

[Shri S. L. Saxena]

crore of rupees has been advanced to Uttar Pradesh as taccavi loan. It is his own statement in which he has stated that so much is given as taccavi loans. Now he raises a point of order on that subject.

That is why I say that now only one-third of what was given in 1956-57 is given and my hon friend is not concerned with that. I say that the UP Government cannot solve this problem. They cannot build even a project like the Ghagra and the Rapti. They cannot advance loans, even taccavi loans, unless they get assistance from the Centre. They cannot cope with the famine conditions there. It is now seen that they have admitted famine conditions there. People there are dying of food shortage. Whose province is that? If people are dying, if famine is there certainly it is within the province of the Centre. I submit that these are things which are absolutely his concern.

Then, he himself just now said that socialisation is what he is aiming at and the plan which he has adopted is cheap grain shops and procurement. In my Province there used to be procurement of rice. It has been stopped. The amount of food distributed by the Fair Price Shops, as I told you, one month back was more than what it should be. Even though the number of shops has been increased by 500—there are 2,090 now, there were 1,400 previously—the amount of food distributed today is about half of the food distributed before. Actually, the calamity has become much worse now, because not only the old scarcity conditions are there but, due to floods this year, they have become most virulent. The Rapti, the Ghagra and the Gandak, all these three rivers have made Eastern UP a complete deluge. You go there from Basti to Gorakhpur, you will find the entire area a sheet of water. I came only yesterday from there and I

found that the whole area was a sheet of water. What was one month back has become ten times today on account of the floods. So, drought and floods are there.

I am very sorry that the hon Minister has started thinking that it is not his concern. The UP Government says that it is the Centre's concern. You say, "It is not my concern." That means that the conditions in UP are nobody's concern.

Shri Ranga: That is why you have the hon Prime Minister as well as the Deputy Prime Minister and the hon. Food Minister from UP.

Shri S. L. Saxena: I am a Member from that constituency. I have been in Parliament. I have been roaming about in my constituency for the last eight months from time to time, and coming here at the time of adjournment motions. No relief has come. It is, therefore, that I have decided to undertake a fast from tomorrow. Tomorrow evening I shall leave my food. I cannot go on eating if my people are starving. The hon Minister says that he is not responsible. UP Government say that they are not responsible.

Shri Arjun Singh Bhadauria (Etawah): The hon Minister and the Government are responsible for this.

Shri S. L. Saxena: Therefore that is the only remedy. If my people die, I should also die.

17-18 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TWENTY-SEVENTH REPORT

Shri Shree Narayan Das (Darbhanga): Sir, I beg to present the Twenty-seventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee.