

the lines? They are there historically.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He did not interrupt you. So, please do not interrupt him.

SHRI B.J. PANDA: Madam, I would like to point out to the hon. Members that this plan of bifurcation is not to uproot the lines, but to set up an authority where the major portion of the lines exists so that further development projects for which allocations have been made, can actually be implemented. Madam, this development process should go on, and, as you rightly pointed out, it has no bearing whatsoever on the country's integrity. As the hon. Member, Shri Pranab babu, has pointed out, since pressures are being built, there is no reason to submit to those pressures.. It should be a rational decision as to what is good for the country. We should support this, and this must be implemented.

उपसभापति : अभी इतने लोग नहीं बोल सकते हैं । अगर सब लोग बोलने लगेंगे तो पूरी रेलवे पर डिसकशन हो जाएगी । अभी थोड़े दिन बाद रेलवे की डिमांड्स आने वाली हैं, मंत्री जी आपके हाऊस में आएंगे । आपके मन में जो भी दुख है, उसको आप उनके सामने रख सकते हैं ।

उपसभापति : वे ही जवाब दे सकते हैं । यहां न मैं जवाब दे सकती हूं, न ही लीडर ऑफ दि हाऊस जवाब दे सकते हैं ।

श्री सतीश प्रधान (महाराष्ट्र): मानवता की बात उसी समय कर लेंगे मैडम ।

उपसभापति : ठीक है, अब हम रेल से उतर चुके हैं और रेलवे की बात खत्म हो गई है । अभी एक अच्छी बात, drought की बात आप कह रहे हैं लेकिन drought पर तो डिसकशन हो चुका है हाऊस में ।

RE. SEVERE DROUGHT IN ANDHRA PRADESH .

डा.अलादी पी.राजकुमार (आंध्र प्रदेश) : हो चुका है मगर उसका परिणाम कुछ नहीं मिला । Let me say a few words about it, Madam. मैडम, मैं आपका बहुत-बहुत आभारी हूं कि आपने मुझे drought पर बोलने का मौका दिया । ...*(Interruptions)*....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will have a discussion. But let us go procedurally.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Andhra Pradesh is reeling under a severe drought. Out of 1100 Mandals, 900 are in the grip of a severe drought. Recently, in the second week of July, our Agriculture Minister has come to Delhi and met the Union Agriculture Minister. He has given a clear

picture about the drought in the State. Unfortunately, the Union Agriculture Minister has not taken this matter seriously. On the 25th July, when our Chief Minister, Mr. Chandrababu Naidu, had come to Delhi, he met the hon. Prime Minister and submitted a memorandum about the rainfall in Andhra Pradesh being minus 49 per cent. That was till 23rd July. After the 23rd July, till today, if you see the position, it will go beyond minus 50. So, our Chief Minister has requested the Prime Minister to release immediately Rs.650 crores as well as 10 lakh tonnes of rice for the 'Food for Work' scheme.

मैडम, मैं दो मिनट में अपनी बात खत्म कर देता हूँ। यह बहुत सीरियस मामला है। आज आंध्र प्रदेश के कई गांवों में पीने के पानी की बहुत दिक्कत हो रही है। आज फार्मर्स के लिए बहुत दिक्कत हो रही है। आप मेहरबानी करके मुझे दो मिनट बोलने का मौका दीजिए।
...(व्यवधान)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I understand.

श्री नीलोटपल बसु (पश्चिमी बंगाल): कोई क्राइसिस बना दो सरकार में तब पैसा मिलेगा।

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Madam, I request the Leader of the House to impress upon the Agriculture Minister as well as the Prime Minister the need for this. The most unfortunate thing is this. Yesterday, the Agriculture Minister was speaking to the Press and the electronic media. He has totally neglected Andhra Pradesh. It is very sad. ...*(Interruptions)*...

उपसभापति : सब बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

DR. P. ALLADI RAJKUMAR: Andhra Pradesh has had more than minus 50 per cent rainfall. This has given us a lot of pain and agony. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री वक्ता मेघे : मैडम, महाराष्ट्र में पूरा सूखा हो गया है, कास्तकार रात-दिन बारिश की राह देख रहे हैं।

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Madam, through you, I request the Leader of the House to impress upon the Prime Minister the need to take the necessary action immediately to save Andhra Pradesh from drought. Thank you very much.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me put the record straight. We had a long discussion. The Agriculture Minister was here. We discussed and he replied. You all had a chance to speak. Now, rainfall is in the hands of the Rain God. We are not getting it. Even in Maharashtra, there is no rain.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Madam, I am talking about the Agriculture Minister. He has totally neglected Andhra Pradesh. With agony, I am requesting the Leader of the House, through you, to impress upon him...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH (Andhra Pradesh): We have to discuss the Action-Taken report.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The whole problem is this. I sometimes wonder, sitting over here. All the States complain that they have been neglected. Then, which State is being taken care of? We have to find out that. We have to do some kind of research. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: You talk about your State. Why do you object? After all, this is the Council of States.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Leader of the Opposition is saying something. ...*(Interruptions)*.... Order, please. Manmohan Singhji.

RE. FLOOD SITUATION IN ASSAM

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH (Assam): Madam Deputy Chairman, whether these are droughts or floods, this year, they are a cause of concern. And therefore, it is entirely legitimate that the Member should be agitated about it. We had a discussion on the drought, but, Madam, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government the serious flood situation that prevails in Assam, leading to serious disruption of rail communications between the North-Eastern States and the rest of the country. Despite the pleas of the State Government, unfortunately, the Central Government has done nothing to come to the aid of the State Government. The State Government of Assam is faced with a very serious financial crisis. It has no resources, either for relief or rehabilitation. I, therefore, urge the Central Government to pay special attention to the needs of States like Assam, which are faced with floods of unprecedented severity this year.

SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN (Assam): Madam, I also associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member, Dr. Manmohan Singh.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Manmohan Singh, you can start the Special Mention.