word 'block', a crash programme for employment was there. It has been given a very decent funeral now. That has been forgotten now since they have fought the election by getting 32 per cent of the votes. They forgot all about that programme. What is the position now? And what is it due to? It is due to certain man-made things done by Government and their own party people ruling the State. All State Government, save, West Bengal, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, have utilised the earmarked funds. Less than 55 per cent of it was utilised for construction of roads. The highest percentage of the utilised money was in Bihar, namely, 99.9 per cent. 20.9 per cent of the total expenditure for the whole programme of the State was Rs. 8.18 crores in two years. I want to know what was the Central Government doing? 99.9 per cent of the crash programme in Bihar was for building of roads.

MR. SPEAKER: May I invite your attention to ask only questions?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I shall ask questions whether these Ministers can be given Bharat Ratna! This is a very vital issue. I am only trying to highlight certain points. Sir, next in descending order in percentages comes Maghalaya, H.P., Maharashtra where it comes to 85 to 88 per cent on road construction. West Bengal spent 38 per cent on roads and 18 per cent on soil conservation, 15 per cent on flood protection and 12 per cent on afforestation. It spent only 6 per cent on minor irrigation which could generate employment in rural areas. In the absence of definite instructions about the road construction scheme for different States, why different standards are adopted in the matter of construction of roads? A lot of money is going into the pockets of the people in power and who are wearing particular caps on their heads.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Bosu, this is not a debating hour.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am trying to highlight it and then I shall ask questions. I have your indulgence. In fact you were kind enough to allow me. I thought that your smile was an approval to that. I shall take two to three minutes more.

Sir, in five districts of Gujarat, 220 roads were taken up. They were mainly improvements of and completion of the existing roads. There are full of malpractices in the matter of construction of roads have been constructed at a cost of Rs. 38.5 lakhs in two districts in Bihar. This is an example of increasing number of roads due to the intensity of traffic. My question now is this. The Centre has already discontinued its assistance for the special employment programmes—the crash programme for rural employment in some States—at least I know about West Bengal and nothing has been done in West Bengal.

This is due to the inefficiency and incapability on the part of Government. This is one chapter. None can surpass this Government. When it comes to people's money, for a vital project like this which means the survival of the younger generation of the country. The whole thing is full of corruption. The Auditor General's report was laid on the table of the House sometime back which revealed many interesting things. This Minister comes before the House and tells cock and bull story. All this is a most disgusting thing. We only request the hon. Minister to please tell us whether a parliamentary probe will be instituted in this matter to tell the truth to the House and to the country as to what they are doing with the people's money and the future life of the people. Also we want to know whether they will agree to a superior Parliamentary probe in this project of plunder by the ruling party. They are running the future of the youth. So many of them are committing suicide. The whole problem is increasing every day and aggravat-

ing every day. And here is a piece of document which would show that this Government is not only thoroughly ruining incompetent but dishonest to the core. That is how they are running the whole country.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I do not know whether the hon. Member heard me or not, but I have already said that we have taken a very serious note of this whole report. Unfortunately, this report is not the whole of the assessment of the programme and that is the tragedy. Wherever there are drawbacks they have been pointed out. But I can quote instance after instance wherein in many States the poor farmers have offered their own land without compensation for getting roads constructed in the rural areas where there are no roads and there is no transport; people have come forward and taken advantage of the scheme. Unfortunately, no good aspect has been mentioned in this report and this is a report which is only an one-sided report which we cannot forget. We have taken note of the report and the criticism as has appeared in the press also. I do feel that whatever are the drawbacks shall have to be removed. But that does not mean that we should stop the whole development itself. It cannot be done. In order to remove these drawbacks in the country we have to go ahead. As I have said, we have, therefore, insisted on all State Governments to create effective machinery to have proper coordination for the implementation of these programmes, and therefore instead of having such programmes we have said that let them be the part of a sectoral programme of the plan activity in the respective States.

Coming to the half a million jobs programme with an outlay of Rs. 100 crores, it was then assured by Government that we would create five lakhs jobs for the educated unemployed. I was myself in charge of this scheme. I was very much worried that this money should not

be squandered, and therefore, I undertook a tour of the whole country along with the officers, and I took the State Governments into confidence and explained to them the various schemes, how they should be productive schemes, how we should emphasise on self-generating employment programmes. With an expenditure of Rs. 54 crores, we have generated jobs for 3.40 lakhs people. I am happy that out of this, more than one lakh jobs are self-generating employment jobs, and these youngsters who have accepted self-generating employment have not only stood on their own but they will be providing jobs to about 4 to 5 lakhs more in this country themselves. Through this scheme, Government have assured the youngsters of one thing. It is true that we cannot provide jobs. But if they are prepared to stand on their own, let not poverty come in their way and let them not suffer because they are poor. We have come forward with our schemes to help them with infrastructural facilities required by the youngsters; we shall see that the entrepreneurship is properly cultured, nourished and nurtured and all possible help is given. That is how this scheme has generated new confidence in the minds of the youngsters so that they can stand on their own.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: On a point of order. The hon. Minister has added insult to injury. The report clearly says that according to the guidelines issued by the Government of India, the works were not to be executed through the agency of private contractors, but in a number of States it was noticed that contractors had been employed. Also, according to the Punjab Government, the off-season rate of wages for agricultural was Rs. 6 in that State, but the daily wages for most of the rural workers under the programme averaged around Rs. 3.87 only in 1971-72 and little over Rs. 4 in 1972-73. So, let him not tell us stories.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: The hon. Member should try to understand one thing. I was referring to the half a million jobs programme. He is referring to the crash programme for rural employment. He should distinguish between the two.

Now, I come to the last point regarding all the political allegations made by the hon. Member. We cannot forget the younger generation in the country in both the rural and urban areas, and in order to satisfy their aspirations, there is no other alternative except that the Government should offer with plan projects or without plan projects production employment programmes and see that these youngsters do not get frustrated. It is from that point of view that Government have taken up these schemes.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): At the outset, I congratulate the Auditor General and The *Hindustan Times* on their patriotic job for having exposed this culpable failure on the part of the Government so far as the crash programme is concerned. This programme cost us Rs. 157.38 crores in 1973-74.

Even though the call attention was very specific, the Minister has completely sidetracked the whole issue and has brought in various programmes, the crash programme, the programme for the educated unemployed, the special employment programme and the half a million jobs programme. Instead of replying directly to the call attention, he has brought all sorts of things into it.

Even though art. 41 of the Constitution is specific with a mandatory provision that the State shall secure the right to work to its citizens, nothing has been done. In this regard, rather it is an admission of failure on the part of the Planning Commission that the crash programme has

crashed on the boulders of the bluff and bluster of the Congress party and the entire Rs. 157.38 crores spent in the crash programme has gone down the gutters of the Congress party.

Regarding the operation part of it, I would like to point out that there was absence of any definite instructions, there were no specifications, mostly earthwork was done, it was taken up in a most haphazard manner, specially for construction of village roads and minor irrigation embankments which were all washed away in the first rain.

So far as my constituency is concerned, I can specifically point out that last year when the administration was in the hands of the friends on the Congress benches, all the money spent there was spent in a most wasteful manner. It had hardly any impact. This has been stated also by the Auditor General. Of the three States where the money had been badly spent, Orissa is one. Orissa is the main culprit because there was no supervision, no co-ordination, no specification. An innumerable number of Congress workers were recruited as contractors to fulfil these job works.

Lastly, there was the preparation of bogus muster rolls with many ghost labourers having been shown as employed. As has been pointed out, in Saharsa, the district of Shri L. N. Mishra, the left-hand thumb impressions were taken just to fill the muster roll. That is the way the floodgate of corruption was opened and unnecessary payment of the poor taxpayers' money was made to the Congress people who were the main beneficiaries of this programme.

What is the impact of all this expenditure? There is the inflationary impact of the additional expenditure of Rs. 275 crores without compensating increase in the supply of goods. This has further eroded the purchasing power of the rupee. So there should be an end to this empty ri-

tual which is being repeated year after year. Crores of the poor taxpayers' money have been wasted to fill the pockets of Congressmen.

So I would like to ask these questions. How many employment opportunities were generated? How many were actually employed? For all this wasteful expenditure, on whose shoulders will the responsibility lie for the realisation of these funds? How long will the Indian taxpayer be a silent spectator to this drama of wasteful expenditure taking the country to the abyss of economic ruin?

Lastly, I reiterate the demand for a parliamentary probe by a committee of members from all parties. The Minister should accede to this request at least for which we would be grateful.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: The report of the Auditor General relates to 1971-72 and 1972-73 when Mrs. Nan-dini Satpathy was not the Chief Minister, but the party of the hon. member was in power. By congratulating this report, he has condemned his own party and the then Government. (Interruptions) I have only given the facts

Coming to the calling attention, it refers to the crash relief employment programmes only and not to other programmes like drought-prone areas relief or relief for small farmers and marginal farmers.

AN HON. MEMBER: They have all crashed.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: They have not crashed. They have taken good roots in the country. Hon. member says, my statement was not relevant. I would submit that my statement is consistent with the calling attention motion. Whatever are the drawbacks, we have taken serious note of them. I do not say that whatever is wrong is not wrong; it is wrong and we shall see that it is remedied. I do not accept the demand for a Parliamentary Committee.