

[Shri D. K. Panda]

- (iv) promote in full measure the mutual co-operation among the Asian nations for rapid economic development and social progress."

To this, I want to add one sentence.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please continue your speech next time.

17.36 hrs.

#### STATEMENT RE. WATER SUPPLY POSITION IN DELHI

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are going to the next item. Mr. Mohsin has come with a statement on the water supply problem. It was raised in the morning before the Speaker. The point is, there is a Calling Attention motion also which has been sent by some hon. Members to the Speaker; that is coming up on Monday. If I allow the Minister to make the statement today, that will not come.

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार साल्वे (बेतूल) : हम लोगों को पानी चाहिये.....काल-एटेन्शन आये न आये।

श्री नवल किशोर शंखा (दीसा) : पानी आ गया है। हम को हालात का पता लग जाये, काल-एटेन्शन इस में क्या करेगी।

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार साल्वे : हमारे मंत्री जो का पानी का कोई सीक्रेट-सोर्स हो तो मैं कह नहीं सकता, लेकिन हमारे यहां तो पानी गायब हो गया है। मेरी प्रार्थना यह है कि वे इस तान का संकेत कर दें कि पानी जल्द से

जल्द कब आ रहा है। उस के बाद तय करेंगे कि काल-एटेन्शन चाहिये या नहीं चाहिये।

गृह मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री एफ० एच० मोहसिन) : पानी आ रहा है।

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार साल्वे : पानी आ रहा है तो फिर काल-एटेन्शन रहने दीजिए।

सभापति महोदय : साल्वे साहब का सजेशन सब के सामने है। इस वक्त हाउस के मामले स्टेटमेंट करा देने हैं, फिर काल-एटेन्शन की जरूरत नहीं है। आप क्या चाहते हैं—काल-एटेन्शन या स्टेटमेंट ?

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार साल्वे : सभापति जी, मेरा मुझाव यह है कि ये नदन को इस समय आवश्यक कर दें कि पानी आ रहा है और आता रहेगा—तब फिर काल-एटेन्शन आये तो ठीक है। लेकिन अगर पानी नहीं आ रहा है—किसी बजह से भी—तो अभी ब्यान दें।

सभापति महोदय : दोनों चीजें आप के सामने हैं। आप लोगों ने सुबह मांग की थी कि स्टेटमेंट हो। उस के बाद काल-एटेन्शन भी दे दिया गया, वह भी सोमवार को आने वाला है। लेकिन दोनों बातें नहीं हो सकतीं—स्टेटमेंट भी आये और काल-एटेन्शन भी आये। इस लिए हाउस को यह डिसाइड करना है—इन के स्टेटमेंट को सुनेंगे तो काल-एटेन्शन नहीं आयेगा। अगर काल-एटेन्शन लेना चाहते हैं तो वे स्टेटमेंट नहीं देंगे।

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): Let the Minister give us water. We do not want to pursue the Calling Attention Motion.

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार साहू : मेरा निवेदन है—नत्री महोदय इतना कह दें कि पानी आ रहा है और ज्यादा न बोलें, कहीं ऐसा न हो कि पानी बन्द हो जाये। वयान नहीं चाहिये, पानी चाहिये, बाकी बातें काल-एन्जेशन के वकन मानूम हो जायेंगी। वहां पर जो बंद-इन्तजामी है, जिस की वजह से जनता को तकलीफ हुई है, क्यों हुई है, इस की चर्चा सोमवार को कर सकते हैं। तत्काल तो यह चाहिये कि पानी आ जाये।

श्री नवल किशोर शर्मा : मिनिस्टर साहब का स्टेटमेंट होने के बाद काल-एन्जेशन का सवाल बेमानी हो जायेगा। इस लिए पहले स्टेटमेंट सुन लें, वह ज्यादा इम्पाटेंट है, काल-एन्जेशन को आप स्कैंस कर दें।

श्री चन्द्र लाल चन्द्राकर (दुर्ग) : मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस बात का स्पष्टीकरण हो जाना चाहिए कि किस कारण से पानी की हड़ताल हुई और किस कारण से समझौता हुआ या क्या हुआ। इस बात की जानकारी आज हो जाना जरूरी है। हम लोगों को आवश्यक वस्तुओं की जानकारी को नहीं रोकना चाहिये।

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): Water is more important than call attention. The people of Delhi are suffering. Tomorrow and the day after, there will be a two-day lapse. Let us know now whether we are getting water or not.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the House agrees that the Minister should make his statement and the call attention need not come up on Monday. That is the opinion of the House. They are not pressing the call attention motion. The hon. Minister may make his statement now.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): Sir, I rise to make a statement.

Sir, a strike had taken place in the Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking starting on the midnight of 5th November, 1973. The main demand was 66 per cent increase in wages. The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, had assured the striking workers that their demands would be put up before the Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Committee for consideration and as far as possible a decision of the Committee would be obtained in about 15 days. The Committee considered the demands on the 13th November, 1973, but a final decision could not be taken and the matter was referred to the Commissioner for some additional information. The matter was to be considered again by the Committee on the 22nd November, 1973. Before it could be considered, suddenly at 8.00 A.M. on 22nd November, 1973, a section of the workers manning the Wazirabad Water Works struck work and as a result the entire complex of bulk production of water came to a standstill. It was discovered that the striking workers had simultaneously caused extensive acts of sabotage in the entire production and main distribution system. The sluice gate of Wazirabad barrage had been lifted and the raw water was let off downstream thereby causing a fall in the level of the impounded water by a few feet. The inter-locking system of the electrical switch-gear of the pump house was badly tempered with. All the five telephone lines connecting Wazirabad had been snapped at various places. In the

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Chlorination plant chlorine gas was let off making the approach to the Plant difficult. Valves of the mains taking raw water into Chandrawal and also those on the distribution mains were closed. When information was received regarding stoppage of the water, the engineers reached the spot along with an adequate number of police force. With the help of the loyal workers the first pump of the raw water intake was started at about 3.30 P.M. The supply of water in Delhi had earlier been declared as essential service by the Delhi Administration on the 3rd November, 1973. The police arrested 62 persons. By about 9.00 P.M. all the pumps in the intake plant were restarted and by midnight filtration started in one of the two plants at Wazirabad and Chandrawal. The various damages which were caused to the Plant were set right. The help of the army was also sought and a batch of 30 army-men also reached the Water Works. By about 2.00 A.M. on 23rd November all the filtration plants started working to full capacity. At about 8.00 A.M. the conditions at Wazirabad and Chandrawal and at the various reservoirs had been brought to normal. With the partial restoration of water supply it was possible to give some water to certain parts of the city in the morning between 7.00 to 9.00 A.M. But since most of the reservoirs had gone dry yesterday and because many of the mains also remained obstructed, quite a large area of the city did not get water. By now the water supply position in the city has come to normal though there may not be adequate supply in the distant areas, because of inadequate pressure. During the course of the night it is expected to restore normal water supply in all parts of Delhi. Union leaders have informed that the strike has been called off. I regret that so much needless inconvenience has been caused to the citizens of Delhi.

17.45 hrs.

**HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION****PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION  
PRICE OF FOODGRAINS**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** We now take up the half-hour discussion by Mr. Guha.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai):** Sir, yesterday in reply to the discussion on the no-confidence motion, our Prime Minister in a Spartan way admitted that the Government does not hesitate to admit its mistakes. I hope that the Government considers it a mistake that they did not increase the price of bread earlier! After the discussion on the no-confidence motion yesterday, today we find that the price of bread in Delhi has been raised! This may appear as a small incident. But it is not so. The wheat and rice quota are being cut almost everywhere. Whenever the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Shri Siddhartha Shankar Ray, flies to Delhi and back—he does it almost twice a week if not thrice—he only brings back very good news to the people of West Bengal that either the wheat ration or rice ration is being cut!

It is admitted in the country today that since independence there had been no serious crisis like the food crisis as we are facing today. The Government is giving many pleas,—drought, floods etc. No doubt drought and floods have affected the food production last year. But if the Government had managed it properly and with the firm conviction of the ideology of socialism they are advocating, when they have accepted the basic principle of socialism or socialising the food trade and its distribution, perhaps even with the marginal shortage as the Government used to say, the food problem would not have been so acute. In the last 12 months, according to Government's admission, prices of food and other consumer goods jumped up by 22 per cent. The