

We have suffered. There is loan of Rs. 2,000 crores on the State of Jammu and Kashmir, and we have to pay Rs. 200 crores per annum as interest. Therefore, the Government should treat the State of Jammu and Kashmir at par with other special category States and 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan should be provided to the State.

And all that loan which has accumulated against the people of Jammu and Kashmir and the interest that is accruing thereon must be written off.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Antony.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra): Madam, you are not allowing me.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. Just a minute. His name has been listed Mr. Antony will speak.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Need for rehabilitation of Indians returning from the Gulf

SHRI A. K. ANTONY (Kerala): Madam, the situation in Kuwait is still alarming. Already more than 40,000 Indians have left Kuwait. A majority of them are waiting for transportation. Still there are 1,20,000 Indians there.

Our Foreign Minister, Mr. Gujral, has got more than 300 letters from the Indian community in Kuwait. As per the majority of these letters there is real panic there about food and medicine. There is already scarcity of food and medicine. Unless something is done urgently, there is every possibility of starvation deaths and also epidemics. Cholera has already broken out there.

So, the Government should immediately arrange to send food and medicine to them

President Gorbachev and President Bush are meeting on the 9th and the 10th in Helsinki. Our Prime Minister should speak both to Mr. Gorbachav and Mr. Bush request them to sort out this on humanitarian grounds and immediately food and medicines should be rushed to Kuwait; otherwise the lives of more than a lakh of our Indian will be in jeopardy.

Another thing is, already 40,000 Indians have left there. As per reports thousands of crores of rupees worth of our deposits there are now in question mark. The returnees are in difficulty and our Government are also in difficulty. As far as Kerala is concerned, it was depending for the last ten to fifteen years on the remittances from the Gulf countries. Now, the returnees are facing difficulties in the State of Kerala and the State's economy is facing difficulties. I am told by the Chief Minister of Kerala that the Prime Minister has agreed to convene a Chief Ministers' conference to prepare an action plan for the rehabilitation of the Gulf returnees. My request is, this conference should be convened immediately and an immediate action plan for the rehabilitation of the Gulf returnees should be prepared and it should be implemented quickly. The Government of Kerala. This is the time to clear the crore plan to help returnees of Kerala. This is the time to clear that scheme also. Something should be done quickly. We are everyday getting panicky letters from Kuwait. So, the Government should act quickly through the International Red Cross and the UN to try to send food and medicines to Kuwait. Otherwise there can be more alarming reports from there.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): Madam, I associate myself with the hon Member.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra): Madam, we all associate.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: When the Foreign Minister made a

[Shri Jhon F. Fernandes]

statement in the House, he had said that we will be sending food. I do not know what is the position of that statement now. It was my suggestion that the medicines should also be included.

In 1987, the Government of India air-dropped food in Sri Lanka. I do not know what is keeping us back to send food supplies to our own people numbering two lakhs stranded in Kuwait and Iraq. There was also a statement—and there was also a report on Doordarshan—that Iran will be allowing our people to pass through their territory, but yesterday we read in papers that it was not so because that place is mined. I feel the Government of India should pursue this matter with the Government of Iraq.

SHRI M. M. JACOB (Kerala): Madam, I request...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing you, Mr. Jacob.

SHRI M. M. JACOB: Madam, we are concerned....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Everybody is concerned. The whole House is concerned about it. I hope the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and their leader will take note of it—about the conditions in Kuwait.

SHRI M. M. JACOB: Madam,...

डा. रत्नाकर पाण्डेय: (उत्तर प्रदेश)
उपसभापति महोदय मुझे ब्रलाउ कर दीजिए ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing. I have got listed Special Mentions here. I will allow you afterwards. (Interruptions) I am not allowing you, please. I have got the listed Special Mentions. (Interruptions) You may do what you like. I have a listed business and I have to go according to that. (Interruptions) Please, let me do my work. Please don't interrupt.

Need to set up an oil refinery in Nagaland

SHRI KHYOMO LOTHIA: (Nagaland): I rise to mention an important matter regarding setting up of an oil refinery in the State of Nagaland. The location of the refinery is to be approved by the Government of Nagaland, but in all probability it may be located either in Merapani under Wokha District or at Chumukedima in Kohima District. The State of Nagaland appeared on the oil map of India in the year 1976, when the then Prime Minister and President of All India National Congress, Smt. Indira Gandhi announced the good news in the plenary session of the AICC held at Dispur in Assam, that oil has been struck in the drilling site at Changpang in Wokha District in Nagaland. Since then the ONGC has gone into production of petroleum crude oil in Changpang oil fields in the District of Wokha—the land of the Lotha tribe in Nagaland.

Encouraged by the oil production in Changpang oil fields and knowing that there is crude oil in abundance underneath the ground in Nagaland, the ONGC has gone into further exploration and drilling in many more areas in several districts in Nagaland. The crude oil thus produced from Changpang oil fields is transported to Assam for refining. But in spite of this very important contribution made by the oil-rich State of Nagaland to the oil refineries in Assam and to the nation, the people of Nagaland and the State have not been benefited either in the sphere of employment or in the form of revenue accrued from royalty land compensation etc. in the true sense of the term.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Do we have change of Leader of the House?

SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH (Bihar): Madam, we are welcoming Mr. S. B. Chavan here.