

12.10 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**REPORTED HEAVY RAINS AND FLOODS
IN GUJARAT, MAHARASHTRA AND
ANDHRA PRADESH AND THE
RESULTANT LOSS OF LIFE AND
PROPERTY**

SHRI DEORAO PATIL (Yeotmal) : I call the attention of the hon. Minister of Irrigation and Power to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon :

"Reported heavy rains and floods in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh and the resultant loss of life and property."

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND
POWER SHRI (SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD):**

Rainfall

In the second fortnight of August, excess rainfall occurred in the Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh, in Gujarat and the Marathwada and Vidarbha regions of Maharashtra. The excess rainfall was up to six times of the weekly normal.

Flood Situation

Andhra Pradesh

The Kunderu river, a tributary of the Pennar in Kurnool District was in floods in the third week of August, affecting 34 villages in Nandyal and Koilkuntla taluks and the Nandyal town. Road communications were also disrupted.

The Godavari and its tributaries were in floods in the third week of August, affecting areas in the districts of Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, East and West Godavari and Kakinada. Traffic on National Highway No. 7 and on a number of district roads in Nizamabad district was disrupted. Low-lying areas of Bhadrachalam town in Khammam district and Rajahmundry town in East Godavari District were inundated.

The assessment of the damage made so far indicates that 1.27 lakh ha. of area and 22,000 houses were damaged. Twenty-two human lives were lost. The total damage is about Rs. 4.4 crores.

The District authorities made all necessary arrangements to evacuate the marooned people and to provide shelter and relief in the affected areas. Detailed assessment of damage is being made by the State Government.

Gujarat

The Narmada was in floods in the last week of August and exceeded warning stage at Garudeshwar. According to the reports received so far, seven persons lost their lives. 1,800 houses and huts had been damaged. Assessment of damage is being made.

Maharashtra

The river Godavari and its tributaries, viz. Purna, Pranhita, Wain Ganga and Wardha were in floods in the third week of August and affected areas in Akola, Chandrapur, Yeotmal and Nanded Districts. Low-lying areas in Billoli and Hadgaon Taluks of Nanded District were affected. Cotton and jowar crops in riverside villages were badly damaged. Three persons are reported to have lost their lives in Akola District. According to the preliminary assessment, damage to crops is about Rs. 16 lakhs.

Measures for evacuating the flood-stricken people and providing relief were taken by the State Government. Detailed assessment of the damage caused by the floods is being made by the State authorities.

श्री देवराव पाटिल : अध्यक्ष महोदय, असम, बिहार, महाराष्ट्र, उड़ीसा, उत्तर प्रदेश और वेस्ट बंगाल में अगस्त के पहले हफ्ते में जो भारी वर्षा हुई बाढ़ आई और परिणाम स्वरूप जो लोस हुआ उस के बारे में एक स्टेटमेंट मिनिस्टर महोदय ने कोई करीब आठ दस गेज पहले हाउस में दिया था। यह दूसरा अवसर है जबकि महाराष्ट्र, गुजरात और झारखण्ड प्रदेश में भारी वर्षा और बाढ़ ने अनेक स्थानों

पर भारी तबाही और विनाश के दृश्य उपस्थित किये हैं। मुझे खेद है कि अभी मंत्री महोदय ने जो वक्तव्य दिया है उस में पूरी इनफॉर्मेशन नहीं दी गई है। महाराष्ट्र के बारे में ता० १ अगस्त को जो स्टेटमेंट में दिया गया है उस में कहा गया है कि ऐरिया एफैक्टर्ड और फसल के हानि के आंकड़े उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। एंसेस नहीं किया गया है। क्रौस कितनी डैमैज हुई यह उन्हें मालूम ही नहीं है। इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो स्टेटमेंट दिया है वह पूरी जानकारी प्राप्त करके देना चाहिए था। तारीख 6. 8. 70 को स्टेटमेंट में महाराष्ट्र के बारे में यह दिया गया है :

“Due to heavy rains and floods in Maharashtra, loss of 41 human lives and 2,275 cattle has been reported by the Maharashtra Government. 1,780 houses are stated to have been destroyed or damaged. The total loss has been estimated as about Rs. 17.5 lakhs.”

उस में यह भी दिया गया है कि Rs. 2,000 as gratuitous relief and Rs. 1,600 as subsidy इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि 17.5 लाख के टोटल लोस के लिए 2000 रुपये बतौर प्रोबुइडियस रिलीफ और 1600 रुपये बतौर सबसिडी के राज्य सरकार द्वारा दिये गये।

हैवी रेंस और फलड्स से होने वाले डैमैज के बारे में जो स्टेटमेंट आज दिया गया है उसमें क्षति का विवरण ठीक नहीं है। समाचार पत्र के अनुसार गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र व आंध्र प्रदेश में बाढ़ से नुकसान हुआ है। आज के स्टेटस्मेन समाचार पत्र में यह कहा गया है :

Floods damage Vidarbha Crop : Over one lakh acres of land under crop has been damaged and hundreds of hutments had collapsed in Vidarbha due to heavy rain during the last for night. It is unofficially estimated that at least 50,000 people have

been affected in eight districts. The loss to standing crop is estimated to be well over rupees one crore.

महाराष्ट्र गवर्नमेंट ने कहा है कि वहाँ पर डैमैज टु क्रौस करीब 16 लाख रुपये के हैं। यह जो लोस है वह हर एक प्रान्त से आये हैं लेकिन मंत्री जी उस की खबर नहीं देते हैं क्योंकि उस में फिर सङ्कार को रिलीफ देनी पड़ती है, पैसा देना पड़ता है इसलिए सरकार सही फीगर्स नहीं देती है। अब यह जो हियुमन रिलाफ, कैटिल और क्रौस का नुकसान होता है वह हर साल होता है और गालियामेंट में उस पर डिस्कशन भी होता रहता है। इसलिए मैं सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस नुकसान को रोकने के लिए सरकार क्या कोई परमानेंट मेजर ऐडोप्ट करने के बारे में सोच रही है ? There have been losses of cattle and human lives. There have been damage to crops in several districts, in several States. What steps are being contemplated by the Government to be taken to prevent such losses ? This is my first question.

दूसरा मेरा सवाल यह है कि जो नदियों के किनारे गांव बसे हुए हैं वहाँ पर ज्यादातर गरीब लोग रहते हैं, शैड्यूलड कास्ट्स के उन बेचारे गरीब बसने वाले लोगों को हर साल यह अत्यधिक वर्षा और बाढ़ के कारण काफी नुकसान पहुंचता है तो मेरा सवाल यह है कि उनके आवास के लिए स्कीम बनानी चाहिए। ताकि कम से कम समय से उनके आवास का दूसरा बंदोबस्त हो जाय उस के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठाने जा रही है ? नदी के निकट के गांवों के रहने वालों का समय से ऐसे संकट के समय स्थानान्तरित करना बहुत आवश्यक है।

यह जो नदियों आदि में बाढ़ आती है उन के लिए गवर्नमेंट की पालिसी यह है कि बड़े-बड़े प्रोजेक्ट ले लिये जाते हैं लेकिन माइनर और मीडियम प्रोजेक्ट्स पर सरकार ध्यान नहीं

[श्री देवराव पाटिल]

देती हैं और परिणामस्वरूप वह नहीं लिये जाते हैं। अगर महाराष्ट्र में बाढ़ रोकने के लिए माइनर और मीडियम प्रोजेक्ट लिये गए तो कुछ हद तक काफी क्षेत्रों में ऐसी बाढ़ों से होने वाला नुकसान कम हो सकता है। इसलिए मेरा सुझाव है कि महाराष्ट्र में मिडियम प्रोजेक्ट्स और अपर वर्धा प्रोजेक्ट आदि लिये जाने चाहिए। इसी तरह अडान नदी का प्रोजेक्ट है लेकिन जैसा मैंने बहा कोई प्रोजेक्ट वहां पर नहीं बना है। जाहिर है कि अगर यह मीडियम, माइनर और कुछ मेजर प्रोजेक्ट लिये होते तो यह बाढ़ से होने वाला नुकसान कम हो सकता है। इन बाढ़ों के फलस्वरूप बेचारे गरीब किसानों को भारी नुकसान होता है उस का तो कोई अंदाजा नहीं लगाया जाता है। इस वर्ष की वर्षा ने पिछले कई वर्षों का रिकार्ड तोड़ दिया है। खरीफ की फसल नष्ट हो गई और मूंगफली की क्रीप जो हमारे हाथ में आई थी वह इस बाढ़ के कारण बिलकुल नष्ट हो गई। कपास की भी यही हालत हुई। इसलिए मैं सरकार से अपील करना चाहता हूं कि किसानों का इस तौर जो भारी नुकसान होता है उसको रिलीफ देने के लिए एक परमानेंट स्कीम फलड्स एफैक्टिव किसानों के लिए बनानी चाहिए। उनके वास्ते कोई एक परमानेंट स्कीम बनानी चाहिए। गवर्नमेंट को इसके लिए एक कारपोरेशन बनानी चाहिए जोकि उनकी आर्थिक स्थिति सुधारने के लिए फाइनेंस करे। और मैं यहां पर सरकार को एक सुझाव यह देना चाहता हूं कि जैसे शहरों में किसी की गाड़ी बह जाय, मकान ढह जाय या बह जाय किसी की शहरी संपत्ति का नुकसान हो जाय तो उसके लिए इंशोरेंस रहता है, जिसमें जान नहीं है उसके लिए तो बीमा है लेकिन उम तरह से वहां बेचारे मवेशी मर जाये तो उनके लिए कुछ सुरक्षा नहीं है। मेरा सुझाव है कि क्रीप इंश्यो-

रेंस के बारे में गवर्नमेंट को जल्द से जल्द कदम उठाना चाहिए और बाढ़ के कारण जो नुकसान होता है उस के लिए सरकार की ओर से नदी किनारे के गांवों के किसानों को कुछ सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए।

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : The information given in the statement made earlier was the information received before the 26th August. The information that has been given in the present statement is the information received from the Maharashtra Government since the 26th August. Just now, as I was sitting here, I got a further message from the Maharashtra Government saying that the loss is now estimated at about Rs. 92 lakhs, out of which Rs. 74 lakhs is the loss due to crops as against the Rs. 16 lakhs given earlier.

The hon. Member has asked what measures are being taken to prevent the loss that occurs from time to time to the crops and also the poor people who are living by the side of the villages which are submerged and also to those villages. He also suggested that the construction of projects like the Upper Wardha would reduce the intensity of the floods. I agree that wherever we construct any kind of structure or dam to prevent damages, the flow of water is reduced to that extent, and the damage is reduced. But it will take some time to have these structures, and when these are constructed, the flood damage will be much less. But, nevertheless, in the case of Maharashtra, my own feeling is that especially in the Marathwada and Vidarbha area, a large number of rivers flow and carry much higher discharges in some years as during this year, and the villages and the lands which are located at practically the river level are affected and thus the damages are occurring. I feel that if we construct flood embankments here, it must be possible to protect quite a large area. I am going to take up this matter with the State Government, so that as a first step we can investigate and frame some proposals so that we could take up these flood control works.

SHRI M. N. REDDY (Nizamabad) : The statement of the hon. Minister is very bald and sketchy. My area in Nizamabad district which is part of the Telengana region in Andhra Pradesh was the worst affected and badly hit area. A large number of people had died, and many villages have been submerged and washed away. Even though it is more than 15 days, still the hon. Minister says that the total extent of the loss is being assessed. That shows what sort of organisation we have. That shows the lack of sufficient sense of urgency on the part of the Central and State Governments to assess the loss even at a time of distress like this. The Central Government and the hon. Minister usually say that they have not received reports or requests for sending Central teams for assistance or assessment of the loss. Is it necessary for the Central Government to receive a formal request and a report from the State Government to send a Central team for making assessment for providing assistance in future? May I know whether the Central Government is treating itself as the United Nations Organisation where reports are received and then the matter is raised in the General Assembly or the Security Council and then only they will take cognisance of the matter? It is very much necessary and imperative for the Central Government to have a cell in the CWPC or in the Irrigation and Power Ministry and send officials to visit the places on their own immediately after the floods when the wounds are fresh. If they go later, then much of the damage that has occurred will be erased and obliterated due to relief measures, selfhelp etc. and what they see is only a *post-mortem* affair. So, I suggest to the hon. Minister to create a Central cell here to find out the damage by visiting these places immediately, whether or not requests are received from the State Government.

Secondly in my district of Nizamabad, a lot of devastation was caused on account of the lack of flood warning and flood forecasting system. We could have saved a lot of devastation and damage if there had been a proper flood warning system. For instance, in Nanded district in Marathwada, had they put up a hydrological

observation station with another station at Pochampad and wireless communications facilities, there would have been much less damage. I would invite the attention of the hon. House to the discriminatory treatment given to Telengana and Nizamabad in this matter by the Central Government as well as the State Government. Such posts are established in Andhra in Bhadrachalam, Daulesham, Srisailem and so many other places, but Nanded and Nizamabad and Telengana which were subjected to the ravages of flood, they were not. This could have saved Nanded and Nizamabad. I would suggest the immediate establishment of such observation posts by the Central Government in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power so that proper warning might be given to the people concerned in the future.

Many lives were lost and villages were washed out in flood. More than 2 lakh acres of standing crops suffered great damage in Madnūr and Armoortaluks. These taluks suffered great damage. Scores of tanks were breached not only in the Nizamsagar commanded area but also other areas. As a result of this, these areas will suffer not only this year but the next two years. This fact has to be taken cognisance of by the Ministry. What would happen to those ryots who have suffered not only now but would continue suffer loss on account of the deprivation of irrigation facilities?

The hon. Minister assured this House last year and the year before that he would constitute distress mitigation committees in every State on behalf of the Irrigation and Power Ministry. He said such committees would first be set up in Andhra Pradesh—that was the assurance given to us last year. I want to ask whether such committees have really been constituted in Andhra Pradesh, as he promised, and if so, what they have done at this time of distress in Telengana. It is a great tragedy that has overtaken Telengana. The floods we saw there this time have been unprecedented.

I would put some specific questions. As you know sir, in May and November

[Shri M. N. Reddy]

1969, as a consequence of cyclones in the Andhra region, all sorts of emergency relief measures were taken by the State Government such as using IAF 'planes and helicopters' for dropping food packets etc. The Chief Minister and almost all the Cabinet Ministers immediately rushed to the affected spots, the flood affected areas. It was a very good thing; I compliment them on it. But no corresponding treatment was given to the affected areas in Telengana this time. In contrast, no Minister has visited these areas in the last 10-15 days. This is another instance of injustice and discriminatory treatment meted out to the Telengana area. I have been speaking about this injustice all these years. But even at times of distress, we have seen such treatment being meted out by the State Government. That is the point I want to stress. So it is for the Central Government to come to the rescue of the Nizamabad and Telengana people at a time like this and grant necessary relief measures immediately to rehabilitate the affected people who are in large numbers, specially the weaker sections of the community like Harijans and very small and petty cultivators who have suffered a lot.

Are the Central Governments contemplating, as has been suggested by Opposition leaders and others at various times, to create a permanent fund like a National Flood Relief Fund, which has been rendered all the more necessary by the tragedy that has overtaken Telengana? Then I repeat the point made about the distress mitigation committees which he assured the House he would constitute. Will they immediately set up these committees if they have not done so to take immediate measures without waiting for any report or request? Then about the hydrological observation posts in Nanded and Pochambad. Will they be set up immediately so that at least for the future forecasts and warnings may be given to the areas concerned. Central assistance is immediately needed to the extent of Rs. 3-4 crores to rehabilitate people affected in the Nizamabad district. Will the Central Government consider granting this assistance? Then loan to the extent of more than Rs. 25 lakhs for fertiliser and pump-set taccavi to the small cultivators who have suffered. Then establishment of

a cell in the CWPC. Then short-term loans. I want the hon. Minister to kindly elucidate the measures that he proposes or the measures that he has already taken in this behalf.

Dr. K. L. RAO : The hon. Member and many others from time to time speak and emphasise that the Central Government should send help as soon as any natural calamity occurs. On this question there are very clear instructions to the State Governments that whenever any State Government apprehends that the damage is extensive and beyond their capacity, they should immediately make a report to the Central Government for necessary action. I think that is the minimum that is required. I am very sorry that in the present case we have not received so far any report from the Andhra Pradesh Government. As soon as the Andhra Pradesh Government sends a report, naturally a team will be sent to assess the damage. I think that is very necessary for the Central Government to take necessary action. Otherwise, we do not have any direct information and we cannot act simply on newspaper reports.

Then with regard to the floods of Godavari, I want to submit very clearly that this year's floods are not of any high order. The water that was carried in the Godavari is about one third of the maximum carried by that river. These rivers do carry a certain amount of water. In this particular case is not that the Nizamabad District has suffered more by floods, but it is because of the high intensive rain. They had 10 inches of rain in the second half of August in that area.

The hon. Member wanted that flood warning system in the Godavari. It is not extended to all the tributaries. It is not possible to extend it to every tributary all at once. We have got the flood warning system in the major rivers, and as time goes on, we will be extending it from one river to the other and the tributaries. There are so many rivers and tributaries that it will take some time before we can cover every tributary, but in this particular case, in view of the fact that Nizamabad has suffered very much I will draw the

attention of the State Government and we will try to have flood warning in that place.

With regard to repairs to tanks, hon. Members should remember that in the case of these upland are as there are quite a large number of tanks and they are the first victims whenever there is any flood, any heavy rain, and they are breached. Unless they are repaired very quickly, they are not available for the Rabi and other crops. That is a very important thing and I will draw the attention of the State Government to see that urgent repairs are carried out to these tanks so that water may be available to the rabi crop at least.

Then, the Distress Mitigation Committee is meant for tackling the cyclones that cause much more and very extensive damage. It is not meant for this kind of flood damage.

श्री गंगा रेडडी (आदिलबाद) : 16 और 19 अगस्त के बीच में गोदावरी और उसकी मुआविन नदियों में जो सैलाब आया और उससे जो भारी नुकसान आदिलाबाद जिले को हुआ, उसका कोई जिक्र इस रिपोर्ट में नहीं किया गया है। शायद इसलिए नहीं किया है कि आदिलाबाद जिला एक पिछड़ा हुआ जिला है और इसी वजह से उसको नजरअंदाज कर दिया गया है। मैं उस जिले का प्रतिनिधि हूँ। मेरे इल्म के मुताबिक इन नदियों की बाढ़ से मौघापुर, सोन, पोचमपल्ली और दीगर मवाजात जो इन नदियों के किनारे हैं गरकियाब हुए हैं। मेरे इल्म के मुताबिक छः सौ से ज्यादा मकान गिर गए हैं और बीस हजार एकड़ से ज्यादा फसल इससे मुतासर हुई है। कई तालाब टूट गए हैं, रास्ते मुतका हो गए हैं। मघोल मंचियाल कट गया। बदनसीब कड़म प्रोजेक्ट की मेन कनाल भी टूट गई इस सब से आदिलाबाद जिले को आधा-करोड़ यानी पचास लाख रुपये का नुकसान हुआ। लेकिन सबसे ज्यादा ग्रकसोस की बात यह है कि आफिसर्स ने आज तक रिपोर्ट नहीं

की और न ही स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने इसके बारे में कोई इकदामात किए।

घ्राए दिन जो बाढ़ें और सैलाब आते हैं इनके लिए क्या कोई परमानेंट इंजाम किया जाएगा? अगर स्वर्णा प्रोजेक्ट को पूरा कर दिया जाता जो ग्यारह बारह साल पहले ली गई थी तो इसकी मुआविन नदियों के किनारे जो मवाजात है वे सैलाब से बच जाते हैं। गोदावरी से जो सैलाब आता है उसकी वजह से गोदावरी और कृष्णा जिलों में काफी नुकसान होना है। अगर पोचम पहाड़ प्रोजेक्ट की दूसरी स्टेज पूरी कर ली जाती और वहां के पानी के तनाजा को खत्म कर दिया जाता तो भी फ्लड्ज की रोकथाम हो सकती थी। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप कोई सैट्रल कमेटी वहां भेजेंगे जो इस सारे नुकसान का पता लगाए? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि आप कौन कौन से रिलीफ मैशजं ले रहे हैं, इसको भी आप कैटेगोरिकली बताएं।

DR. K. L. RAO : What the hon. Member says is true ; I am sure the State Government is taking action ; I shall draw the State Government's attention. It is true Kadam canal is breached and action should be taken as quickly as possible. I shall request them to send the necessary estimates.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Eluru): Every year and last year also some parts of Andhra Pradesh, particularly in Godavari district, because of floods the farmers are suffering; and also because of defective planning. Wherever there is agitation and political pressure, they are appointing committees and commissions but are not serious or sincere to implement the recommendations made by those committees. In 1965 they appointed a committee headed by Mr. Mitra, an eminent engineer, to give a report on flood control and other irrigation schemes. The coastal area of Andhra Pradesh is not only a granary for Andhra but also for the whole of India ; it gives ten lakhs of tonnes of rice to other places. But when it comes to helping schemes, the Centre considers giving assis-

[Shri K. Suryanarayana]

tance on the basis of population. The population of the entire South India is going down as they are sincerely implementing birth control measures. Hence the assistance they get is decreasing while the help for the other areas is increasing. I will not dispute if help is given to backward areas or other areas where there is necessity or where there is potentiality. Funds are to be given irrespective of the capacity of the State Government when it comes to national calamities. But the Government is not considering that way.

The Minister of Irrigation an power is an eminent engineer and he has ideas and plans for our country. In fact other countries also are seeking his advice. It is unfortunate that the Central and the State Governments are not implementing his plans or the recommendations made in the reports of various committees. The Irrigation and Power Minister is without any power. He has no control over anybody here or in his office because they have no funds. The State Governments blame him; the public blame him for things which are beyond his control. My colleague Mr. Narayana Reddi chose to blame the entire Andhra Government and said it was not sincere in implementing schemes; they did in Andhra but not in Telangana. In this issue there is no difference; it is a national issue. Where there is a natural calamity or cyclone this Government and that Government should come forward. Mr. Narayana Reddi raised this question. The Irrigation Minister in Andhra Pradesh is coming from Telangana area. So, it is not fair to say so.

Finally, I want to put a specific question to the Government. The Government have been spending several lakhs on commissions and committees and on dealing with the situations as temporary measures. They want to do all these things. But I want to put a specific question to the Government and get an answer. Why not the Government have appointed a National Irrigation Commission like all other Commissions to go into the irrigation problems and see to the execution of many projects which were formulated by eminent experts throughout the

country? If they want the necessary funds, it could always be made available. They always that the State Governments cannot get enough money. I may inform the hon. Minister that the farmers in Andhra Pradesh, are prepared to help the State Government in this matter. We have given sufficient funds to implement the electricity schemes in the rural areas by borrowing from the land mortgage banks or pledging the lands. (*Interruption*).

MR. SPEAKER: May I request hon. Members, who want to talk, to move out to the lobbies? The hon. Member is on his legs. He is not audible. If you want to talk, kindly move out to the lobbies. (*Interruption*) Conversing may go on in the lobbies; not in this Chamber.

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam): This is only a call Attention notice, but a regular debate is going on.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Suryanarayana, you have made a regular debate of this Call Attention motion. It started as a very simple process of Call Attention motion, calling the attention of the Government to a particular matter. Then some Members started asking "just a clarification", and from clarification it has developed into a regular debate.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: It is a vital point of great concern to the people in the rural areas. Whenever there is some concern about the cities, they immediately come up and make much of it. Here, when there is a calamity in the rural areas, why not the towns people bear with us and why not some time—five minutes or 10 minutes—be allowed for it? What is the harm? On so many occasions, time has been taken by the House unnecessarily for other purposes. The Government have a right to implement the proposals that I make, and I request the Government to attend to it. (*Interruption*).

SHRI HEM BARUA (Mangaldai): You were kind enough to say that there should be no talk in the House. But I find there is talk going on in spite of your direction.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: I do not want to take much time of the House. I

request the Minister of Irrigation and Power...

MK. SPEAKER : Your Minister is all attention.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Is the Government prepared to take a loan from the agriculturists and through the Andhra Government in the same manner as they have implemented the electricity schemes in Andhra Pradesh to develop the outlying areas? We have given Rs. 2 crores to Rs. 3 crores to the Electricity Board to implement the scheme, by way of loan. The farmers have given it; in the same manner, the farmers are prepared to give loan to the Government of India or to the State Government by borrowing from the nationalised banks and the co-operative banks to implement these schemes, which have already been agreed to by the Government of India and the Government of Andhra Pradesh. That is why I am making this submission. Let the Minister give a reply.

DR. K. L. RAO : I will pass on the hon. Member's suggestions to the State Government.

12.44 hrs.

PARERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL PLAN 1970-71

THE MINISTER OF STATE (SHRI-MATI NANDINI SATPATHY) : On behalf of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Plan, 1970-71 (Hindi and English versions). [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-4133/70.*]

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF PARGA TOOLS LTD.

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Praga Tools Limited, Secunderabad, for the year 1968-69 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon; under subsection (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-4134/70*]

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO UN-STARRED QUESTION RE. HINDI OFFICER IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : I beg to lay on the Table a statement correcting the answer given on the 11th May, 1970 to Unstarred Question No. 9238 regarding duties attached to the post of Hindi Officer in the Ministry of Finance. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-4135/70.*]

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore) : Sir, 30 students have been arrested and beaten up yesterday when they came to meet the Prime Minister in support of the steel plant. The Government should make a statement about it. (*Interruption.*)

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH (Buxar) : The students were dragged and beaten up Yesterday. (*Interruption*)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS *rose*—

SHRI SHEO NARAIN (Basti) : Government is doing a shameful act by beating up young students.

SHRI S. KUNDU : 30 students from Orissa have been arrested, beaten mercilessly by the police, dragged and their money has been stolen. Government should make a statement.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH : It is not an ordinary matter. Young students were beaten up. In certain cases, persons arrested and jailed are released by the State Government at the instance of the Home Minister. But here students were got entangled in this and sent to jail and beaten. (*Interruptions.*)

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot bring up everything abruptly and ask, where is the Home Minister? It must come to me also. I will find out. Now,

SHRI P. M. MEHTA (Bhavnagar) : The Sarvodaya leader from Saurashtra, Mr. Atma Ram Bhatt, is on fast for the last thirteen days for the cause of prohibition. (*Interruptions*)