

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल: धन्यवाद। यह तो बहुत अच्छा हुआ। ... (व्यवधान)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (कुमारी सरोज खापर्डे): ठीक है, कोई बात नहीं, मंत्री जी दो मिनट रुक जाइयेगा। प्लीज। (व्यवधान)

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Mr. Minister, we wanted it for Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry, which were affected badly. Who wanted it for the whole country now?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Don't try to delay the issue.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: I have given you the figures. You can grill the Minister!

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: As you have been doing earlier? I wanted to do it as you have been doing earlier. We will do it now. You are going to see that also.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Pondicherry also is there.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Mr. Narayanasamy, he has not yet made the statement.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madam, my strong objection to the statement of the hon. Minister is that only Andhra Pradesh has been mentioned by the hon. Minister, mainly, and there are only a few lines about Pondicherry. Amalapuram-Yanam was the focal point of the hurricane, but about Yanam the hon. Minister has put in only one sentence. This is the statement of the hon. Minister.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): I hope everybody has got a copy of the statement both in Hindi and English.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Madam, may I begin now?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Yes.

# STATEMENT BY MINISTER

## Situation Arising from Cyclone in Andhra Pradesh

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): Madam Vice-Chairman, I seek leave of the House to make a statement on the situation arising from the severe cyclone in Andhra Pradesh on the 6th-7th November 1996 and the relief and rehabilitation measures taken by the Government.

A severe cyclonic storm with a core of hurricane winds struck the coast of Andhra Pradesh about 50 kms. south of Kakinada at 9.30 p.m. on the 6th November, 1996. The India Meteorological Department had been tracking the cyclone and had issued warnings to the State Government, Doordarshan and All India Radio, from time to time, of the likely course and landfall of the cyclone. The cyclonic storm went through very rapid intensification from depression to severe cyclonic storm with a core of hurricane winds. After crossing the Andhra Pradesh coast, the storm moved in a west-north-westerly direction, weakened into a deep depression and then into a low pressure area by the 7th evening, before fading out. The cyclone has caused severe damage and destruction in East Godavary and West Godavary districts of Andhra Pradesh. A total of 96 Mandals in 4 districts (East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna and Khammam) have been affected. According to the latest information available from the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the death toll is 971, including 872 deaths in East Godavari, 98 deaths in West Godavari and 1 in Khammam districts. Nine hundred and twenty-five persons are still reported to be missing, and 1,77,150 persons were evacuated and taken to 742 relief camps. The assistance of the Defence Services was made available to

the Government of Andhra Pradesh for 'rescue' and relief operations. Food supplies were dropped in the inaccessible areas with the help of the Air Force. The Defence Services rose to the occasion to come to the help of the State and the affected people. It is reported that 6.47 lakh houses have been partially or fully damaged. Nine hundred and thirty-five medical teams have been deployed, and 245 veterinary teams have also been pressed into service. The State Government has paid Rs. 3.52 crores as ex-gratia assistance to the relatives of the deceased. Assistance at the rate of Rs. 50,000/- per human casualty has been made available from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund. Essential commodities like rice and kerosene have been distributed to the affected people, and an amount of Rs. 29.79 crores made available for repair of houses. Total cropped area of 5.11 lakh hectares has been damaged. The State Government has mobilised the whole administrative machinery for providing timely assistance to the affected people.

Madam, the Prime Minister himself visited and made an aerial survey of the worst affected areas on Sunday, the 10th November. He also met the Chief Minister and other representatives of the people at Vishakhapatnam and Rajahmundry. In order to enable the Government of Andhra Pradesh to carry on relief and rehabilitation measures, an amount of Rs. 50 crores has been made available to the State Government. The Central Government had earlier released the fourth instalment of the Central share of the Calamity Relief Fund in advance. The Government of India has been closely monitoring the situation, and meetings of the Crisis Management Group in the Ministry of Agriculture were held on the 11th and the 15th of November to review the situation and to arrange all necessary assistance to the State Government. The Committee of Secretaries under the Cabinet Secretary also reviewed the position, and the Cabinet considered the issue of immediate relief and assistance to

the people of Andhra Pradesh. All arrangements have been made for restoring the power supply and telecommunications. Fortunately, there was very limited damage to the national highways, and the rail communication was not disrupted. Teams have been deputed to assess the damage to coconut and other horticultural crops. Orders have been issued for procurement of paddy with some relaxation in the quality norms. Fifty thousand tonnes of rice have been released as *ad hoc* allotment for the public distribution system. An additional allocation of 10,000 kilolitres of kerosene was also made for the affected areas.

The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh met me on the 19th November and handed over a memorandum seeking Central assistance of Rs. 2,143 crores. I assured him of all possible help. I have myself visited the cyclone affected area of the East and the West Godavari districts on the 21st November. The plight of the people who have lost their homes and their crops is heart-rending. After the visit, I met the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and representatives of all political parties of Hyderabad and discussed about the situation and the steps taken for providing assistance to the people. A Central Team will shortly be deputed to the State to make a detailed assessment of the damage following the receipt of this memorandum.

The cyclone has also severely affected life and property in Yanam, a part of the Union Territory of Pondicherry. Eighteen deaths have been reported, and 76 people are missing. The cyclone and rains have inundated 780 hectares of paddy and coconut and damaged public property. The Pondicherry Administration has taken all necessary measures for providing relief to the affected people. A memorandum seeking assistance of Rs. 68 crores has been received from the Union Territory Administration. A Central Team will be deputed to Yanam to make a detailed assessment of the damage.

I can assure the Members of the House that no effort will be spared to assist the people of the affected areas at this time of suffering owing to the severe natural calamity.

Thank You.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Now, hon. Members would like to seek clarifications on the Statement. Mr. V. Narayanasamy.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Madam Vice-Chairman, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Madam, this is one of the worst natural calamities that happened in Andhra Pradesh and also in the Yanam region of the Pondicherry State. The damage caused to the huts, coconut trees, sheds and also the fishermen hamlets, where thousands of people have been washed away by the hurricane, is heart-rending. Madam, I visited the Yanam region of Pondicherry, which consists of one Assembly segment of the Pondicherry State. On the 6th evening at 6.30 p.m. the hurricane started and at 8.30 p.m. on that day, the wind had a velocity of 200 to 220 kilometres per hour moving towards the Mallapuram and Kakinada areas of Andhra Pradesh and also towards the Yanam region. The gale waves more than 12 feet high came into the fishermen's hamlets and they were there for more than half-an-hour. People were running for shelter. Some of them were able to take shelter on the terraces. As the tidal waves were receding, most of the people had been washed away by the cyclone. It was a heart-rending scene. We talked to the people. We asked them why they had gone to the coastal side in the spite of the warning given to them. The poor and innocent people replied that they went there thinking they would be able to collect prawn seeds during the night time. Some of the people told us that the number of the people, who lost their lives, was incalculable. The official figure given by the Central Government, as far as Andhra Pradesh and also the Yanam region are

concerned, is not correct. You may be depending only on the State Governments for that matter. I would like to submit that the Central Government failed in its duty of providing immediate relief to the affected people. The Prime Minister visited the affected areas. He had an aerial survey. Probably the Prime Minister may not be knowing that Yanam is in the Pondicherry State. When I talked to the Agriculture Minister, he said Yanam region was also affected. He is saying it now. As far as Pondicherry is concerned, the number of people missing in the Yanam region, has been given as 76. It is not a correct figure. More than 270 people are missing. That is what people told me when I met and talked to them. In one case six members of a family had been washed away by the cyclonic storm. This is a very serious incident. The Prime Minister was kind enough to visit the area. I agree, but what was the relief given to Andhra Pradesh and to the Yanam region? As far as Yanam region is concerned, the relief given is a big zero. In Andhra Pradesh, they have not given even one per cent of the claim submitted by the Andhra Pradesh Government. This is how a step-motherly treatment has been given by the Central Government. I charge that the Central Government has not been able to look after the welfare of the people. When the people are affected and are in peril, it is only the Central Government, apart from the State Government, which should come to their rescue. Unfortunately, still the Central team has not gone there. Now, with the limited available resources of the State Government, they have been working hard day and night. I do not want to enter into politics in this. The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and his Government are doing the job there, but, unfortunately, the Central Government has not done anything to help immediately the suffering down-trodden people, especially the fishermen and the Harijans living there. This Government has been claiming that it is for the poor, for the fisherman community,

for the Scheduled Castes and Tribes, but unfortunately, nothing has been done for them. The Prime Minister announced only Rs. 50,000 relief to be given to the surviving family members of those who have lost their lives. The total claim made by the Government of Andhra Pradesh is more. Some of the State Governments are helping them. But the Central Government has not provided them any funds. As far as our State, Pondicherry is concerned, the Central Government has not responded to the request made by our Chief Minister.

Madam, we visited the affected area. We were there for three days. We gave rice, utensils and clothes to the affected people. We also gave money to the affected people for reroofing their houses with thatch. Madam, I have with me a photograph of the affected area. If you permit, I would submit it to this august House. On my return to Delhi, today morning I met the hon. Prime Minister. I gave him a representation. The Prime Minister told me that he would help the people. Unfortunately, when they are suffering, when they are not having even abodes for their living, when they are not able to get their food, the poor people who have been going to the sea, the agricultural labourers who are subsisting on their daily wages, what would they do now?

Madam, I would read only two sentences from the Minister's statement, he said, "The Pondicherry Administration has taken all necessary measures for providing relief to the affected people. A memorandum seeking assistance of Rs. 68.00 crores has been received from the Union Territory Administration. A Central team would be deputed to Yanam to make a detailed assessment of the damage." This is the statement made by the respectful, honourable Agriculture Minister in this House. Not a rupee was given. When it is a national calamity, they should rise to the occasion. They should depute a Central team immediately. Some of the Ministers should have been

deputed for the purpose of overseeing relief operations along with officials of the State Government. But nothing has been done. The Prime Minister visited the area. Later on the Agriculture Minister has visited the area. This is what the Central Government has done. I charge the Central Government that they are not giving adequate relief to the people who were affected by the hurricane.

Madam, industries in that area have been a nerve centre of development. But more than 200 industries have been totally shattered. Our hon. colleagues from Andhra Pradesh would explain the situation as to how the people were affected by it. There has not been even a single response from the Central Government towards the affected people. When we went to the affected area, our people were asking us, "Ours is a Union Territory. We are being ruled by the Central Government. What has the Central Government done for us?". As a representative of the Central Government what should I tell the people of my State? Now, the hon. Prime Minister is here. I want to know from the Prime Minister: Why did he ignore the people of Yanam region in Pondicherry? Why did he ignore the people of Andhra Pradesh? he has given only a paltry sum for providing relief to the affected people. I feel that the State Government would not be able to provide relief to all the affected people. It would take them 20 years to revive their normal lives. The coconut trees have been uprooted. (Time-bell) I am going to conclude within one minute.

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE):** Now, please conclude. There are many Members who would like to seek clarifications.

**SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:** I will conclude. Their paddy crops have been damaged. The coconut trees which have been giving them good returns were some 20 years old. Now, these trees have been totally damaged. Even banana trees have also been damaged in that entire belt. This is the situation. People of that reg-

ion also did not expect that winds would be coming at a speed of 200 to 220 KM per hour. This is the situation. Therefore, I would like to know from the Agriculture Minister whether he is satisfied with his statement. Let him say that. He is a reformist. He comes from Communist Party... (*Interruptions*)... He has been espousing the cause of the poor people, the affected people, the downtrodden people. I would like to know from the Agriculture Minister whether he is satisfied with his statement which he has made in this House. I want the Agriculture Minister to tell us: What is the quantum of assistance he is going to give to the people of my State as well as to the people of Andhra Pradesh? they should give financial assistance as demanded by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. Madam, I condemn the statement made by the Agriculture Minister because the people of Yanam region, Pondicherry have been ignored. The people of that region have not received any amelioration. The people of my State feel that they are under the Central Government and still they have been ignored by the Centre. I would like to know from the Agriculture Minister: When he visited that area, what was the impression he carried?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): No repetition, please. You are repeating the same thing. Please conclude now.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I am not repeating, Madam, I am very sorry.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Please conclude now.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I saw a different statement from the hon. Agriculture Minister when he visited. I do not want to enter into a controversy now. I will take it up on some other day. Today, I want the hon. Agriculture Minister to announce in this august House what relief they are going to give to the people of my State.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Thank you. Shri S.B. Chavan.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, the motion was given by us. (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Yes. You will also get a chance.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Andhra Pradesh is the maximum loser.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): You will get a chance. Please don't be so impatient. (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): We have placed the facts on the Table of the House. After that, it has been thrown open to a debate. (*Interruptions*). For the past five days, we have been asking. (*Interruptions*).

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: It is very wrong, Madam. I am sorry to express displeasure on the decision of the Chair. This is not fair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Please withdraw your words. I won't allow this... (*Interruptions*).

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: I did not mean....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): You said, "I express displeasure on the decision of the Chair". Please withdraw your words. I am not going to tolerate this kind of behaviour in this House when I am in the Chair. Please withdraw your words.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Okay, Madam. I withdraw my words.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Chavan Sahab.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Madam, I am grateful to you for allowing me to seek clarifications on certain points.

It is very unfortunate that almost every second or third year, we find that there is a severe cyclone on the coast. The exact point is almost known to every one. It spreads from Orissa onwards and goes up to Dhakha. That has been the situation that we have been watching. In fact, there should be no room for any kind of politicking in a matter of such a national disaster. This is a national disaster that has visited Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry. Obviously, what my hon. friend, Mr. Narayanasamy, mentioned should not, in fact, have happened. Immediate reliefs must have been given. You have given just Rs. 50 crores to Andhra Pradesh and not a pie to Pondicherry! It seems to be a very obvious sort of difference that you have made. Pondicherry is Centre's responsibility. That is all the more reason why you should have immediately seen to it that some kind of relief is sent to them, to that area.

Madam, the second point which I would like to deal with is about the inordinate delay in sending the Central team. What exactly the idea is behind the whole thing, I have not been able to understand. After the State Governments submit their reports, thereafter, you sit in judgment and then try to find out what exactly the damage has been. The facts have to be properly reported about those who have been affected. I do not think that there should be any kind of difference about the number of deaths that have taken place both in Andhra Pradesh and in Pondicherry. Even at this stage, after about three weeks or so, a statement is being made that a number of people are missing. I do not understand how, after three weeks, in a matter which, in fact, requires urgent attention, a statement could be made that they do not know what has happened to the missing people, whether they are dead or have gone to some other place. You should be now in a position to say what exactly has happened.

If we have to look at the financial position of the State of Andhra Pradesh, yesterday only I was in Hyderabad. I could see that they just do not have the money to pay salaries to their staff. If you are going to give just Rs. 50 crores, with the first instalment of Rs. 29 crores, for reconstruction of the Houses, I do not know on what basis you have arrived at that. And the statement merely states that this is being given to them on the basis of the report of the State Government. The hon. Prime Minister was pleased to state that there is a vast difference between the estimates given by different people. I can't possibly say that he has made a statement. But even orally if something goes out that one estimate is for Rs. 6,000/- another for Rs. 16,000/- or Rs. 18,000/- that is bound to be reported in the Press and if it has come in the Press....(Interruptions)

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA): After the Chief Ministers had met me, they themselves addressed the Press Conference.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: What did they say?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: After the CMs had met me, they themselves addressed the Press Conference.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Anyway, I am not there to justify anything. But, at the same time, I must say that the hon. Prime Minister was prompt enough to go to the respective areas; he tried to find out the real position and gave some kind of solace that the Central Government is prepared to help them out. But there is a lot of difference between the amount that you declared there and the actual amount that has reached there. I don't think the State of Andhra Pradesh is now in a position to handle the situation. Three weeks after, under the Chairmanship of a Cabinet Secretary, a Committee is being appointed and they are going to look into the matter. This is not the way to deal with a very important and very urgent matter. In fact, prompt action is immedi-

ately required to deal with the situation. I am sorry to say that prompt action has not been taken in this matter. The Central team visiting the site three weeks after has no meaning. They won't be able to find out as to what exactly was the extent of damage. I can relate my own experience. In the case of earth quake, the Central team visited the affected area after one month. Normally, it is not the affected people who come forward. According to my information, East and West Godavari is a very fertile area. It is, in fact, a bowl of food production. It is the main producer of the majority of agricultural products. For God's sake, don't make any difference between a man who is just earning his living by daily wages and the others who were having land but have lost everything. They are the people who are self-respecting. They will never come forward. Even in the earth quake areas. I have seen that the relief was taken by all others except the people who had really suffered. In this area. I won't be surprised if the relief is given to persons who, in fact, had no relevance and who had not suffered any damage. Some of them might have suffered some damage. But there are others, who, in fact, need to be approached by your officers who should go over there and try to find out as to whose damage is the maximum, and try to help them. In spite of the Finance Commission's report, you have declared this calamity to be a national calamity. After declaring this as a national calamity, if just Rs. 50 crores are being sent, then, of course, you yourself are under-estimating the kind of damage that has taken place in that area. You are not sending the necessary relief which is very much required. In fact, we, in the Congress party, have taken a decision to give one month's salary for the relief of Andhra Pradesh. Similarly, let all other parties take this decision. Let the Government also take the decision. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): The B.J.P. has also taken a deci-

sion of contributing one month's salary for the relief of Andhra Pradesh. (*Interruptions*).

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): I would.... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Not only the political parties but even others also, who in fact, can afford, if this were to be treated as a national calamity, should come to the rescue of the Andhra Pradesh Government. There should be no difference between government servants and others. Even government servants can contribute. Why should they not contribute one month's pay when they are getting one month's bonus. There is hardly any justification for not giving anything. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Mr. Chavan, you are appealing to government servants. Why don't you make an appeal to the members of the Government, of the ruling party?

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, what is this; ...(*Interruptions*)... Madam, may I point out that we are discussing a national calamity? ...(*Interruptions*)... We are discussing a national calamity. Let us not give a particular bias to it. Each one of us has to play his role. Let us not blow up our individual effort. We need a collective effort to bring relief to the people of Andhra ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Mr. Narayanamasamy, please don't interrupt him.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: As my friend, Mr. Satish Agarwal, has been saying, I presume that the Members of the Central Government as well as their parties must have contributed as all others have done, but you have to make an appeal that all the State Governments should also go to their rescue, that the Central Government and the State Government employees should also go to their rescue because such a huge calamity has taken place in that area. That is the only point which I

wanted to stress, and looking from the Statement, I am sorry to say, Mr. Mishra, that enough has not been done Andhra Pradesh and Pondicherry deserve a better treatment than what they have got so far, and I am sure that you will be able to understand the problem and give maximum relief to these areas so that they may not feel that they have been treated in a different manner. That is one thing. And another point I would like to make and I have gone, and that is about taking permanent measures in that area because the cyclone-affected area happens to be almost identified. Try to consult all the experts in the field wherever they are, bring them together and take some kind of a report from them as to what kind of measures should be taken to minimise the damage. You can't avoid the cyclone but, at the same time, you can minimise the damage. So, for that purpose you can have the assistance of all the experts in the field and then, based on their report, further action should be taken. It should not be left at the mercy of the State Government. The Central Government should go to their rescue in a big way. Thank you, Madam.

**SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:** Madam, I rise with a very heavy heart. For the past one week we have been seized with this matter of attempting to raise this issue. I also appreciate and thank, on behalf of the people of Andhra Pradesh and my Chief Minister, the Members of this august House who have, cutting across party lines, transcended their limitations and extended their helping hand in terms of both a good word and a good deed for giving us various monies not only from individuals but also from their respective parties and their State Governments.

Madam, I do not have enough language at my command to express the holocaust that has taken place in Andhra Pradesh. This was nature's Hiroshima which left us devastated with long-term repercussions. On the 6th of November when the entire nation was gearing up to

celebrate Diwali, the Festival of Lights, Andhra Pradesh was plunged into darkness and the only lights that were lit on the 10th were those of the pyres of the citizens who died, of the people we could not identify but we had to cremate. Madam, on the 6th of November, in Andhra Pradesh, cyclone-warnings were repeatedly broadcast both on radio and television, but there was a cruel trick played by nature when there was a bright sunlight—and it was a clear day—which lent little credibility to the reports, and some of the people, with their inherent resistance to abandon their hearth and home, did not pay attention to them. Nevertheless, the Chief Minister took these warnings into consideration; the State Government geared up and we evacuated roughly two lakh families and took them to various camps, as has been mentioned by the hon. Minister in his Statement. However, the course of this cyclone changed half-way through and it left a disaster, uprooting the coconut trees and whirling them like toothpicks in the wind and rendering children as orphans.

The State Government swiftly moved these children to residential schools. Despite every humanly possible precaution and measures which we took, nature wreaked her fury over Andhra Pradesh. This area is a cyclone-prone area. We did give credence to what was told to us. Despite all our efforts we are still counting the corpses that the sea brings to us every day. We are trying to identify the people. We are trying to console the families of those missing persons. We are trying not to spread panic. We are still waiting on the shores for the ghastly gifts that have been given to us.

As some of our Members have stated, this is a cyclone-prone area and we cannot battle against the nature. We can only take preventive measures. The State Government has itself addressed to it. That is why, despite the intensive information which has been put out by th



State Government, we, let by our Chief Minister, have virtually approached every member at every forum. We have given the statistics, which have been established beyond any doubt, regarding the loss and the havoc which have been caused in Andhra Pradesh. Despite all that, we are now reeling under the second blow. We are stunned to learn, after declaring this as a national calamity, that we have been given a paltry sum for relief work. Where do we begin distributing this money? How do we compensate a human being, a citizen of our nation? How do we re-establish the State of Andhra Pradesh? How do we change our crop patterns according to the diktats of the Government? How do we accelerate the growth of coconut trees? It takes us ten years of labour for a coconut tree to bear fruit. People who came across new technology would tell us "You go in for dwarf variety and follow some of the recommendations which have been made". But that is not what we are wanting. There are some cultural ethos which involve the food which is used for celebrations and festivities. It takes eight or ten years for a coconut plant to grow and to give yield and to become cost-effective. It will take ten years for Konaseema which is a scenic region to recover. What do we tell the farmers? What package do we hold out to them? How do we re-establish and rehabilitate life in these areas?

Madam, a very comprehensive booklet was handed out by our Chief Minister to all Members of Parliament. I can give copies now to those who have not received it. No words are required. It needs only a large heart and sound common sense for us to comprehend what has happened and how to go about re-establishing and rehabilitating people in these areas. Most progressive farmers are in the East and West Godavari region. This is one of the wealthiest regions of our State. They lived through good and bad times. This is the third cyclone which came close on the heels of two other disasters. Though we are picking up what

is left and pulling up our socks administratively, it is beyond human capacity to deal with. I must place on record, and I would be failing in my duty if I don't mention this, that the Andhra Pradesh Government and the officials have gone out of their way. They worked day and night. The Chief Minister was in the remote areas to personally supervise the relief steps which we have taken. Despite all this, after a period of 20 days from 6th November to 26th November, we are left floundering, we are left asking fundamental basic questions. The relief measures that have been publicised, the relief measures and the package that were offered to us are obviously inadequate. This is not something I am saying out of political considerations. This is an opinion that has been held by this august House cutting across party lines. Madam, I also want to place on record that it is a fact that 1,385 villages have been affected and it is also a fact that approximately 1000 people have died and another 1000 people are missing. We pray to the God that by some miracle we find them alive; otherwise, we have another 1000 families to tell them that they have lost their men, women and children in their families. Then 6,48,474 houses, including pucca houses, have been destroyed where RCC roofs were got lifted and were blown off like cardboard papers. About 4,78,768 hectares of crop which was there for picking had been washed out and smashed beyond recovery. We have a total loss of Rs. 45 crores in animal husbandry and fishery. We have 11,00,640 looms damaged where our already crippled handloom weavers, who weave wrap and weft the dreams of this nation with their highly technical skills, helpless.

We have mounted an intense relief operation and the scales of relief are mentioned in our various notes that we have submitted.

The total loss due to crop damage itself is Rs. 126 crores. Statement is made by the hon. Minister for whom I have very

high regard. He was a very respected colleague of mine before he became the Minister. (Interruptions). I don't know if it is an occupational hazard that once one changes his seat his considerations also change. He has gone out of his way to set out minds at rest. Our Chief Minister met him. However, this is a drop in the ocean. I think we have to address ourselves to some basic problems as to what should be deemed as a national calamity. What do we mean by a national calamity? Is it mouthing platitudes and rhetorics whereby we get nothing or we get Rs. 50 crores. Is it a national calamity? I think it is a national disaster. On the one hand we are extending Rs. 50 crores and on the other hand we are saying that it is a national calamity. I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. Is the Centre equipped resource-wise and provision-wise to do the needful to States in cases of national calamity? Will the Centre apply itself to the thought that we have to have an allotment, not gratis. There has to be an allotment made immediately to the State of Andhra Pradesh for rehabilitation. We need two kinds of rehabilitation, one, that is immediate so that we can live and the second that is long-term so that we can live with hope. In order to live with hope you have to take cognizance that it is not enough to put a bandage on this wound, we need a long term sustenance. There is a need to take into consideration Andhra's crop patterns. The Agriculture Minister has come forward and helped us with the coconut tree plantation. But it is not adequate. He will have to personally come and explain to the people. We are not going to accept it.

We need to create a national fund which will take cognizance of this. Madam, I have two to three questions to put. While I conclude, I would like to leave the Parliament with this thought. What should the Centre do to help a State faced with such a situation? We also need to tap various resources as my Chief Minister has done. He is trying to

find out if we can build cyclone-proof houses, cyclone-proof power lines, highways, etc. The State Government has projected a certain loss. You should not get misled by the loss incurred by the national portfolios like the PNT, the national highways and others. These have been completely washed away. We have not even mentioned this. This House has been told that it has been declared a national calamity and we have been given a paltry sum of Rs. 50 crores. This is not enough to begin with. Why do we have to come to the Centre, every time, to ask for funds?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): The hon. Minister has to go to the other House at five.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Is it for the same statement?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): I think so.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: That is why I had asked for a Calling Attention.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): There are ten more Members who would like to seek clarifications.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: I would like to suggest that you extend it till tomorrow. Either you have to extend the time here or you have to extend the time in the other House.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: There is no way I can cut short this discussion.

डा० अलादी पी० राजकुमार: हमारे दुख और दर्द को समझो, मैडम, बात करने के लिए मौका दो। कम से कम बात करने के लिए भी मौका न दें। हमारे दर्द को कौन समझेगा। बात करने के लिए भी मौका नहीं दे सकते। ... (व्यवधान)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (कुमारी सरोज खापर्दे): आपका दुख और दर्द ऐसा दर्द नहीं है कि वह सिर्फ आन्धा वालों का है। वह हमारा भी है। लेकिन हमारे सामने जो सवाल है ... (व्यवधान)

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD (Andhra Pradesh): I would like to raise a point of order. When the matter is being discussed in this House, you cannot simply say that the other House is also discussing the same point and the Minister has to go there. That means, you want to give precedence to the other House and undermine the prestige of this House. Since we have already taken up this issue, let it be completed and then the hon. Minister can go there and explain the position. I am sorry.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र: मैडम, मैं आपको कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। उस हाऊस में पहले डिबेट शुरू हो गई थी।

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: तो क्या हुआ।

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र: एक मिनिस्टर को चाहे यहां रखिए, चाहे वहां रखिए, एक मिनिस्टर तेरह जगह तो जिक्का होगा नहीं। आपको जहां जिक्का करना है तो करिए। ... (व्यवधान) हम यहां आए हैं। ... (व्यवधान) सुनिए।

The difficulty is that you do not listen. I came here after discussing it with the Deputy Chairperson. I told her that this was the situation. She told me that at 5 o'clock we always conclude.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (कुमारी सरोज खापरडे): मंत्री जी, साइक्लोन पर यह सबजेक्ट ऐसा है आन्ध्र प्रदेश का कि आज हम पांच बजे तक खत्म नहीं कर सकते।

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र: हमको भी इस हाऊस में कुछ देर के लिए परमिट कीजिए ताकि वहां से माफी मांगकर आ जाएं। दोनों जगह एक मिनिस्टर देख सकता है क्या?

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त): नहीं, यह ठीक कह रहे हैं सदर साहिब, इन पर रहम खाइए।

افشری سیکندر بخت: پس یہ شک ہے  
سچے ہیں۔ صدر صاحب۔ ان پر رحم فرمائیے

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: This can be continued tomorrow.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Either you continue or they continue. What else can I say? यह नहीं है कि आपके हाऊस को कम इंपोर्टेंस दी गई हो।

†] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

They can also say that you should not go there and you should continue to be here. I have to go to both the Houses.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (कुमारी सरोज खापरडे): मंत्री जी, आपके सामने जो समस्या है उस समस्या को मैं समझ सकती हूँ और हमारे आनॉरबेल मेंबर भी समझ रहे हैं लेकिन अगर सदन की इच्छा हो तो यह जो स्टेटमेंट है उस पर हम बहस कल को जारी रखेंगे। और बिजनेस ऐडवाइजरी कमेटी का जो निर्णय हुआ है हाऊस के पांच बजे तक बैठने का, एक तो वह हो जाएगा और इसको हम कल तक के लिए ....

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र: लेकिन अगर इसे कल करना है तो आप क्वेश्चन आवर के बाद इसके टेकअप कीजिएगा क्योंकि कल वहां हमें उड़ीसा के लिए फिर जाना है। हमने बाहर का प्रोग्राम भी पोस्टपोन कर दिया है उड़ीसा के लिए। कल हम फिर फंसेंगे, फिर आप हमें कहेंगे। आपको जितनी देर चाहिए, हमें कोई ऐतराज नहीं है। दो रोज, तीन रोज, जितने क्वेश्चन करने हों उन सबका उत्तर हम देंगे, सारे फैक्ट्स भी हम आपको दे देंगे।

श्री सुरिन्दर कुमार सिंगला: इतनी ही मिलिंग काफी है।

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र: और यह सही नहीं है कि पचास करोड़ दिया गया है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (कुमारी सरोज खापरडे): मंत्री जी, जब आप इन सवालियों के जवाब देंगे उस वक्त आप बोलिएगा।

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: नहीं, नहीं, मैंने अभी कनक्लूड नहीं किया है।

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र (कुमारी सरोज खापरडे): इनकी टीम को 63 करोड़ कुल मिला कर दे दिया है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष: मंत्री जी ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Then I am forced to clarify, what is the package offered by the State Government? (Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Will you please listen to me now?

अभी यह तय हुआ ... (व्यवधान) ...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: If the discussion shall continue tomorrow.

then the hon. Minister should not intervene in that case.

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE):** You are not listening to me. You are making a statement. If the Minister is not replying today, then the Minister can reply tomorrow and let Renukaji conclude her questions for clarifications.

**SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:** I have to speak today because I have come only for this purpose.

**SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:** Allow me to continue. There are other Members. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE):** If you are prepared to sit beyond 5 o'clock, then I will continue.

**SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:** Madam, I am prepared for it.

**SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:** Then let him speak, I will conclude tomorrow.

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE):** No, you conclude today. Let him speak later, what is there? Renukaji, please conclude now.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र: ये लोग दस मिनट कहते हैं।  
एज्य सभा में दस मिनट कभी होते हैं?  
...*(व्यवधान)*...

**SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:** I will conclude tomorrow.

श्री चतुरानन मिश्र: इनको अभी हम सुन लेते हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (कुमारी सरोज खापर्दे): मंत्री जी,  
इसमें अगर समय जाएगा तो वह कन्क्लूड नहीं कर  
सकेगी माननीय सदस्य।

Let her conclude. If the House is prepared to sit beyond 5 o'clock, I would like to allow Mr. Giri Prasad also to seek his clarifications.

**SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:** Madam, he has requested me to yield. I will let him speak. I will conclude tomorrow.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (कुमारी सरोज खापर्दे): यह क्या  
बात हो गई?

I think you should conclude first.

**SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:** Madam, I would like that all of us should collectively apply ourselves. Is the national calamity arrangement politicised? Is the Central Government adequately sensitised to the task of managing national calamities in the States? Can the perceptions and projections which are being made by no less than 744 enumeration teams who have gone to evaluate the loss, be questioned after that? Can we club help which has been given by various States and trade unions which have stood by us solidly and contributed one day's salary? Can the moneys given by them be clubbed by the Centre as assistance from the Centre to the States? Can we ratify the moneys which have been collected by trade unions and other States to be clubbed centrally and re-distributed for various other States? While I fully appreciate and my heart goes out for your neighbours, Orissa and other States which are seized with natural calamities, nothing—Madam, I repeat, nothing-matches the disaster that has struck Andhra Pradesh. Can these moneys be taken and re-distributed when they have been collected under the title, Andhra Pradesh Relief Fund? Madam, in brief, the assistance required from the Government of India is—we need additional grant from the national Calamities' Fund; we need a loan assistance of Rs. 150 crores for just power sector alone.

We need rescheduling of the existing loans. We need 24 lakh tonnes of rice under the Public Distribution System without any linkage to procurement targets so that our people can at least eat something. We want the Food Corporation of India to open paddy purchasing centres to procure paddy with some relaxation. We need a project for coconut plantation revival and an additional amount for tree removal because there are trees which are left with roots but

their heads have been taken off. Unfortunately we have now to practise the macabre burial of these trees and we have to spend some money for their destruction. We need bank loans for fresh plantations; funds for road repairs; Rs. 18 crores for National Highways; Rs. 21 crores for State roads and buildings; release of family welfare dues which are still pending; sanction of funds for rural roads which in itself is about Rs. 55 crores. We need the help of all. We need a large heart and we need clarity of thought.

In addition to this, I would like to say that many people are under the impression that we have been given an outright allocation and fund allotment. This is not correct. This has not been done. We have been offered a package which is not sufficient. We have been given a ways-and-means advance, including advance under CRF, of Rs. 100 crores. We have been given Rs. 128 crores as advance release of PA for two months; Rs. 100 crores under RD cess; Rs. 60 crores under the National Calamity Relief Fund; Rs. 256 crores in the form of accelerated devolution of share in Central taxes for two months—all totalling Rs. 644 crores. We have been given the World Bank's IDA Credit of 100 million dollars. We have asked the World Bank for a soft loan of Rs. 1,500 crores. All these monies are given to us to re-establish ourselves and we have to repay all these monies. We cannot run the State without larger assistance. The State Government cannot plan its programmes if there is to be a time-lag in the release of funds. Our State Government has already extended itself and we have already incurred expenditure for temporary relief such as Rs. 70 crores for housing; Rs. 25 crores as crop input subsidy; Rs. 5 crores for kerosene and rice; Rs. 10 crores for water, medicines, sanitation and food dropping; Rs. 7.5 crores for ex-gratia to the families of the deceased persons; Rs. 2.5 crores for weavers—all totalling Rs.

220 crores. The State Government has already spent Rs. 220 crores.

Madam, there is no need for us to mislead Parliament or the nation.

I once again thank every individual who came forward with some assistance. That is why I pressed hard to mention today that various statements which cast aspersions had left in our mouths an unpleasant taste. There were certain statements which allegedly attributed motives to the Prime Minister. I appreciate that he took them in the right spirit and came out with a clarification. I would appeal to the people who contributed to the statements to please exercise restraint. This is no trifling matter. You are not just rebuilding a State. It is national integration. This is unity in diversity. This is about our people, the Indian people. Global attention is focussed on what we are facing, on India and on her national disaster management. We cannot fail ourselves. We cannot fail our people. When we take the oath of allegiance in this House, we should observe that even after we cease to be Members of Parliament. Never can we abdicate this responsibility. And I am proud to say that I belong to this country wherein the people, despite their own limitations, come forward with their helping hands. I feel that we will be strengthened from such experiences to move in the only direction that is possible for our country, i.e., to move forward. I have great respect for the hon. Minister who came forward with this statement. I am sure he worked very hard to come out with these statistics, most of which were supplied by us.

But this one page on both sides is merely that; it is merely a piece of paper. Madam, it is a tragedy that on the one hand we declare this a national calamity and, on the other hand, this is the help we get, this one sheet! And, I have no more words left. I pray that a quick review will be done and help will be forwarded...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Please conclude.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Yes, Madam, I am concluding. I hope and pray that help will be forwarded in the true dimension that is necessary. I thank one and all in this House and I appeal to the hon. Prime Minister, as he is sitting here, that instant action should be taken for immediate relief and constant action should be applied for long-term relief. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Now, I would just like to take the sense of the House whether it is in a mood to sit beyond five, as decided by the Business Advisory Committee.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: No.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): But Shri Giri Prasad has to leave tomorrow. I think we should listen to him today. Is it agreed?

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Agreed, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Secondly, I just would like to request you that there is a very important statement now before me. It is by the Civil Aviation Minister. If you kindly permit me, I will ask him to make the statement and you can seek clarifications tomorrow.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Madam, Andhra calamity is one thing. But normally the practice in this House is, whenever a statement is made, we seek clarifications and the discussion is concluded on that day. If the hon. Minister is in such a hurry, then we will have to sit for the whole day. Or, otherwise, you have to request him to make the statement tomorrow. You can't apply the same standard to both the statements.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): No, I leave it to the House

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Tomorrow, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Then, Mr. Minister, you make the statement tomorrow, if you don't have any objection.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): I will sit here: No problem.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Do you want to make the statement today?

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Yes.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Let him make the statement tomorrow. What is there? Mr. Giri Prasad has a personal problem. He will not be there tomorrow. He wanted to ask certain questions and despite our reservations, we agreed to your suggestion. Now, you are again going back...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): No, I am not going back. Whatever you decide, I will go by that.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: But it was already decided that there would be no sitting after five, unless there was some other contingency. So, he should make the statement tomorrow?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Mr. Minister, the House is not prepared to sit beyond five.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: I will go by the directions of this hon. House. Whatever you say, I will go by that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): So, it is better that you make the statement tomorrow.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: I will make the statement tomorrow if there is no business in the Lok Sabha. Otherwise, I will have to keep some other day for it.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: You have to make up your mind. Are you not aware

of it whether you have business in the House tomorrow or not? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: No, no. Even if there is business, that can be adjusted. There is no problem.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): So, Mr. Das Gupta, we have decided that we are not going to sit beyond five. But, we are going to allow Shri Giri Prasad to seek his clarifications. Tomorrow, the Civil Aviation Minister will make his statement on the issue. Is that final now?

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Yes, that is final.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): Yes, Giri Prasadji.

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Thank you, Madam. I also thank the hon. Members.

Madam, as far as this statement is concerned, I am sorry to say that I have been disappointed. This statement does not reflect the real enormity of the problem. In spite of the good sentiments expressed by the hon. Prime Minister and also the hon. Agriculture Minister, there is nothing that can give solace to the people of Andhra Pradesh.

Madam, it was said that this calamity that took place in the East Godavari and the West Godavari area, was a national calamity.

I would like to ask of the hon. Members and also the Chair about that. Does it reflect, at least that work? I don't find that this statement does even mention the fact of a national calamity that took place in Andhra Pradesh. So, this is the first point that I would like to make.

Secondly, the Andhra Pradesh Government gave a detailed account of the losses, totalling more than Rs. 6,000 crores. Does it reflect that? Is there any mention of that? Of course, they have mentioned one or two items, but the vast devastation which took place with regard to crop, horticulture, communications

Panchayati Raj, fisheries, weavers and so many other strata of people has not been mentioned there. This cyclone also affected the livelihood and assets of the people of that area. So, this statement does not reflect anyone of these losses incurred by the people and also incurred to the topography of that area. It shows that the Government is not prepared to accept the realities of the damages caused by this devastating cyclone. I think that the help which they promised to the Andhra Pradesh Government is very meagre. Of course, they say that there are rules. What are the rules? All rules are made by man. So, when the rules are made by man, then these should be changed in accordance with the reality of the situation. The reality is that Andhra Pradesh is crying for help. What is the help they are rendering? I think that there is no co-operation from the Central Government, at least to show sympathy to these people. That is why in spite of the visits of the Prime Minister and the Minister of Agriculture, no concrete step was taken. I have come to know that whatever package has been offered would be worked out within the funds of Andhra Pradesh State. The Central Government has nothing to do with it. The Central Government has got only one fund, i.e., the National Calamity Fund. Beyond that they are not going to provide any help, except a loan which is to be adjusted before the end of March. If that is the help they want to give, I think, nothing can be worked out. I would like to request the Government to reconsider their entire approach. If the Central Government considers it a national calamity, then it should come forward with concrete help, at least to cover the damage, if not, to at least take up re-construction work.

Madam, almost 25 per cent of cyclone which develop in the Bay of Bengal touch that coastal area of Andhra Pradesh. The remaining 75 per cent may go to Sri Lanka, Myanmar and other parts of our country. At least I have seen half-a-dozen

cyclones in that area. Everytime we took some measures for re-construction and relief, but no concrete and permanent steps were taken so far. Here I would like to suggest to the Government to take up construction of a coastal road there. There is every necessity for it. Earlier, there was a proposal to build a coastal road covering the entire area from Madras, maybe, to Berhampur. Unless that road is built, you will not be able to go to those areas during cyclones except by helicopters or planes. We are having cyclones in Nellore, Prakasam, Guntur, Krishna, East Godavari and West Godavari districts. There should be a strong well-built coastal road—a national road, not a road constructed by the State Government. This is the need of the hour. There was a proposal with the Central Government for constructing a coastal road there. I think they should consider it.

Madam, I would like to suggest one more thing and that is planting some trees on the coastal line, wherever possible, without affecting the livelihood of fishermen and other poorer strata of the society. If they plant some trees there, then it will act as a barrier against cyclonic storms. The speed of the wind during these cyclones ranges from 120 to 150 kilometres per hour. It causes a lot of devastation. This is the strongest wind that we ever had. Maybe, 200 Kms. per hour, which means the whole area was lost because of that. So in order to prevent these devastating winds some measures should be worked out to ward off such cyclones and to reduce the adverse effects of the wind speed. Thirdly, with the help of the World Bank we had some cyclone work like widening of canals and rivers in the Godavari area. I think those schemes have to be worked out. Most of railways have been affected because of a devastation in Prakasam district a bit earlier in the month of October. That is why there should be entire review of the communication system in that area so that people would get relief in an appropriate time. it should be

without causing any disruption to the communication, both rail and road and other means of communication.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: There is no mention of railway here.

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: It was not exactly so, in this cyclone. It was in the month of October, 20 days before, when there was a severe cyclone in the Prakasam district.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: There is no mention of damages to the railways in it.

SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Unfortunately, this statement covers only the cyclone which was there on the 6th of November. On 20th October or so, there was another cyclone in Prakasam and Nellore districts which caused a loss of Rs. 900 crores to property and 350 people died. But, this has not been mentioned. I do not know how they prepared this statement. It was the second cyclone in a month or so. That is why here we lost so many people. There also we lost 350 people. But that is a different area and this is a different area. Not only the entire coastal belt, the cyclones were affecting the Rayalseema and going deep into the western parts also. That is why my suggestion would be that the Central Government should not send only a team. They may send some experts to that area and they may assess. What assessment can they make? I myself saw; the Prime Minister must have seen; the Agriculture Minister has seen, that 50 lakh coconut trees have been lost. They cannot be revived. We can see the structures there. These are stumps. Even to remove these stumps they require money. The Central Government, after all these visits by the Agriculture Minister and others, provides only Rs. 100/- How can they remove such a big stump for Rs. 100/-? You cannot plant another tree which will give crop after eight or ten years. No purpose is going to be served with that relief. I expected that they would be giving Rs. 200/-; but, they have given only Rs. 100/-. They are acting in a



miserly way. Madam, I request the Agriculture Minister to provide Rs. 100 crores under this scheme to remove the old trees so that the ground is prepared for the new crop. But, Unfortunately, they have disappointed us. Not only this. Ten or fifteen villages of fishermen have been badly damaged. They have to be rebuilt. The entire colonies have to be rebuilt with concrete and RCC. If you do not do that, again these people will suffer. Of all those people who have died, 80 or 90 per cent of them are fishermen. The missing people are also fishermen. We do not know whether they will come back. We hope that they may come and say that we are alive. They may say or they may not say. But, anyhow, until that fact is established, the Government is not prepared to accept whether they have died or not.

Madam, I can take the House into confidence that the Government of Andhra Pradesh, in spite of their weak financial position, have rendered the 'maximum' timely help. As far as the people are concerned, they are satisfied with relief that they have got especially in the form of rice, Kerpene, bamboos, medicines, revival of electricity and communication. All these facilities have been revived in the shortest possible time of three or four days. I think the people are happy.

They require permanent construction of houses because a lot of help is required for construction of houses, at least, with the assistance of the World Bank or through IAY or some other source. The funds must be procured by one method or the other. Unless the entire colonies of the fishermen are restructured or newly built, I think they cannot survive there and another cyclone may also come that is why, Madam, weavers must be helped,

fishermen must be helped as they are the downtrodden sections. Unless you revive the coconut and horticulture, the whole economy of the area—not only rice bowl but also horticulture—would not be revived. That is why, I request the Central Government not to treat it as the problem of Andhra Pradesh alone. I fully agree with Shri Narayanasamy in this regard. We also visited the area of Yanam though it is part of the Union Territory of Pondicherry. We are all one people in this country. The people of Yanam are suffering a lot. Yanam should not be treated separate from Andhra Pradesh. All those cyclone affected areas must be helped properly. I think there was a cold war between the Central Government and the State Government. But, really I do not know what they were doing. In the press we are reading that the Prime Minister is doing that, the Prime Minister is doing this. There is a gap between the State Government and the Central Government. Madam, I think, with the assurance given by the hon. Prime Minister this cold war will stop and a co-operative and constructive approach would be taken for the revival of the economy and funds must not be lacking and they must provide all necessary funds from one source or the other. I think, the Government will come forward by accepting it as a national calamity and will mobilise all the resources at their command. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE): I adjourn the House till tomorrow morning.

The House then adjourned at twenty two minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, the 27 November, 1996.