

are taking place elsewhere by some agencies abroad.

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK (Buldana): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Government towards the severe shortage of edible oil, rice and kerosene in the State of Maharashtra.

It is a matter of regret that though on several occasions, the State Government has submitted its representations to the Union Government, action is still awaited. The public distribution system is on the verge of collapse as quotas have not been coming from the Centre. The edible oil situation in particular is appalling. The Centre did not send its quota for the months of March, April and May at all. I repeat that for three months, the quota of edible oil was not sent to Maharashtra at all and for the month of June, it has only sent 600 metric tonnes as against the State's demand for 15,000 metric tonnes. The rice currently available is unfit for animal consumption, leave aside human beings. Kerosene too is in short supply.

The scene of empty shelves in the urban and rural Public Distribution system shops where the urban and rural poor depend on, is very frightening.

I request, through you, Mr. Chairman, the hon. Prime Minister that he should personally intervene in this matter and provide relief to the poor people in Maharashtra.

[Translation]

SHRI RABI RAY (Kendrapada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to raise a matter of public importance in the House. The milk producers of the states have given a notice for strike. The milk cooperatives of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh are very much worried following the announcement of the new industrial policy. Their con-

cern is based on the apprehension that with the introduction of new economic policy, de-licensing has been done with the result that big industrial houses and multi-nationals would enter the market. Milk cooperatives are worried that supply of milk to Delhi from the milk producers, who account for 50 per cent of the total supply, would be stopped. I am raising this question because it is a basic issue. Milk cooperatives have demanded that the announcement regarding de-licensing under the new licensing policy should be withdrawn so that multi-nationals and big industrial houses do not enter the milk market. 25 million tonnes of milk is produced under the 'Operation Flood' programme. If the Government do not reconsider its decision of de-licensing, I am afraid, the cooperatives engaged in milk supply would stop supplying milk with the result that the price of milk would go up. The Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Industry are concerned with it. Through you, I would urge the Government to consider reversing the de-licensing policy.

[English]

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Sir, The MTNL has taken a decision to meter a local call every three minutes both in Delhi and Bombay. Actually 50 per cent of the Exchanges are not electronically operated.

I request the Communication Minister to clarify the position as to whether the decision has been already taken and whether it will be implemented from 1st of September because three organisations from Maharashtra are organising a mercha on 20th of August against the discrimination between from crossbar and electronic exchanges.

I request the Communication Minister to please clarify the position whether they are going to implement the three minute call or not. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

If you permit, the hon. Minister is ready to reply.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW (Idukki):

Sir, I rise to bring a very important and very serious matter before this House. The country is passing through the worst phase of naxalite uprising now ever since its inception a decade back. The nation is profoundly threatened by the recent widespread outbreak of naxalite terrorism in different parts of the country. Everyday newspapers are coming out with frightening news. But we are not taking enough cognisance of the matter. Many areas of five States - Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra - are already in the clutches of Naxalism. It has grown into highly explosive proportions and the hon. Home Minister has been constrained to make deliberations with the Chief Ministers of the affected States. The recent spurt poses grave danger to the affected areas and the States as also the nation as a whole. The mouthing of usual homilies will not solve the problem. The People's War Group has already killed eight policemen. Looting, murder, arson, terrorism and kidnapping have become the order of the day. The menace has become real and immediate.

In this connection, I would like to state that the imperatives of expeditious land reforms and other administrative, political, social and economic measures cannot be over-emphasised. It is the deprived peasantry who are drawn into the vortex of Naxalism. Various steps have to be taken. I would suggest that Land Reforms should be included in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution as early as possible. Other measures like Action Plan, expediting the formation of

the nodal agency as suggested by the Government, providing enough security, showing political will and overall integrated strategy for curbing terrorism everywhere have to be taken. These are some of the steps that should be taken immediately.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take immediate steps in this regard to solve this problem.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN

(Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the students of Tamil Nadu are on a fast-unto-death in Delhi. They are on a fast today also. This is for the fourth consecutive day today they are observing his fast for a noble cause of Tamil Nadu-for the speedy settlement of the Cauvery Waters dispute. Today being the fourth day of their fast, their health is getting weak and critical. So, this must be viewed very seriously. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to intervene immediately and take adequate steps in this regard.

Sir, I would request that a Cabinet Minister may be sent to meet them in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are again debating the same issue on which the hon. Minister of Finance had made a statement. This issue is assuming seriousness day by day. It has become a matter of debate all over the world. But here in our country, the matter has been set at rest after the Finance Minister made brief statement in the matter. The Finance Minister has tried to mislead not only the nation but the world as a whole. When a raid was conducted on this bank, foreign exchange worth one lakh 32 thousand dollars was seized-supposedly the money was the day's income from Hawala transactions. These transactions have continued unchecked for a year. 500 dollars per passport were collected through F.T.S. on 53,000