

crores. The people of Orissa are shocked to learn that this year, Doordarshan does not intend to have a direct telecast of the event. This will adversely affect the pride of Orissa and injure the sentiments of the people. The cult of Jagannath, the traditional and mythological events connected with the Lord, transcend any particular religion and bring the people together. Instead of taking advantage of this great cementing influence, Doordarshan should not make the mistake of abandoning the live telecast of the event. We, all the Members of Parliament from Orissa, urge upon the government through you to kindly release the necessary financial assistance for the Lord Jagannath Chariot Festival and also pass necessary orders for the live telecast of the festival on 3rd July, 2000. Thank you.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU (Karnataka) : Sir, I rise to associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Ranganath Misra and my other friends. It is a very important occasion. Lakhs of people, not only of Orissa but also of the neighbouring States and other parts of the country, evince a lot of interest in seeing Lord Jagannath and also participating in this Rathayatra. I do not find any reason as to why this decision was taken to abruptly withdraw this facility that was available earlier. I join the other Members in urging the Government of India, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, to reconsider the decision and allow the live telecast of the Rathayatra because the belief of the people is, if they are not able to go there, at least they must see it and that this will give them punya or they will escape from the curse and so on. That is the feeling of the people. That being the case, it is an issue that needs immediate attention of the Government. I request the Government to reconsider the decision and issue necessary directions to the Prasar Bharati to continue the live telecast of the Rathayatra.

Water scarcity in the country depletion of ground water and contamination of drinking water

श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : समापति जी, मैं आपका कृतज्ञ हूँ कि आपने एक ऐसी समस्या की ओर ध्यान आकर्षित करने का मुझे अवसर दिया, जिससे इस देश की अधिकांश जनसंख्या पीड़ित है।

समापति जी, समस्या केवल पीने के पानी की ही नहीं है, अब तो इस राष्ट्र में यह समस्या उत्पन्न होने वाली है कि हमारे देश को निकट भविष्य में पर्याप्त जल उपलब्ध भी हो पाएगा या नहीं। आप जानते हैं कि भारत में यद्यपि पानी बहुत बरसता है और यह जो पानी

बरसता है वह हमारे भूगर्भ में जाता है, लेकिन आज स्थिति यह हो गई है कि गहरे से गहरे कुएं खोदने के बाद भी पानी उपलब्ध नहीं हो पाता और भूगर्भ का जल निरंतर कम होता चला जा रहा है। कुछ राज्यों की स्थिति तो बड़ी भयावह हो गई है जैसे मध्य प्रदेश, आंध्र प्रदेश, कर्नाटक। और तो और उत्तर प्रदेश, जहां गंगा की तलहटी पर 20-30 फुट खोदने पर पानी आसानी से उपलब्ध हो जाता था, आज 100 फुट खोदने पर भी कुएं में नहीं रह पाता और इस कारण स्थिति बहुत बिगड़ती चली जा रही है। मध्य प्रदेश में तो, मेरे पास जो समाचार उपलब्ध हैं उनके अनुसार, पानी के लिए संघर्ष होने लगे हैं और हत्याएं तक हो गई हैं। अभी एक समाचार 'राष्ट्रीय-सहारा' में प्रकाशित हुआ था। उसके अनुसार 'मध्य प्रदेश में पीने के पानी के लिए संघर्ष ने उग्र रूप धारण किया और भोपाल में पीने के पानी को लेकर एक वृद्ध की हत्या कर दी गई।' इसमें प्रश्न सरदार का नहीं है, यह राजनीति का प्रश्न बिल्कुल नहीं है, प्रश्न यह है कि पीने का जल उपलब्ध नहीं हो पा रहा है, सामान्य जल भी उपलब्ध नहीं हो पा रहा है और जहां-कहीं जल उपलब्ध हो भी रहा है वह उस उच्च कोटि का नहीं है कि उसे पीया जाए लेकिन फिर भी लोग पीते हैं और उन्हें उससे बीमारियां होती हैं। दिल्ली की स्थिति भी यही है। दिल्ली में कई इलाके ऐसे हैं जहां का वाटर-लेवल बहुत नीचे चला गया है और जो पानी उसमें से निकलता है वह इतने घटिया स्तर का है कि उसको पीने से बीमारियां हो रही हैं। अभी कल ही इसके बारे में भी एक समाचार प्रकाशित हुआ जिसमें लिखा था कि 'दिल्ली के बहुत से क्षेत्र ऐसे हैं जहां पानी 20 से 30 फुट नीचे तक उतर गया है। वहां कुएं खोदने की सामर्थ्य नहीं रही, ट्यूबवेल सूखते चले जा रहे हैं और जो सरकारी ट्यूबवेल थे उनमें भी अब पानी नहीं आ पा रहा।' मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस समस्या से निबटने के लिए भारत सरकार और राज्य सरकारों के पास योजनाएं होनी चाहिए। कागज़ों पर तो योजनाएं बहुत बनाई गई हैं, लेकिन वे योजनाएं लाभप्रद नहीं हो पा रही हैं। पहले हमारे देश में जगह-जगह जलाशय हुआ करते थे, तालाब हुआ करते थे, उनमें पानी भर जाया करता था, नेचुरल तालाब बन जाया करते थे लेकिन अब वह स्थिति नहीं रही। यह जो तालाब हुआ करते थे उनसे भूगर्भ का जल-स्तर अपने आप रिप्लेनिश हुआ करता था लेकिन अब तालाब गांव में देखने को भी नहीं मिलते हैं और इसलिए भूगर्भ के जल का पुनर्नवीनीकरण नहीं हो पा रहा।

जब जल उपलब्ध नहीं होगा, घटता चला जाएगा तो समस्याएं बहुत बढ़ जाएंगी। दिल्ली की बात मैं कर रहा था। साऊथ दिल्ली में तो The optimum water level in Delhi varies from 40 feet in South Delhi to 350 feet in Outer Delhi. अब साढ़े तीन सौ फीट नीचे पानी है दिल्ली में तो ऐसी हालत में कैसे कुएं खोदे जाएं? जब यह स्थिति बनेगी तो उसका कोई निदान होना चाहिए। इसके लिए दक्षिण भारत में कुछ चीजें की गई

थीं। उनका लाम हुआ था। उन्होंने क्या किया था कि वे हर मकान के पीछे एक छोटा सा ऐरिया बनाते थे और अभी भी बनाया जाता है, जहां पर पानी एकत्र कर लिया जाता था। उससे भूगर्भ का जो जल स्रोत है, वह रिप्लेनिश हुआ करता था। अब यह स्थिति हमारे देश में नहीं रही। जब तक जल स्रोतों का पुनर्नवीनीकरण नहीं होगा, उनको संचारित करने की व्यवस्था नहीं की जाएगी, इस बारे में कोई स्पष्ट नीति नहीं बनेगी, तब तक कठिनाइयां बढ़ती रहेंगी। एक अनुमान राष्ट्रीय संघ के द्वारा लगाया गया, और एजेंसियों के द्वारा लगाया गया, जिसके अनुसार भारत में अगले 20 वर्षों में पानी की भारी कमी होने वाली है। पीने के पानी की नहीं, पानी की भारी कमी होने वाली है। अब पानी की भारी कमी होने वाली है भारत में, यह सुनकर आश्चर्य लगता है और जो क्षेत्र प्रभावित होने वाले हैं, वे हैं पंजाब, गुजरात, हरियाणा, दिल्ली, पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश, मध्य प्रदेश का बहुत बड़ा भाग, महाराष्ट्र का बहुत बड़ा भाग। अब अगर इन क्षेत्रों में भूगर्भ के स्तर पर जल उपलब्ध नहीं होगा तो और समस्याएं उत्पन्न होंगी।

सभापति महोदय, पहले यह मान्यता थी कि भारत के भूगर्भ में इतना जल उपलब्ध है कि सैकड़ों वर्षों तक हम ट्यूबवैल्स के सहारे अपना सारा काम कर लेंगे लेकिन अब यह मान्यता गलत साबित हो चुकी है। मान्यता यह थी कि भारत में पृथ्वी के तल पर हमको इतना जल उपलब्ध है कि चाहे जितना चाहो निकाल लो। पंजाब में यही हुआ। अनाप-शनाप तरीके से जगह-जगह ट्यूबवैल्स लगा दिए गए। पंजाब में, हरियाणा में यही हुआ और बिना सोचे-समझे ट्यूबवैल लगा दिए गए और परिणाम यह हुआ कि जल स्तर यकायक बहुत नीचे गिरता चला गया और अब हालत यह है कि जो सरकारी नलकूप थे, उनमें से अधिकांश सूखते चले जा रहे हैं। उनमें उस मात्रा में, पानी नहीं निकल पा रहा है, जिस मात्रा में निकलना चाहिए था। कुल मिला कर यह गंभीर स्थिति है। इस पर योजना आयोग ने भी ध्यान दिया। इस सिलसिले में योजना आयोग ने अनेक अनुशंसाएं की हैं लेकिन इन अनुशंसाओं के ऊपर न राज्य सरकारें ध्यान दे पा रही हैं और न केन्द्र सरकार के पास कोई स्पष्ट योजना है। केन्द्र का कहना यह है कि यह कार्य राज्य सरकारों का है। राज्य सरकारों ने इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर के लिए निवेश नहीं किया है। भूगर्भ का जल कैसे बढ़े, इसके लिए राज्य सरकारों के द्वारा प्रयास नहीं किए जा रहे हैं। अब राज्य सरकारों को कैसे प्रेरित किया जाए? केन्द्र के पास कोई ऐसा डंडा नहीं है जिससे वह राज्य सरकारों को प्रेरित कर सके। लेकिन इसके लिए कुछ न कुछ तो करना ही होगा। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सर्वेक्षणों ने जो बताया है, अगर वह सही है, थोड़ा भी सही है तो ऐसी समस्या आने वाली है। अब यह सही है या नहीं, यह तो भारत सरकार को स्पष्ट करना चाहिए। हमारी सरकार को यह स्पष्ट करना चाहिए कि जो अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सर्वेक्षण इस बारे में हुए हैं, जिनमें भारत के बारे में

जानकारियां विश्व को उपलब्ध कराई गई हैं, वे कितनी सही हैं, कितनी सही नहीं हैं। क्या वास्तव में ऐसी भयावह समस्या उत्पन्न होने वाली है जिसकी चर्चा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सर्वेक्षणों में हुई है ? अगर ऐसी समस्या उत्पन्न होने वाली है तो उससे लड़ने के लिए हम क्या योजना बनाने वाले हैं ? अभी तो हम केवल एक बरस, दो बरस, 5 बरस के लिए योजनाएं बना लेते हैं लेकिन जो समस्या 20 वर्ष के बाद उत्पन्न होने वाली है, उसके बारे में हम क्या सोच रहे हैं ? अगर भारत की धरती पर जल उपलब्ध नहीं होगा तो हम कहां से सिंचाई करेंगे ? हम कैसे उन तमाम बातों का जुगाड़ लगाएंगे जिन पर हमारा विकास निर्भर करता है ? समापति जी, इस समस्या की ओर आपने मुझे ध्यान आकर्षित करने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका विशेष आभारी हूँ।

SHRI R. MARGABANDU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, indiscriminate release of untreated effluent water from the tanneries of Vellore, Vaniambadi, Ambur, Visharam and Ranipet, is taking place. This water is released into the Palar river, spoiling the drinking water. On account of it, the people in Vellore Distt. are not able to get drinking water. The entire drinking water has been contaminated. The courts have been moved to stop this release of untreated water, but no steps have been taken.

The State Pollution Control Board is also not taking any steps. As a matter of fact, there is a direction given by the Supreme Court as well as the Madras High Court with regard to paying compensation to the land owners and for stopping water contamination. But, no effective steps have been taken. Likewise, in Dindigul district and in Tirupur untreated water from tanneries Dying factories is completely spoiling the drinking water. I request this august House to order for the constitution of a committee to make a survey with regard to the extent of contamination that has taken place on account of this effluent water and also the extent of salinity in the agricultural lands and to ensure that the Government initiates some action to see that the contamination of water is avoided. Further, indiscriminate exploitation of ground water by the industrialists is also responsible for depletion of water level. The Government should come forward and construct check dams in those places where it is possible to save water. A direction has to be given to the State Government to construct as many check dams as possible so that water can be contained and the depleted sources of water are recharged.

PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY (West Bengal): Mr.

Chairman, Sir, I would like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Narendra Mohan. I feel that we are already faced with what environmentalists and scientists have warned about, that is, water scarcity will be the greatest crisis confronting humanity in the next century. We cannot make any more water and we have to do with whatever is available to us either from the under ground or from the surface. Now, we have got a sort of warning as to what is waiting for us. We are already faced with not only drought but with water famine also. Earlier we had heard about communal riots. Now the newspapers are reporting water riots, particularly in some places, as mentioned by Narendra Mohanji, in Saurashtra and other places. The newspapers are publishing photographs of women sitting or standing with empty pitchers. The two previous speakers mentioned how ground water is being contaminated and how even the drinking water much below the surface is being contaminated. Sir, our women have to cover a distance of about ten miles to get water. What I want to say is that if we do not take urgent steps to deal with this issue, if we do not dig new bore wells and deepen the existing ones and do not harvest the rainwater, we will be faced with more acute water crisis. It is not sufficient to form an expert body, but we have to execute the suggestions given by it. If we do not know how to deal with this problem, we will be faced with further water crisis like the one which the entire country is facing now. Sir, when we were in schools we used to study in history books that famine of Bengal in the 1940s was made by famine, by foreign rulers. We will also go down in history for creating a man-made problem through neglect, callousness if in spite of adequate warning if we do not do anything to solve this great crisis. Thank you.

SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. Sir, a very important issue has been raised by hon. Member Shri Narendra Mohan and valuable contribution has been made by other hon. Members. Sir, I do not take much of your time. I only want to point out two or three important things which I consider are of great importance. Unfortunately, we wake up to this question of water scarcity or even of pollution when there is some calamity, as has overtaken the country at the moment. This morning I read in *The Hindu* that even in Orissa which faced a cyclone only last year, the Chief Minister has written that railway wagons should be arranged to carry water to two or three districts.

We know about Andhra Pradesh. There is a particular tract - a few districts - where there is a perpetual water shortage. So is the problem with Rajasthan and certain parts of Madhya Pradesh. Even in Uttar Pradesh, as has been mentioned by Shri Narendra Mohan, you have this problem. I belong to a place which is between two big rivers - the Ganges and the Yamuna. But, now, when I go round that area, people complain of the water table going down and water not being made available at all. The persistent request is, "Please provide us a hand pump." Sir, the hand pumps are not the remedy. The bore wells and tube wells have also failed. There are two things which have been pointed out, time and again, and since they are not spectacular things, unfortunately, they have not been taken into account. The first one is, the old methods of conservation. Sir, in various States, it is in different ways. In Rajasthan - I worked in that State - I have seen how would they conserve water for the entire year. Similar is the case in Uttar Pradesh and in other places. There are places where even the ponds are covered with silt because people dump their refuse there. So, no steps have been undertaken to treat them. One thing, which is very important, is the question of activating the Panchayati Raj institutions. That is why the question of raising the finances was raised. It is very important.

The second point which I would like to mention in this connection is, unless the percolation of water is there - as you all know, cement structures are coming up, more and more roads are being cemented; probably, that is the demand of the day even in small towns and villages -- it is very difficult to solve this problem. Because of the increase in population or unplanned development, both in cities and rural areas where, at one time, one could walk from one street to another and now one could walk hardly from one street to another street - there is no percolation of water at all. That is why the second important point, which the people have been talking about, as has been mentioned earlier, is the watershed development. This has been there in the last four or five Five-Year Plans. But, since it is not a spectacular plan, unfortunately, it has not been receiving the attention of the Government. First a separate Ministry was created; then, a separate Department was created, but now nobody is paying much attention to it. Sir, watershed development is a long-term programme. Unless this is undertaken, I think, we will not be able to solve this problem. I say this with a sense of pain in my heart that four years back, the magazines like the Economist, News Week and Times said that the future wars would be the

wars of water. Then, a lot of information was made available as to what kind of a situation this country is going to face. We also had a very long discussion. Four years have elapsed. A number of Governments have come and gone but this problem still persists. We are discussing this issue today because of the famine, where even water is not available. It is a very unfortunate situation. That is why I would like the Government to take this up with great seriousness. I think, an all-party committee should be appointed. The Committee should go into this question and thereafter a continuous monitoring system must be evolved. I would like to say again, with pain in my heart, that recently there was an international water resource conference. A large number of things such as machinery, devices, etc., were shown as to how water is conserved by other countries. There was also something shown in that conference as to how the municipalities around California are doing. And, so far as our displays are concerned, it was most deplorable. The most unfortunate thing was, the person who was looking after it -- I do not want to blame him-- said, हम और क्या कर सकते हैं? जैसा है वैसा ही हम दिखा रहे हैं। This is a question of introspection. We talk of national security. We talk of food security. After all, water security is the prime pillar of food security.

Sir, unless this is taken care of we will not be able to solve this problem. So, my appeal to the Government in this House, through you, Sir, is that this matter should be taken up seriously. It is a non-political matter. It is a question of national interest. I think a long-term view, a long-term policy, a long-term programming, and a long-term institutional machinery to supervise this must be now put into action. Otherwise, we will have to do this breast-beating exercise every alternate year or after every three years, and so on and so forth. We know about Kalahandi. We had also discussed that. That is why, Sir, this long-term programme and this long-term planning must be undertaken. This may not be very spectacular. First, the macro-approach, and then the micro-approach, taking into account the condition of each State, needs to be undertaken, and thereafter such a scheme should be worked out which would help in overcoming this problem. Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I think, the suggestion which has been given by Shri Chaturvedi for forming an all-party committee to monitor should be accepted, or, the Governmen'

should come out with a water policy right now and discuss the various short-term and long-term measures. This policy must be before us, otherwise this will be another discussion which will be of no result. ... (Interruptions)... I think Mr. Chaturvedi has made a good suggestion. Let there be a water policy specifically drawing all the long-term directives, and then let us discuss this thing. An all-party committee can be there; monitoring must be there. Otherwise, we will be discussing this and afterwards there will be no end to it. Let the Government come with a water plan. I think that is a pro-active plan. When all of us are agreeing, let this message go to the Government, and we can discuss this through a Committee. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): There was a conference held in Netherland Sir, they have identified six States in India which are going to be affected by this problem within the next 50 years. We have to overcome this. We have to plan right now. That is why I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Narendra Mohan.

SHRI BIRABHADRA SINGH (Orissa): Sir, I am associating myself with the issue raised by Shri Narendra Mohan, who has really drawn our attention towards this very serious problem relating to human beings. As we all know, water is the other name of life. Life and water, both are associated with each other. Sir, my humble submission - as my earlier speakers have also pointed out - is that there must be a long-term national policy. The scientists say that water conservation is possible only through forests and trees. Our country is a developing country and we have to depend on our industrialisation. Day-by-day our population is growing like anything. It is growing at a very fast pace. Can we not protect the existing forests? It has not so far been possible in our country because our population is growing at an enormous pace. We have to cut the forests in order to set up more industries and agricultural activities. Therefore, my submission is, in addition to preserving the existing forests, we have to grow new forests. I request the Government to kindly consider this suggestion. I also appeal to the Ministry of Human Resource Development, through you, to kindly introduce a subject on this in the syllabus in our schools. Sir, instead of drawing a tree on paper and giving marks to the students for that, the Union Government should issue directives to the State Governments to introduce such a syllabus in their curricula. Sir, the preservation of forests is a concern for the Central Government as well as

for the State Governments. We have to preserve our reserved forests. Can we not compel our students, that instead of drawing a tree on paper, they should put up a tree in their localities?

Our children are studying in classes ranging from the primary level to the higher secondary level. Our children may be compelled to plant trees for their educational marking system. I want to press my idea that instead of the students drawing a tree on a drawing paper and getting marks for that, let a tree be planted in their village so that natural forests are created every year. We should put some moral pressure on the guardians, the teachers and the students to achieve this noble objective.

We have committed a national crime by converting our forest lands into new towns and cities places of habitation. So, my humble submission is that there should be a national committee to go into this problem. I am representing Orissa. I come from a tribal community. Lots of jungles have been destroyed by our wrong national policies. Now we are putting some pressure not to destroy the jungles recklessly. In the name of plantation of jungle, we are going to take up some programmes, which will be most beneficial to the tribal community, the people who are residing in tribal areas. We have to go in for some developmental programmes in tribal areas, which are naturally in forest areas. In the name of protection of forests, we are barring our tribal community from getting some facilities. My point is that instead of barring the tribal communities from getting these traditional facilities, we should create some new forests in order to protect our environment, preserve the eco-system and provide traditional livelihood to the tribals.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right. You have gone beyond the subject now.

SHRI BIRABHADRA SINGH: Thank you, Sir.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I fully associate with the views expressed by Mr. Narendra Mohan. It is true that old civilisations have cropped up at the banks of rivers, the Sindhu, the Nile and others. It is very alarming to visualise the water position in the country in the next two or three decades.

Basically, most of the Members have given their valuable suggestions. But one thing is that we should create an ideal forest cover in the country. An ideal cover is around 30 per cent. Our record says that the

forest cover at present is 21 per cent. But, actually, the officials themselves will admit that it is not exceeding 11 per cent or 12 per cent. So, we should increase the forest cover. That maintains the ecological balance. That results in periodic monsoons. That gives good rainfall. This is one aspect. It has to be taken as a national task. This is a national priority.

Secondly, we should take up watershed management and rain harvesting programmes--these are important aspects--so that we can preserve water. In most of the areas, whatever quantity of water we receive through rainfall, is flowing into the sea. We are unable to store it. These are the aspects which the Government should take into consideration. We should protect the next generation. We are answerable to posterity.

The third aspect is with regard to the pollution. Pollution has to be tackled on a war-footing. The State Government should be fully instructed. If necessary, some law should be enacted so that the State Governments co-operate in the task of eliminating the pollution. The Central Government has to take it up on a war-footing. There should be a comprehensive plan and a multi-pronged attack to eradicate this problem. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dilip Kumar. I think it is your maiden speech.

SHRI YUSUF SARWAR KHAN *Alias* DILIP KUMAR (Maharashtra): Sir, I submit that I have been sitting here trying to observe the spirit of the House. I tried to observe the way in which hon. Members take up the issues, articulate the points and discuss. Sometime while discussing the issues the atmosphere is quite normal and sometimes they are more dramatic.

But, Sir, I must admit that I have been very much moved by the issue of the irrigation. I think it is the most profound issue taken up. We have been talking about the paucity of water in the countryside. Now, even the citizens in the metropolitan cities suffer from the shortage of water.

Sir, I had the good fortune to go along the entire northern belt of the Himalayan region. We were moving in a helicopter. There were scores and scores of streams going down the hills which showed that there was an immense water to be tapped. On the right, there was a huge stretch of brown water that was flooding the whole part of the Eastern UP. I had

seen villagers and their huts being washed away with the dead animals floating on the water. I saw animals and men sitting at the top of their roofs.

I had the benefit of the company of hydraulic engineers and irrigation experts. We discussed this pathetic situation that affected the people because of excess of water. Now, we are faced with the situation where we are suffering from the shortage of water. I fully support the hon. friends who have been making out their points highlighting the distressing situation caused by the shortage of water.

Sir, these irrigation experts accompanying me were, I think, from America. They said: "Mr. Kumar, this view that we have seen during the whole day can bring about a very good condition in India, if your Government is judicious enough to tap the water resource and applies proper irrigation methods. By that you can irrigate whole of your country. You will have enough of water for you all over the country and enough water in the villages and metropolitan cities. Not only that, you will have enough water stock to export."

Sir, you have said that it is my maiden speech. If it is so, I think I have been able to utilise this occasion by contributing my views on the subject. Thank you.

श्री सुरेश पचौरी (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय सभापति जी, आज देश में सूखे और अकाल की जो स्थिति है इसका यदि कोई मूल कारण है तो वह है पानी की कमी। चाहे वह पानी पीने का हो, चाहे खेती के उपयोग में लाने का हो। स्पेशल मेंशन के माध्यम से जो सुझाव आए हैं निश्चित रूप से वे बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हैं। मैं अपने को इससे सम्बद्ध करते हुए आपके माध्यम से प्रार्थना करना चाहूंगा कि जो ग्राउन्ड वाटर का एक्सप्लोरेशन है उसे रोकने का प्रयास किया जाना चाहिए। जल संसाधन विभाग ने जो मोडिफाइड मॉडल बिल पेश किया था, उसका सही ढंग से पालन होना चाहिए तथा जो राजीव गांधी नेशनल मिशन प्रोग्राम चला था उसे भी और ज्यादा प्रोत्साहन दिया जा सकता है क्योंकि नवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना का यह लक्ष्य था कि लगभग 94 प्रतिशत लोगों को पीने का पानी उपलब्ध करवाया जाएगा। इसके लिए दो प्रकार के प्रोग्राम चलाए गए, एक रूरल एरिया के लिए और एक अर्बन एरिया के लिए। अर्बन एरिया के लिए एक्सेलेरेटिड अर्बन वाटर सप्लाई प्रोग्राम चला और रूरल एरिया के लिए एक्सेलेरेटिड ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, it is 1 o'clock. Mr. **Suresh Pachouri** can finish his Special Mention, then, we will adjourn. Is it okay?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

श्री सुरेश पचौरी : रूरल एरिया के लिए प्रोग्राम चला। मैं आपके माध्यम से निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि रेन वाटर हार्वेस्टिंग करने का जो सुझाव आया है उस पर अच्छे ढंग से पालन किया जाए, बैटर मैनेजमेंट किया जाए। इसमें एन.जी.ओज की भी मदद चाहिए। सभापति महोदय, आपको पता है आंध्र प्रदेश में साई बाबा ट्रस्ट ने लगभग 250 करोड़ रुपये की योजना 730 गांवों में पानी सप्लाई करने की योजना बनाई है। इस प्रकार के कार्यों को हमें प्रोत्साहन देना चाहिए। हमारे देश में वेस्ट वाटर भी बहुत है जिसका उपयोग नोन-डोमेस्टिक यूज के लिए करना चाहिए। उसके लिए रिसाइक्लिंग आर्की टेक्नोलोजी उपयोग करें तो ज्यादा बेहतर होगा।

नदियों के पानी को उपयोग करने का जो सुझाव आया है उस संबंध में हाशिम कमेटी ने 30.9.1999 को अपनी एक रिपोर्ट पेश की है। यदि उसका सही ढंग से पालन हो जाए तो ऐसे रीजन जहां वाटर की एक्सेसिटी है उस एक्सेस वाटर का उपयोग ऐसे रीजन के लिए जहां वाटर की कमी है, मैं कैसे किया जा सकता है, इस संबंध में ये सारे सुझाव दिए गए हैं। जब पूरा सदन पीने के पानी की कमी की चिंता कर रहा है जिसकी वजह से देश के कई राज्यों में अकाल और सूखे की स्थिति निर्मित हुई है तब यदि इन सब बातों पर गौर किया जाए तो निश्चित रूप से सूखे और अकाल से हम मुक्ति पा सकते हैं। धन्यवाद।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 2 o'clock.

The House then adjourned for lunch at two minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at two minutes past two of the clock, **THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.N. CHATURVEDI)** in the Chair.

Motion of Thanks on the President's Address- Contd.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Shri T.N. Chaturvedi) : Now, reply to the discussion on the Motion moved by Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, and the amendments put thereto.

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal) : Sir, before that is taken up, I have a submission to make. I have a great fascination to hear the Foreign Minister. I love him and I like him. But the fact is that we are not hearing