

## RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 13th March, 1997/22nd  
Phalgun, 1918 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the  
clock Mr. Chairman in the chair.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ग्रामीण विकास की योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन को  
प्रभावी बनाना

\*261. श्री राम जेटमलानी: क्या ग्रामीण क्षेत्र  
और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान दिनांक 12 फरवरी,  
1997 के दैनिक "ट्रिब्यून" में "स्टारवेशन जोन" शीर्षक  
से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या यह सच है कि ग्रामीण  
विकास की योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन में बहुत-सी  
खामियाँ पायी गयी हैं;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की  
प्रतिक्रिया क्या है और विकास की इन योजनाओं के  
कार्यान्वयन के बावजूद अनेक क्षेत्रों के भुखमरी वाले  
क्षेत्र (स्टारवेशन जोन) के रूप में उभरने के क्या कारण  
हैं;

(घ) क्या सरकार ग्रामीण विकास की सभी वर्तमान  
योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन को प्रभावी बनाने हेतु व्यापक  
निवारक व्यवस्था करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS  
AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YER-  
RANNAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) A statement is laid on the  
Table of the House.

#### Statement

The newspaper report refers to the  
severe drought conditions prevailing in  
parts of western Orissa and the resultant  
misery of the people acutely affected.  
Usually such press reports emanate from  
backward tribal areas of erstwhile  
Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi districts  
now reorganised into eight districts. The

measures taken to alleviate the sufferings  
of the people and development of the  
area include the focussed implementation  
of the ongoing poverty allevation pro-  
gramme as well as emergency measures  
under the Calamity Relief Fund. Inte-  
grated area development approach is also  
being pursued through Long Term Action  
Plan (LTAP) covering a period of 7 years  
launched in 1995-96.

2. A Central Planning Committee  
under the Chairmanship of the Secretary,  
Ministry of Welfare has been in existence  
since 1993 to monitor preventive  
measures against deaths of children in  
remote and backward tribal areas. This  
Committee, in consultation with the State  
Governments, has identified 363 Blocks  
in 52 districts and 13 States which are  
vulnerable in this respect and where  
measures are required to prevent such  
occurrences. These measures include ear-  
ly warning system and intensification of  
programmes in basic areas such as Drink-  
ing Water, Health Services, Nutrition,  
PDS and employment generation. Orissa  
Government has prepared Action Plan  
for the area so identified in the State.

3. Rural development schemes are sub-  
jected to periodic evaluations by indepen-  
dent research agencies. These evaluation  
reports indicate that while the program-  
mes are on the right track, there are  
some areas of concern. The findings of  
these Reports are processed within the  
Ministry and are also taken up with the  
State Governments for necessary cor-  
rective action. Efforts continue as a part of  
the ongoing process to improve planning  
and implementation of these schemes.

4. Generation of employment is most  
crucial for preventing possible starvation  
due to lack of purchasing power, Em-  
ployment Assurance Scheme caters to  
this need. This scheme is demand driven  
and if the allocated funds are utilised and  
need for employment continues to exist  
additional funds can be allocated.

5. The regions with cases of acute  
misery and deprivation usually emerge  
due to conditions created by several fac-

tors such as degradation of environment, inequitable distribution of productive assets, poor resource base in terms of skills and capital for generating sustained employment, weak development infrastructure and unresponsive delivery system, among others. While schemes of poverty alleviation address some of these problems, it would require action on various fronts and concerted efforts from agencies of Government of India and the concerned State Governments to tackle the roots of this problems.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Welcome, Sir.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Sir, wish you best of health.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Sir, I find that this is almost tragic that an important question like this should be dealt with in this most cavalier fashion. If you see the question, the question divides itself into five parts. Each of the answers is a complete evasion of the original question and is merely an attempt to conceal the facts from the House.

Sir, in the first part of the question we have asked whether, in fact, there are variable starvation zones which have become chronic, which are incurable and which have become pockets of bureaucratic incompetence and worst corruption where funds are being eaten up without any benefit arising for the common people. No answer is given to this. Then, in the second question we have asked whether you have detected any flaws in the working of your so-called implementation of poverty alleviation schemes which you have been advertising for the last 50 years; no answer is given. Then in the third question we have asked; why are things so bad, if they are bad at all? No answer is given. In the fourth question we have asked as to why these starvation deaths are taking place and so on; Sir, nothing has been given. All that is said is: generation of employment is most crucial for preventing possible star-

vation, as if we don't know this. What worth the Minister tells that this is being taken care of by our Employment Assurance Scheme, as if there is no unemployment, as if everything is hunky-dory. Then finally, Sir, some truth has emerged. In the fifth part of the answer you have been able to, at least, admit that there are five important factor which are producing this kind of a situation. They are: degradation of environment, inequitable distribution of productive assets, poor resource base in terms of skills and capital for generating sustained employment, weak development infrastructure and unresponsive delivery system. Now, you have identified five factors. The first supplementary which I am putting is this: Will you, Mr. Minister, please tell us ever/since you became a Minister, what have you done concretely during your tenure as a Minister to deal with each one of these five factors?

SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI: That will require one hour.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Kindly tell us as to what you have done.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister is answering.

SHRI YERRAN NAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have given the answer to the hon. Member. In the last nine months, we have given a lot of thrust to the KBK area of western Orissa. Our hon. Prime Minister has also once visited that area. I also visited the place along with the Prime Minister. Sir for whatever programmes have been implemented so far in the KBK area we released the total amount without waiting for the utilisation certificates and audit reports in order to safeguard the interests of the poor people. We have taken a lot of steps to arrest migration and to provide wage employment and create purchasing power. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI: Sir, today is Prime Minister's day.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Let me put my second supplementary.

**SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:** Where is the hon. Prime Minister? ...*(Interruptions)*... Has he taken your permission, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*... The hon. Prime Minister is supposed to be here. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA:** He is also the Leader of the House.

**SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:** Where has he gone?

**SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:** Has he taken your permission, Sir? It is a question of the dignity and respect of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Some respect must be shown to the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Today is Prime Minister's day. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:** It is only once in a week that it is his duty to answer questions. ...*(Interruptions)*... He should have been here. ...*(Interruptions)*... I strongly protest against it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU):** Sir, the Prime Minister is coming. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:** Sir, kindly see what kind of an answer it is! We are talking of what they have done to stop the degradation of environment. The Prime Minister has visited the place! Inequitable distribution of productive assets the Prime Minister has visited the place! The Prime Minister's visit does not solve the problem. It only adds to the cost. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**SHRI YERRAN NAIDU:** Mr. Chairman, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:** Sir, the Prime Minister should answer this question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Let the Minister answer. ...*(Interruptions)*... If anything is to be supplemented, I think, the Prime Minister can do that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**SHRI YERRAN NAIDU:** Sir, the Government of Orissa prepared a long-term action plan of seven years for KBK districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput. This plan was started in 1995 and this plan will go up to 2002. A total amount of Rs. 4,557 crores has been provided for this plan. The then Prime Minister launched this programme on 19.8.1995. Keeping in view this plan, the Government of Orissa prepared an action plan for one year and the total amount required for this plan is Rs. 325.91 crores. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, this is the total outlay for that plan. Last year, our Ministry provided Rs. 210 crores for eight districts of western Orissa. Now, these are eight districts. Previously, the number of these districts was three. Sir, out of this amount of Rs. 210 crores, the Ministry has released an amount of Rs. 143 crores. For the year 1996-97 also the Government of Orissa prepared an action plan of Rs. 490 crores. We have so far released Rs. 107 crores for these eight districts for poverty alleviation, wage employment, self-employment, development of wasteland and to provide other things. With regard to these action plans, I would like to say that the Planning Commission is the nodal agency. The Planning Commission is looking after these plans. They are convening meetings with other Ministries to coordinate the development work in that area. In a way all these Ministries are involved to ensure the development of this area.

**SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:** Sir, I am afraid that the Minister continues to behave as 'Alice in Wonderland'. Sir, this very news item to which we withdrew the attention of the Minister and which the Ministry acknowledged having read, mentions, "This area development approach for poverty determination is very high sounding." The Comptroller and Auditor General of India in its report for the year ending 31st March, 1995 has said that the whole scheme was nothing but a fraud. Not only there is misappropriation of money. But the working of this scheme has also not produced any tangible re-

sults. On the contrary, Sambalpur which was supposed to be turned into a rice bowl has now turned into a begging bowl. Where has all this money gone? This is the second important question I would like to put. I would ask the Government whether they are prepared to consent to the suggestion that a Committee of this House or a Joint Committee of both the Houses should be set up to go into this question. This is too serious a matter to be dealt with through a question like this.

**SHRI YERRAN NAIDU:** Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not true.

**SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:** Have you read the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General?

**SHRI YERRAN NAIDU:** It is not true. Sir, hon. Members are aware. In regard to all these programmes, budgetary allocations are made by my Ministry to the State Government. Monitoring agencies are there. Area officers are also there. As per the instructions of the hon. Prime Minister, senior Secretaries visit those areas. We are taking a lot of steps. Under the Natural Calamity Fund, the hon. Prime Minister sanctioned Rs. 50 crores to this area. So far, we have released Rs. 50 crores; by various Ministries. We are pumping funds to arrest migration and other things.

**SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:** The children are being mortgaged. The children are being exported to the Middle East for being used in camel race. This is the kind of misery prevailing there, but the Minister says that everything is hunky-dory.

**SHRI YERRAN NAIDU:** Sir, in regard to the allegation about the sale of children, it is denied by the Orissa Government. In fact, there was one such allegation from Sardarpur village under Karwa block of Nuapada District. A public interest litigation petition was move before the hon. Orissa High Court—OBC No. 7343/K/96. In this regard, the Collector of Nuapada District, through a sworn affidavit, has

completely denied the allegation. Normally, the newspapers may be exaggerating the situation. But the Central Government is taking all steps to prevent migration and other things. *(Interruptions)* There was a sworn affidavit filed by the Collector of the district. *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:** Have you read the report of the Comptroller and Auditor General? *(Interruptions)* Please answer this simple question. Have you read the report of the CAG?

**SHRI YERRAN NAIDU:** If there is any starvation death, if there is any migration, please give the information. But as I said, already, the Orissa Government... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:** I am asking a very simple question. Have you read the report of the CAG on the working of the scheme? *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT:** No proper answer is coming forth. *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:** Mr. Chairman, Sir, if we compare the answer given with the question put, we will know whether the Minister has done the homework or not.

**SHRI YERRAN NAIDU:** I did my homework. Normally, the rural development schemes are subject to a periodic evaluation by all the agencies.

**SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:** That was not his question. *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT:** He is nowhere near the question *(Interruptions)*

**DR. MOHAN BABU:** The Minister is answering it. *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN:** Sir, the question was whether the Minister had read the report of the CAG. *(Interruptions)*

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Minister, have you read the report of the CAG? *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN:** Money has been pilfered. The report of the CAG is that money has been pilfered. Money has not gone to the people. What has the Minister to say on that? *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI YERRAN NAIDU:** I am answering the question concerning my Ministry. In regard to whatever amounts released under different heads, they are sending utilisation certificate. In view of the situation prevailing in that area, without going into the opening balance and the utilisation certificate, we are giving funds in order to arrest migration, in order to prevent starvation deaths. Under the leadership of Deve Gowdaji, we are taking all steps.

**SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:** That was not his question. *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI YERRAN NAIDU:** If any particular thing is there, if there is any starvation death, please give us the information. The newspapers may write so many things.

**SHRI SANATAN BISI:** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I belong to Orissa. I come from that area. Sir, sometime back, we had an half-an-hour discussion in this House on this matter. We discussed this issue, the KBK project and other things. The point is, whatever, the allocations that are made from here, the State Government is not doing anything; it is not using the money. Another thing is, the Agriculture Minister, Shri Chaturanan Mishra, made a statement earlier that as far as the question of starvation deaths was concerned, the National Human Rights Commission was examining it. That public interest litigation petitions are pending before the hon. Orissa High Court as well as before the Supreme Court. In view of the situation, it is in the fitness of things that article 365 of the Constitution should be invoked. Article 365 of the Constitution should be invoked because of the fact there has been a failure on the part of the State Government to comply with, or

give effect to, directions given by the Union. The Central Government is sending money. The Central Government is doing everything. What is to be done if the money is not being used? *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA:** Sir, what is this? How can he bring in an irrelevant point? How can he talk about invoking article 365? *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI SANATAN BISI:** What is to be done if the State Government is not doing anything? *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI SANATAN BISI:** The State Government is misappropriating everything. The State Government is not doing anything. Money is going there.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You ask a specific question if you have one.

**SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA:** Are you interested in imposing President's rule under article 365 on the State?

**SHRI SANATAN BISI:** The State Government is not doing anything. *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA:** What are you saying? *(Interruptions)*

**मौलाना अबुदुल्ला खान आजमी:** मैं आपके जरिये मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि रूतल इम्प्लाइमेंट प्रोग्राम के तहत मुक्त के लोगों को रोजगार देने की जो स्कीमें बनी हैं, उन स्कीमों में पिछली कांग्रेस सरकार ने मुक्तभर के कब्रिस्तानों की धेबाबन्दी की भी शामिल किया था। उसके दो फायदे थे, कुछ तो बेरोजगार लोग कंस्ट्रक्शन के जरिये रोजगार में लगेंगे, दूसरे गांव-गांव में जमीनों के झाड़े के तहत जितनी समस्याएं पैदा होती हैं, उनको सुलझाने का भी मौक़ा मिलेगा। शांति की तरफ यह एक अच्छा कदम था मगर इतने दिन हो गये मैं हुकुमत से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि पांच-पाच लाख रुपये हर ब्लाक को देने के लिए मंत्रालय से आदेश हुआ था, क्या यह पैसा सारे ब्लाकों को पहुंचा दिया गया है और अगर पहुंचा दिया गया है तो उसके तहत क्या क्या काम हो रहा है और काम हो रहा है तो कहाँ-कहाँ काम हुआ है, कितना काम हुआ है, उसका डाटा देने की कृपा करेंगे, अगर द काम नहीं हो रहा है तो इतने महत्वपूर्ण काम को छोड़ने का क्या कारण है?

[[مولانا عبید اللہ خان اعظمی: سر۔  
میں اپنے ذریعے مہتری ہو رہے ہیں۔ یہ جاننا  
چاہتا ہوں کہ رورل ایمپلائمنٹ پروگرام  
کے تحت ملک کے لوگوں کو جو روزگار دینے  
کا اسکیم بنی ہے۔ ان اسکیموں میں  
بجلی کانٹریکٹس سرکار نے ملک بھر کے قریبی  
کی تعمیر بنوی تو میں شامل کیا تھا۔ اس کے  
دو فائدے تھے۔ کچھ تو بے روزگار لوگ  
کنسرکشن کے ذریعہ روزگار میں لگ گئے۔  
دوسرے گاؤں گاؤں میں زمینوں کے  
جنگل کے تحت جتنی سمسیا تھی پیدا  
ہوتی تھی اسکو سمجھانے کا بھی موقعہ مل گیا۔  
شانتی کی طرف یہ ایک اچھا قدم تھا۔ مگر  
تھوڑے دن ہو گئے میں حکومت سے یہ جاننا  
چاہتا ہوں کہ پانچ پانچ لاکھ روپیہ ہر  
بلاک کو دینے کیلئے مقرر کیا ہے اور یہ  
تھا۔ کیا یہ بیسہ سارے بلاکوں کو پہنچا  
دیا گیا ہے۔ تو اسکے تحت کیا کیا کام ہو  
رہا ہے۔ اور کام ہو رہا ہے تو کہاں کہاں  
کام ہو رہا ہے۔ کتنا کام ہو رہا ہے۔ اسلام آباد  
دینے کی کمر ہا کر رہی ہے۔ اگر کام نہیں ہو  
رہا ہے تو اتنے ضروری کام کو چھوڑنے کا کیا

programmes like Wage Employment, Self-Employment, Water-shed Development, DOCRA etc. are being implemented through my Ministry throughout India. The hon. Prime Minister has announced that 5,433 blocks throughout the country would come under the Employment Assurance Scheme. The Employment Assurance Scheme is a demand-driven programme. Wherever employment is required by a person living below the poverty-line, he can demand assured employment for 100 days. We are releasing money for every block in the country. So, there is no problem in Wage Employment. If any poor man wants employment, we are providing him employment. We are giving nearly Rs. 60 lakhs for each block under the Employment Assurance Programme. They can construct buildings, roads etc. under this Programme. They can take the Water-shed Development Programme and everything else.

مہولانا ابوبکر اللہ خان آج بھی: سر، یہ سوال یہ ہے، ابھی ہاؤس میں ڈاؤن جگنا تھ میٹر ساہب تشریف فرما رہے ہیں جو اس زمانے میں اس منسٹری کو دیکھتے تھے انھوں نے باقاعدہ یہ اعلان کیا تھا کہ

[[مولانا عبید اللہ خان اعظمی: سر۔  
میرا سوال یہ ہے۔ ابھی ہاؤس میں ڈاؤن  
جگنا تھ میٹر صاحب تشریف فرما ہیں  
جو اس زمانے میں اس منسٹری کو دیکھتے  
تھے انھوں نے باقاعدہ یہ اعلان کیا تھا کہ

SHRI YERRAN NAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this question relates to the western part of Orissa. So many

قبرستانوں کیلئے یوں سے ملک میں پیسے بھرا  
دے گئے ہیں۔ یہ گھٹیا بنویں صدی کا کارنامہ  
ہے تو سرکار کے پروگرام میں یہ حق و  
عمل میں کبھی نہیں آئی۔ اگر سرکار کے پروگرام  
میں یہ چیزیں بھی تھیں تو بڑے دشمن کو دھوکہ  
دینے کا کیا کارنامہ ہے۔ میں تو منتہی حق سے  
یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ آپ کے پاس پروگرام  
ہیں یا نہیں۔ مجھے یہ بتا دیجئے ۱۰

SHRI YERRAN NAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no such programme in my Ministry.

**मौलाना ओबैदुल्ला खान आजमी:** मैं तो यह जानना चाहूंगा कि अब इनके प्रोग्राम क्या है? मुल्कभर में कब्रिस्तानों की घेराबन्दी का यह मसला (व्यवधान) यह तो बहुत गम्भीर मामला है और मैं यह भी चाहूंगा कि डॉ० साहब भी तशरीफ फरमा रहे हों तो ज्यादा बेहतर होगा।

۱۱ مولانا عبید اللہ خاں اعظمی: میں تو یہ  
جاننا چاہوں گا کہ اب اس کے سر و کمر ارم کیا  
ہیں۔ ملک بھر میں قبرستانوں کو گھیر لے  
کا یہ مسئلہ... ”مدراخلت“... یہ تو بہت  
گھمبیر معاملہ ہے اور میں یہ بھی چاہوں گا کہ  
ڈاکٹر صاحب بھی تشریف فرما ہوں تو  
زیادہ بہتر ہو گا۔]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jagannath Mishra, you put your supplementary. (Interruptions)

I have called Mr. Jagannath Mihsra, please. ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Minister, do you want to answer this?

SHRI YERRAN NAIDU: Yes, Sir.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Mr. Jagannath Mishra, I will call you later.

**SHRI YERRAN NAIDU:** Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, there is no scheme for fencing as such, but we have permitted them to do fencing and everything else under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. We are releasing the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana amount direct to the Gram Panchayats and the Zilla Parishads. They will fix their priorities. If they want to do fencing, they will do it. If they want to construct a school building, they will do it. They do not have a separate scheme for fencing. We have permitted them to construct compound walls, do fencing and everything else under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana.

**मौलाना आबैदुल्ला खान आजमी:** सर, इसके लिए अलग से ऐलान करने की क्या जरूरत थी। मंत्रालय ने ऐलान किया था। कांग्रेस के जमाने में यह ऐलान किया था, मंत्री जी ने ऐलान किया था। पर इसके लिए इतना बड़ा ऐलान करने की क्या जरूरत थी? सर, क्या यह पूरे देश को गुमराह नहीं किया गया है? ऐसा यहां से देश के कब्रिस्तानों का नाम लेकर ऐलान किया गया था।

الاموالنا عبید اللہ خاں اعظمی: سر۔  
 اسکے لئے الگ سے اعلان کرنے کی کیا ضرورت  
 تھی۔ منقر الیہ نے اعلان کیا تھا۔ مائیکروس  
 کے زمانے میں یہ اعلان کیا تھا۔ منقری  
 جس نے اعلان کیا تھا۔ ہر اسکے لئے اتنا  
 بڑا اعلان کرنے کی کیا ضرورت تھی۔ سر۔  
 کیا یہ پورے دیش کو مگران پینس کیا گیا ہے۔  
 ایسا یہاں سے دیش کے قبرستانوں کا نام  
 لے کر اعلان کیا گیا تھا۔

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र: सभापति महोदय, यह सवाल उड़ीसा से संबंधित है। मैं अत्यंत ही महत्वपूर्ण घटना की ओर सरकार और सदन का ध्यान आकृष्ट कर रहा हूँ। उड़ीसा सरकार की यह शिकायत है कि जिन आठ जिलों में यह भुखमरी की हालत है, चंद दिन पहले एक निजी टी०वी० में वहां का दृश्य दिखाया गया था जो कि अत्यंत ही हृदय-विदारक है। उसमें महिलाओं और बच्चों की हालत प्रदर्शित की गई है। उड़ीसा सरकार की यह शिकायत है कि प्रधानमंत्री के ऐलान के बावजूद धनराशि उपलब्ध नहीं हुई है। उस धनराशि को दिखाया जा रहा है जो सामान्य मद में उन्हें उपलब्ध होनी चाहिए थी। इन आठ जिलों के लिए जो दीर्घकालीन योजनायें मंजूर की गई थी, तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री नरसिंह राव द्वारा, इस कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत कोई अतिरिक्त धनराशि उड़ीसा सरकार को नहीं दी गई है। दूसरा उड़ीसा सरकार ने शर्तों में शिथिलीकरण की मांग की थी। एक असाधारण परिस्थिति उड़ीसा के इन आठ जिलों की है। सामान्य प्रक्रिया के अन्तर्गत यह यह धनराशि गरिबों को उपलब्ध नहीं हो सकती, उन्हें इन योजनाओं के कार्यान्वयन का लाभ नहीं पहुंच सकता। योजना आयोग के समक्ष मंत्रालय ने मसौदा भेजा था, प्रस्ताव भेजा था। लेकिन अभी तक उड़ीसा सरकार को औपचारिक रूप से इन शर्तों के शिथिलीकरण के बारे में न सूचना दी गई है और न वहां कुछ हो रहा है। अभी हमारे माननीय सदस्य जेटमलानी जी ने जिस रिपोर्ट की चर्चा की है वह और भी महत्वपूर्ण और गंभीर है। वहां पर ऐसी परिस्थिति है कि हजारों हजार लोग दिन प्रति दिन मरण सत्र हो रहे हैं, भूख के कारण तड़ रहे हैं और विवर होकर दूसरी जगह पर जा रहे हैं। इस पर सरकार अगर गंभीरता से विचार नहीं करती है तो स्थिति और भी भयंकर होगी। जो सरकार का अधासन है, बार बार प्रधानमंत्री कहते हैं कि हम गरिबों के लिए हैं और हम गांवों के गरिबों की मदद करेंगे। ऐसी आशा बंधाते हैं। लेकिन उड़ीसा के इन आठ जिलों में इन आश्वासनों का कोई असर नहीं है, प्रभाव नहीं है। इसलिए मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि उड़ीसा सरकार को वे तत्काल अतिरिक्त धनराशि कब उपलब्ध करायेंगे? दूसरा, जो शर्तें पहले से हैं, उनके शिथिलीकरण की मांग उड़ीसा सरकार ने की है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसके लिए भारत सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है? तीसरा, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो सामान्य हक बनता है उस धनराशि को इसमें जोड़कर लोगों को भ्रमित क्यों किया जा रहा है?

SHRI YERRAN NAIDU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Hon'ble Prime Minister,

during his visit to Orissa, promised to sanction Rs. 50 crores. Recently, we have released Rs. 13 crores under the Natural Calamity Relief Fund. In a Committee of Secretaries and Ministers, which met under the Chairmanship of Shri Chaturanan Mishraji, it was also decided to release the remaining 37 crores of rupees. After that visit of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, my Ministry is having a lot of opening balance. We are not waiting for observing the norms. On the instructions of the Hon'ble Prime Minister we have released the second instalment of Rs. 37 crores to the particular areas, without waiting for the Utilisation Certificates or the Audit Reports.

Regarding starvation deaths, officials of the Orissa Government, who came yesterday, mentioned in the memorandum submitted by them that there was no case of starvation death or sale of children to anybody. Orissa Government is also taking initiatives to establish food centres. They are taking a lot of pains.

डा० जगन्नाथ मिश्र: सभापति महोदय, इसके खंडन से कुछ नहीं होगा। जो दृश्य टी० वी० पर दिखाए गए हैं उनका कोई खंडन नहीं हो सकता है। सरकार औपचारिक खंडन से देशवासियों को इसको स्वीकार करने से रोक नहीं सकती। इसलिए इसको आप गंभीरता से लीजिए। औपचारिक आंकड़ों में मत जाइए। इन जिलों की हालत बहुत बदतर है, बहुत बुरी है। आज के समाज में, आज के इस ढांचे में हजारों लोग वहां भूख से मर रहे हैं। वहां लोगों की हालत बिगड़ती जा रही है। इसलिए सरकारी आंकड़ों के जाल में लोगों को और सदन को भ्रमित करना यह उचित नहीं है।

SHRI YERRAN NAIDU: Sir, the State Government of Orissa is to ensure implementation of the Inter-State Migrant Workers Act under which the contractors exporting the labour because of lack of work are to be prosecuted. The State Government has given instructions to the District Magistrates to see if any bulk labour is being exported for lack of work. Their observation is that no such incident has taken place. They are observing such migrations at the railway



stations and at other places. Sir, money is there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, money may be there, but the point is whether serious starvation deaths have been reported or not.

SHRI YERRAN NAIDU: No, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When TV has been quoted, something more serious has to be done.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, particularly on this issue, let us take a non-political stand. I request the hon. Chairman to send a team there. (*Interruptions*)

डा० जगन्नाथ मिश्र: इसके लिए हाउस कमेटी बनाइए।

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: I am myself suggesting: please send a team to find out what action we have taken in the last nine months so far as the areas affected by drought are concerned. After my visit, we have released not only Rs. 50 crores, but we have also released Rs. 136.5 crores, irrespective of the money which had been released earlier, which was not spent. I do not want to make any comment; I do not want to mix politics. What was the money that was released, whether it has been spent or not spent—I am not going to make a big noise on that. But after my visit, I have released Rs. 136.5 crores upto to 10.2.97 under different categories of the Rural Development programme. And in addition to that, under the National Calamity Fund, we have released Rs. 50 crores. How much money we have spent, how much money is yet to be spent and whether money is the problem for providing employment, all these things the House Committee can study and submit a report to this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I accept the suggestion to send a House Committee.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Thank you very much.

### Setting up NABI Nagar Super Thermal Power Station in Bihar

\*262. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up Nabi Nagar super thermal power station in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the work is proposed to be started; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENU-GOPALACHARI): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India had decided to set up a 2000 MW coal based Mega Power Project at Nabi Nagar in Bihar. Global tenders were invited by the Power Grid Corporation of India. On behalf of Ministry of Power, for 'pre-qualification' of project developers. In response to the global tender eight parties bought the bid documents. Tenders for pre-qualification of developers were to be submitted/ opened on the 28th of November, 1996. However, due to clarifications sought by the prospective bidders regarding the availability of coal from the linked mine block and its commercial viability the bid submission/opening has been deferred. No bids were submitted.

(c) and (d) Implementation of the project is expected to commence during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

डा० जगन्नाथ मिश्र: सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि भारत सरकार की यह निर्धारित नीति है कि मेगा प्रोजेक्ट के अन्तर्गत जिन स्थानों में कोयले की उपलब्धता है वहाँ पर थर्मल पावर स्टेशन बनाए जायें और उस स्कीम के अन्तर्गत नवीन नगर में दो हजार मेगावाट विद्युत केन्द्र स्थापित करने की अनुमति तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री राजीव गांधी ने 1989 में