

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Let me take the sense of the House.

SHRI P. UPENDRA: First, let me make a submission and then you can speak. Let Dr. Aram start his speech. He will speak for ten minutes and then you can adjourn the House for tomorrow. Then, we can continue the discussion tomorrow after 12 0' clock.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Sir, I want to make a submission. Tomorrow is a Private Members' day. Two subjects are already pending—the Minister's reply on sugar and the clarifications to be sought by the Members in respect of Pakistan's nuclear capability. Already, we have been waiting for the Special Mentions which we have given. We have certain Special Mentions for tomorrow. Moreover, tomorrow is a Private Members' day. So, it would be very difficult to take up all these subjects tomorrow. You kindly consider that point also.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Dr. Aram can be allowed to speak now. Dr. Aram, you can start the discussion and we will continue it tomorrow...*(Interruptions)*...

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Arising out of answer to starred question 188 on 5th August, 1994, regarding U.N.D.P. report on H.R.D. Action plan

Dr. M. ARAM (Nominated): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you for this opportunity to initiate the discussion on a subject of great importance—important for the country and important for the world—that is, Action Plan for sustainable human development in the context of the world summit for Social Development. The United Nations will celebrate its 50th Anniversary next year and the big event will be the Social Summit at Copenhagen in March. Four years ago, in September, 1990, the Children's Summit was held in New York and seventy one Heads of Governments/

States attended that Summit. The UNICEF took the lead and India has since signed and ratified the Convention of the Rights of the Child. The three basic rights are survival, protection and development. Two years ago, in June, 1992, the Earth Summit, the largest Summit ever, was held in Rio de Janeiro, when 114 Heads of Governments/States attended the same including our hon. Prime Minister. India's participation and contribution was outstanding, at the official level and at the level of NGOs. The Social Summit to be held next year, probably, will be the largest Summit ever held because the United Nations now has 184 Member States. Sir, development is usually considered as economic development. But, nowadays, there is greater emphasis on human and social development and a holistic approach is adopted. The United Nations Development Programme as formulated five years ago a new measuring instrument called the Human Development Index. Normally, in economic terms, a nation's progress is measured by GDP or GNP. The HDI, that is, the Human Development Index has three components—longevity, educational attainment and standard of living. Longevity is indicated by life expectancy. According to UNDP, in India, as on 1992, the life expectancy is 59.7 years. Life expectancy includes and subsumes indicators like IMR—Infant Mortality Rate. In this field, India's record has been outstanding. It was 129 in 1971. It dropped to 80 in 1990 and according to the Eighth Plan projection, it will be 70 in 1997. India's immunisation mission has been a brilliant success story. The second component of HDI—Human Development Index—is educational attainment and this is measured by two indicators, adult literacy and years of schooling. In this respect, India has still a long way to go. We have no doubt made impressive progress in recent years. But our literacy level is still 53 per cent. While we have, on the one hand, a State like Kerala, which has attained 100 per

cent literacy, on the other hand, we have States where we have a long way to go. It is also true in the case of primary education and we have a long way to go in States like Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. No doubt, we have taken very special initiatives in these States.

The third component of HDI is the standard of living. It is measured by the purchasing power. The Purchasing Power Parity (ppp) is an indicator of income adjusted to the local economic situation rather than to the international exchange values. Here too we have to go a long way.

It is not my intention to go into the details of the Human Development Report. It is true, as Mr. Upendra told us the other day, according to the report, India ranks 135th among the 173 countries. This is certainly a cause for concern. Let us compare India, according to the HDI, with our neighbouring Countries—Bangladesh 146, Nepal 149, Pakistan 132, Myanmar 130, Sri Lanka 90 and China 94. Among the 173 countries, Canada comes first and 20 countries are considered as developed countries. Among the 153 developing countries, Barbados comes first with a population of 0.3 million, that is, about 3 lakhs. We can raise a question about the validity of the HDI as a measuring instrument. Indeed the UNDP itself accepts that this instrument is not perfect as yet. How can one compare for example, Barbados, with a population of 0.3 million, with a huge country like India, with a population of 900 millions? But then I shall not go into the details of the Human Development Index. As regards our country, there are certain facts which should be appreciated by the UN system. So far as India is concerned, our development process goes hand in hand with the democratic process. We are undergoing the development process in the context of full democratic freedom.

Another important aspect of the Indian situation is the strong family system

where human security is present, where children are loved and cared, where the elders are revered.

There are several other important aspects to the Indian situation.

SYED SIBTEY RAZI (Uttar Pradesh): Would you yield for a minute? It is a very important subject and many issues are involved in this. He has already taken the floor. It is quarter to eleven now.

DR. M. ARAM: I will just take two or three minutes.

SYED SIBTEY RAZI: We want to hear him in detail because he has done his homework. We want to be benefited a little more. So, if you give him the floor and keep him on his legs, when we take it the next time*(Interruptions)*

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): Don't interrupt him. Let him finish.....*(Interruptions)*..... We are waiting here. He has a right. Give him three or four minutes*(Interruptions)*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Mr. Sibtey Razi, he says he will not take more than three minutes.

DR. M. ARAM: I will be finishing very soon.

I would turn to the action plan, the agenda, for the social summit. The UNDP has suggested a 7-point action plan as the agenda to be considered at the social summit to be held next year.

(1) To approve a social charter as a new social contract among all the nations of the world. (2) To endorse a new development paradigm of sustainable to human development with economic growth concentrated on people and sustainable from one generation to the next. (3) To give the United Nations the mandate to draw up a comprehensive blue print for ensuring global human security. (4) Agree on a reduction of 3

per cent a year in global military spending for the decade 1995-2005 and further agree that certain portion of the peace dividend, say 20 per cent by industrial countries and 10 per cent by developing countries be credited to a global Human Securities Fund. (5) Approve a human development compact for the next 10 years, 20:20 compact, requiring the developing nations and donor countries to earmark 20 per cent of their budgets for human priority covers. (6) Recommend to ECOSOC to examine the feasibility of global taxation (7) Establish an Economic Security Council to manage the new dimensions of global security.

Sir, these seven items are worthy of consideration by our country, by our Parliament and by our Government.

The most significant policy declaration that the hon. Prime Minister has made so far is that six per cent of GDP will be spent on education by the Ninth Plan Period. We warmly welcome this step and we hope that it will be implemented soon, though at present we spend 3.7 per cent of GDP on education.

I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister for Human Resource Development that a projection paper, a perspective document must be prepared to see how the 6 per cent GDP will be utilised for education and the role of the State Government must be spelt out because education, particularly primary education is a State subject. The State Governments have a big role in primary education.

Another major policy that the Government of India is following is in regard to the rural development. It was decided that Rs. 30,000 crores would be spent on rural development in eighth Plan. This will be further increased in the Ninth Plan. According to the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, in the Ninth Plan the amount will be doubled or trebled. Thus there will be a great emphasis on human development

including education, health and culture. The policy on culture is on the anvil. There will be a step-up in the outlays for culture. Then empowerment of women is also one of the thrust areas. For example, one-third seats are reserved for women in the Panchayats and Nagarpalikas. So, many important areas are being encouraged in our country. We feel proud of it. All these things must be projected in the social summit. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI NARAYANASAMY): Thank you, Dr. Aram. It is a very important subject. If the House finds the time tomorrow, we will discuss it. Otherwise, we will consider what we should do about this. Now, I will take up the special Mentions. There are only two persons. I will call only those two Members. Shri Narain Prasad Gupta. We will see what we can do about the other Members. Including Mr. Gopalsamy, only two persons are there. Now, Shri Narain Prasad Gupta.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Problems being faced by Chakma and Hazung Refugees settled in Arunachal Pradesh

श्री नारायण प्रसाद गुप्ता (मध्य प्रदेश):
उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सदन का बहुत थोड़ा समय लेना चाहता हूँ लेकिन बहुत महत्व के विषय को यहाँ मैं रखना चाहता हूँ। विषय है अरुणाचल प्रदेश में बसाए गए चकमा और हज़ुंग शरणार्थियों को नागरिकता देने की अपनी नीति और बाधों पर सरकार अमल नहीं कर रही है। यह बहुत बड़ी समस्या है। ये 65 हजार नागरिक हैं। ये चकमा और हज़ुंग शरणार्थी जो विभाजन की समस्या के बाद 1965 और 1971 के बीच में आए थे, उनको अभी तक नागरिकता प्रदान नहीं की जा रही है। इस के कारण वहाँ पर व्यापक असंतोष फैला हुआ है। महोदय, इन दोनों समुदायों के शरणार्थियों की आवाज़ें लगभग 65 हजार हैं जिनमें चकमा बहुत हैं।

महोदय, कुल मिलाकर समस्या यह है कि जब देश का विभाजन हुआ, दुर्भाग्य इस बात का है कि हमारी सरकार लगातार झुकती चली गई और देश को दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण विभाजन का सामना करना पड़ा। मुझे अहाँ तक याद है, देश के विभाजन के समय जो दोनों देश