

country

श्री उपसभापति : आपकी पार्टी से
श्री हेगड़ जी बोले ।

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : हेगड़ जी बोले,
श्री पोखू मोदी बोले । लेकिन वहाँ से पांच
आदमी बोले । लोडर आफ दी हाउस के
बोतने के बाद पांच आदमी बोले । मेरा
कहना यह है कि आप इस तरह से डबल
वोति क्यों चनाते हैं, यह प्वाइन्ट आफ
आर्डर है ।

श्री उपसभापति : यह मामला खरम
हो चुका है . . . (व्यवधान) ।

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : श्रीमान, मैंने एक
प्रिविलेज का नोटिस भी दिया है । मैंने
रित नंदा श्री बेंटरामन के खिलाफ
विशेषाधिकार हनन का नोटिस दिया
है ।

श्री उपसभापति : वह तो हो गया
है । That matter is over.

SHRI SYED SIBTE RAZI (Uttar
PRADESH): What is the point of order? He is
wasting the time of the House.
(Interruptions)

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : मैं जानना चाहता
हूँ कि मैंने प्रव प्रिविलेज का जो नोटिस
दिया है उनका क्या हुआ?

श्री उपसभापति : अगर आपने इस
प्रकार का कोई नोटिस दिया है तो वह
चैबरमैन साहब के विचाराधीन होगा ।

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : आप साफ कहिये
कि चैबरमैन साहब के विचाराधीन है ।

श्री सत्यपाल मलिक (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
श्रीमान, मैंने भी विशेषाधिकार हनन का
प्रस्ताव दिया है ।

श्री उपसभापति : अगर आपने दिया
है तो चैबरमैन साहब के विचाराधीन
होगा ।

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: If it is a case of
privilege motion, you can say it is under
consideration.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am saying that.

श्री सत्यपाल मलिक : श्रीमान, मैंने श्री
अन्तुले के खिलाफ विशेषाधिकार हनन का
नोटिस दिया है ।

श्री उपसभापति : आपके नोटिसर
चैबरमैन साहब के विचाराधीन

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

The Acute Drought conditions in Rajasthan,
Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab and other
parts Of the Country

श्री उपसभापति : अब श्री जसबन्त साहू
कालिंग मटेशन परबोलेंगे कृपया आप
संक्षेप में बोलिए । पहले मिनिस्टर साहब
को जवाब देना है ।

श्री जसबन्त सिंह : मैं संक्षेप में ही
बोलूंगा । पहले मिनिस्टर साहब जवाब
दे दें ।

Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of
Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction and
Irrigation and Civil Supplies to the acute
drought conditions in Rajasthan, Bihar, Uttar
Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab and other parts of
the country and the steps taken by the
Government in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND
IRRIGATION AND CIVIL SUPPLIES
(RAO BIRENDRA)

SINGH): After all, my attention has been called. One hour everyday in the List of Business should be set aside for points of order and one hour for noise, free for all. That will help the House transact some business

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: (Karnataka): Is it a reflection on the House or a reflection on the conduct of the Chair?.....

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA (Orissa): What makes him to make that statement? That statement should not be on the record.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: It must be expunged.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: It is a suggestion for everybody -----

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a suggestion for all.

SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE: Then let him move a motion that an hour should be devoted for noisy procedure and for points of order.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, this year the monsoon arrived over Kerala two days earlier on the 29th May. It was however, delayed by over 10 days in the Central and North East India but broke on time in the North-West region.

2. The cumulative rainfall from the 1st June to the 2nd September 1981 was normal or in excess in 31 out of 35 Meteorological Sub-Divisions. The deficiency was in the North-Eastern part, hills of UP., West Rajasthan and Marathwada.

3. While the cumulative rainfall figures were very satisfactory, distribution of the rainfall especially during August 1981 has been rather erratic over the North-West India.

4. During the five weeks ending the 2nd September, 1981, West Rajasthan had deficient or scanty rainfall

in four weeks while East Rajasthan had three weeks of deficient or scanty rainfall.

5. The cumulative rainfall in Haryana till the 2nd September, 1981 was 27 per cent more than the normal. However, the regions has been having a continuous spell of deficient or scanty rainfall for the last four weeks.

6. Rainfall in Punjab taken as a whole has been normal, but seven out of twelve districts had deficient rainfall. Of the five weeks ending on 2nd September, Punjab had deficient or scanty rainfall in four weeks with two continuous dry spells of two weeks each.

7. The cumulative rainfall in Bihar has been normal and no part of the State had a continuous dry spell of more than two weeks.

8. Barring the hills, the cumulative rainfall in rest of Uttar Pradesh has been normal and 35 districts had normal or excess rainfall. However, Western Uttar Pradesh had four consecutive weeks of scanty or deficient rainfall during August.

9. Senior Officers of the Department had been sent to the various States to assess the condition of the Kharif crop and the indications are that barring Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh, the Kharif production in the rest of the country is likely to be normal. West Bengal is expecting a record Kharif production during the season.

10. The continuous dry spell in the North-Western region during August-September this year is causing moisture stress to the standing Kharif crop especially in the rain-fed areas. Fortunately, the paddy crop in Punjab and Haryana, which between them contribute about 61 per cent of the total rice procured by the Government is irrigated to the extent of 92 per cent to 98 per cent. All efforts

are being made to avoid damage to the paddy crop by providing irrigation through canals and tube-wells.

11. Agricultural Production Commissioners/Agriculture Secretaries of important paddy growing States were addressed in this regard by Agriculture Secretary on August 28, 1981. This was followed by telex to Chief Secretaries of the deficient rain, fall States on August 27, 1981. I have myself sent a telex message in this regard to Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh on the 8th September, 1981. Chief Secretaries of rain deficient States have again been addressed on detailed action points on the 10th September, 1981.

12. In Haryana the State Government has imposed power cuts on various categories of consumers and power is being made available for agricultural purposes for 12-14 hours each day in paddy areas and 6-8 hours in non-paddy areas. The Government of Punjab has decided to make power available for agricultural purposes for 12 hours each day as against 8-10 hours earlier. Every effort is being made to ensure uninterrupted supply by saving power from other sectors. Government of Uttar Pradesh has issued instructions for release of power for agricultural purposes for 8 hours per day as against 5 hours supply earlier. In Rajasthan power is being released for agricultural purposes for a minimum of 14 hours a day without any power cuts or restrictions.

13. A request was received from Rajasthan on the 2nd September, 1981 for an immediate release of 7,000 cusecs of extra irrigation water from the Bhakra-Beas reservoirs to save the standing Kharif crop nearing maturity. A directive was issued by

the Government of India on the 9th September, 1981 according to which Rajasthan would get about 4,300 cusecs more till the 20th September, 1981. The distribution given in the directive for Rajasthan canals of the Bhakra and Beas systems is as follows:—

10,300 cusecs through Rajasthan feeder and Bikaner canal (Gang canal).

945 cusecs via Tail Sirhind feeder.

500 cusecs via Haryana channels.

Total: 11,74 cusecs against 7,300

cusecs which Rajasthan was receiving before the directive.

This will help Rajasthan to save crops in over 8 lakh acres of canal irrigated areas. On the Rajasthan canal and the Bikaner (Gang) canal.

14. Prospects of the standing Kharif crops will depend very much on the rainfall and availability of irrigation water in the remaining period of the South-West monsoon. Twelve officers have been sent to different affected areas for an on the spot study of the position of supply of power, diesel, irrigation, water and other agricultural problems.

15. I may mention in this context that deficient rainfall is confined only to the North-Western areas and the overall rainfall in the rest of the country has been normal or in excess of normal with prospects of satisfactory crops. Even in Punjab and Haryana paddy crop can be saved with the life saving irrigation for which all possible steps are being taken by the Central and the State Governments. The Prime Minister herself is seized of the situation which is being monitored continuously. There has been welcome rainfall in some parts of Eastern and Central Uttar Pradesh.

during the last few days and it is hoped that it will progress further to the West.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, I consider it my misfortune that this is the third time that I am confronting the hon. Minister on the same subject in the last nine months. I do not enjoy doing this but because of the unprecedented situation which is being faced by the country I am perforce raising this matter again. I will confine myself to Rajasthan. In Rajasthan we are facing this situation consecutively now for the last three years. In 1979 about 31,000 villages were affected. In 1980, 21,000 villages were affected and once again a similar number of villages are affected by drought. That means that for the last three years on an average, about two-thirds of Rajasthan has been facing drought. In some areas, therefore, it is the third consecutive year where such a situation is being faced. The State Government has barely been able to raise their head from the unprecedented flood situation which was faced by the capital city and surrounding areas following a cloud-burst there. There are five items that are in short supply, namely, food, fodder, power, drinking water and finally finance.

Let me take question of food first, I will quote from Government of Rajasthan's own paper which says that due to a drastic cut in the allocation of foodgrains in Rajasthan, from so many metric tonnes to, so many metric tonnes and due to the discontinuance of the food for work programme, the demand for foodgrains in the fair price shops has gone up. It goes on to illustrate the point by giving the example of Bikaner and Jaisalmer, where the allotment of wheat as against the requirement of 2,000 metric tonnes was only 800 metric tonnes and as against 3,000 metric tonnes of

requirement, the allotment was only 600 metric tonnes. This conclusively goes to show that except imported edible oil, the allotment of all other essential commodities to Rajasthan is much less than the minimum requirements even as compared to the neighbouring States of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab. The number of fair price shops that are available in Rajasthan work out to one per 3,364 of population on an average. The allotment of foodgrains has been reduced to one kg. of wheat to a family of four per month. Now, on one kilo of wheat a family of four cannot survive. Sir, I have perforce to rush through my points and I will not give you an opportunity to ask me to finish quickly.

कि आप जल्दो कोजिए । मैं कोशिश करूँ
जल्दो में हो अपने क्या
(व्यवधान)

श्री गणेशनामति : बहुत धन्यवाद ।

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: There is then the question of power which the honourable Minister has mentioned. There is a recurring and acute shortage of power which Rajasthan has been facing for the last two years or so. Now, when you have a situation of failure of monsoon compounded by an uncertain power situation, I think the figure given by the honourable Minister—a certain figure has been given by the honourable Minister—is regrettable, I would say with due humility even misleading. There is a situation obtaining in Western Rajasthan where the industrialists are now thinking in terms of shifting whatever small industries are there, to other places and they are thinking in terms of moving to Gujarat and to other areas. Whatever power-based irrigation sources are available in West Rajasthan cannot operate because the supply of power is not certain or is not available at all. I will, at the end of what I have to

say. raise a few specific questions restating to power also.

Now, Sir, I will take up the question of funds. There is already in Rajasthan an overdraft situation to the extent of about Rs. 75 crore! There is a provision whereby the Plan allocations for the Sixth Five Year Plan can be drawn as advance! when such a natural calamity is faced by a State. I would submit through you, Sir, to the Government that a situation has arisen in Rajasthan wherein over the last three successive years so much would have been taken as advances out of the Plan allocations that by the end of the current year there would hardly be anything left for the State of Rajasthan as Plan funds. I would like to make a submission through you, Sir, to the honourable Minister. We have a fund known as the Drought-Prone Areas Fund. I would like to make a strong plea that whatever help is given to Rajasthan, either by way of drought-prone areas fund or additional help under article, 282, be treated as grant-in-aid, because Rajasthan is facing an unprecedented situation. Now, Sir let me take up the question of fodder.

I have, on an earlier occasion, mentioned this. Rajasthan is essentially a 'pashu-pradhan' State and the wealth of Rajasthan is not in agriculture. It is more so in the case of west Rajasthan. Its economy is dependent on animal husbandry and, today, Sir, I say it with a due sense of responsibility that we are facing a situation—

जहाँ लोगों ने अपने पशुधन को क
लना करके छोड़ना शुरू कर दिया है।
आज ऐसी स्थिति हमारे प्रदेश में हो
गई है क्योंकि यह तीसरा साल है। पशुधन
को लोग रख नहीं पा रहे हैं।

पानी, दूध के खाने के राशनों को
अवस्था को प्रभावित, पशुधन के चारे
की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। पशुधन को

लेकर के जो हमारे इलाके हैं, वे आसपास
के प्रदेशों में जा नहीं सकते। वे मध्य
प्रदेश, हरियाणा, गुजरात, पंजाब में नहीं
जा सकते। वे यदि चाहें, तो अपने पशुधन
को बेच नहीं सकते।

आज के पशु मेलों में स्थिति यह हो
गई है कि जो गाय, बेल आपको तीन-
तीन हजार में नहीं मिल सकता था, वह
तीस रुपये में लोग लेने को तैयार नहीं है।
अभी हाल में पलौड़ी में पशु मेले में तीस
रुपये में भी कोई पशु लेने को तैयार नहीं
था। ऐसी स्थिति में बीकानेर, जोधपुर,
बाड़मेर, जसलमेर जिले में लोगों ने
पशुधन को तिलक लगा करके छोड़ना शुरू
कर दिया है।

मास्यवर, यह बहुत गहराई से सोचने
की बात है कि जो प्रदेश, जो जिले पशुधन
पर ज़िदा रहते हैं, जो पशुधन प्रधान जिले हैं,
उनकी क्या हालत हो गई है, यह बर्तान नहीं
किया जा सकता।

जो हमारा राज्य सरकार है, जैसे
कि मैंने पहले जिक्र किया, अभी जोधपुर में
जा हदना हुआ, उसी में अपना सिर ऊँचा
नहीं कर पाया है और आज सितम्बर का
महीना हो गया है।

It is the middle of September now. There are
no routes which have been laid down over
which migration can take place. Last year, I
had again to mention about the need for
opening fodder banks. There are no fodder
banks and there are no routes where these can
be opened. There is nothing as far as
preservation of animal wealth in this region is
concerned. This is a matter of utmost
importance and I would, through you, Sir, at-
tempt to make a strong plea to the honourable
Minister; Please take it up as a matter of life
and death for the agriculturists of West
Rajasthan. I will come to an equally important
matter, and that is the question of drinking
water. (Time Bell rings)

आज हमारे प्रदेश राजस्थान में, खास कर पश्चिमी राजस्थान में, यह स्थिति उत्पन्न हो रही है कि जोधपुर शहर के पास आज सितम्बर महीने में पानी की कमी हो गई है। जिन बांधों में जोधपुर शहर में पानी आता है उन बांधों में पानी नहीं है। उन बांधों में पानी न होने की वजह से आज यह स्थिति उत्पन्न हो रही है। मुख्य मंत्री वहाँ देखने गये हैं, उन्होंने खुद ऐलान किया है कि यदि इसकी कोई व्यवस्था नहीं की जाती है, तो मार्च के महीने में हो सकता है कि जोधपुर शहर को खाली करवा पड़े। अब यह रहा जोधपुर शहर की बात।

It is an unprecedented situation as far as the villages of West Rajasthan are concerned. I would particularly highlight this point because it is the third year in succession and there is a limit to the tolerance of the people, of how much they can put up with.

I will raise three or four very specific questions. I think I have had occasion to submit earlier that we have a tendency to face these problems when we are actually confronted with them. I have had occasion to mention this last time also. We have to have a long-term planning and solution for such natural calamities which are confronted by one part of India or another. Now there has been a suggestion for a Joint Control Board of Thien Dam. It has been under consideration of the Government for a long time. What decision has been taken on that? Why has the decision about the Joint Control Board not been implemented so far?

There is the question of Nathpa Jhakri. Would the Government give an assurance to the people of Rajasthan that as far as Nathpa Jhakri is concerned, this would be taken up as a matter to be resolved by the Central Government, keeping in mind the interests of Rajasthan? The Pun-

jab Reorganization Act is nearly 11 years old. Now this Act provides for the Bhakra-Bias Management Board. This is an Act which has not yet been implemented.

I mentioned these three or ^{four} points because they are directly related to, the question of problems of Rajasthan. May we expect that the Central Government would implement these?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, I hope the hon. Member appreciates what we have done so far for Rajasthan. There has certainly been very acute misery on account of consecutive drought for three years since 1979. It is rather unfortunate. But the matter has been discussed so many times in this House, and what the Central Government can do is to provide relief in case of drought, the take up long-time measures for mitigating the misery, by extending irrigation and provision for drinking water in the drought prone areas. All this has been done in the past. The hon. Member knows that within the last year, on three occasions relief assistance has been given by the Central Government for drought to Rajasthan. It was Rs. 20.10 crores in the pre-monsoon period of 1980-81. Then, again, a sum of Rs. 20.20 crores has been given in the post-monsoon period of 1980-81. And, now, this year, in the pre-monsoon period, that is, after April 1981, another sum of Rs. 33.92 crores has been sanctioned for Rajasthan. In the matter of drinking water supply also, substantial amounts have been given. During the year 1983-81, under the Minimum Needs Programme, Rs. 14.15 crores were allotted. Then again, a sum of Rs. 14.15 crores was allocated in the year 1981-82. Under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, a sum of Rs. 6.16 crores was given during the year 1981-83 and another Rs. 1 crore have been provided now. Central assistance amounting to Rs. 11.69 crores have

been given for water supply schemes "and for meeting the emergency need³ during 1980-81 and another Rs. 7.65 crores have been provided for the year 1981-82. These are substantial amounts considering that we have to look after so many drought-prone areas throughout the country from year to year. We have provided rigs in Rajasthan and at present there are 101 rigs working for providing tubewells for water supply in the villages which have been suffering from scarcity of drinking water

As regards foodgrains, the hon. Member would appreciate that at times we cannot fully meet the demands from the State. We experienced this year that in spite of repeated instructions from the Central Government, the Rajasthan Government took no action for procurement of any foodgrains with the result that we feel that most of the foodgrain that was produced in Rajasthan was taken out of the State. That may be responsible for the scarcity of food-grains being experienced in that State. On our part, we are allocating 20,000 metric tonnes of wheat per month for the Public Distribution System and 5,000 tonnes of rice every month. Under the National Rural Employment Programme or Food for Work Programme as it was known previously, in addition to 5,800 tonnes of foodgrains which was the carryover from the previous year, 4,000 tonnes more have been allocated during these two quarters in this year. A cash assistance of Rs. 2.34 crores for National Rural Employment Programme has also been given to the State.

These are some of the measures that we have taken. Fortunately, the later report is that there was a little rain in some of the areas which very badly needed it, from 9th to 13th September. Bikaner had one centimetre of rain. Jodhpur also had some slight rain. Mount Abu had one cen-

timetre of rain. I agree that this rain* will not help the people to save the crops in Rajasthan. As I have said in my statement to the Calling Attention, we have been able to take immediate action for release of larger quantities of water for Rajasthan through larger releases from Bhakra and Beas dams and the augmentation of irrigation water from 7300 cusecs to 11745 cusecs is a substantial increase. We hope that more than 8 lakh acres of land will be irrigated with this. As the hon. Member knows, drought is a recurring feature in Rajasthan and probably the only permanent relief that we can look forward is the relief that would come after the completion of the second phase of the Rajasthan canal for which we are taking action and the Planning Commission has allocated sufficient funds. As I said earlier, to our mind, the supply of foodgrains to Rajasthan is fair, although the hon. Member may not agree with me. But in May, there was an allotment of 20,000 tonnes of wheat whereas the off-take for the public distribution system by the Rajasthan Government was only 12,000 tonnes. In June, the allocation was 15,000 tonnes but the State Government lifted 16,000 tonnes. Now, for this month, we have again increased it to 20,000 metric tonnes per month. I hope with this allocation there will be some relief provided but I assure the hon. Member that in spite of the attitude of the Rajasthan Government in the matter of procurement, we shall not allow the people to suffer and we shall see that substantial quantities of foodgrains are allocated to the State so that the people do not starve.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Bihar):
Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I shall not dilate on the situation in Rajasthan. I think, the situation there is indeed sad to the point of even tragic and calamitous. But the situation in some other parts of the country, I think, is also full of forebodings,

particularly in some 30 districts of western Uttar Pradesh, in some parts of Bihar, in some parts of Haryana and Punjab where they say that the standing crop has been ruined to a very large extent. And even in the Southern parts like the parts of Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, three quarters of Tamil Nadu and in some parts of Andhra Pradesh, the drought has affected their economies very badly and the people are under a situation of stress.

Now, Sir, I find that the Minister has very ably pointed out the rainfall picture. But, as you know, Sir, from a meteorological point of view, there is a drought cycle. The cycle varies from one part of the country to another. In Assam, perhaps, the drought cycle is 25 years. But in some parts of Rajasthan, the drought cycle is normally two to three years. Now, the basic question is that of managing our water-shed system, the water that is conserved under the soil. How do we conserve the rainfall? And how do we make it available at the appropriate time? In this connection, Sir, I refer to the drought-prone areas development programme which was supposed to have covered one-third area of the country, about 200 million people and roughly 100 million heads of cattle. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the progress of this long-term programme which was brought in under the title of drought-prone areas development programme. I am told, Sir, that the implementation of this programme was handed over to private registered societies and they were called district rural development societies. I am told, Sir, that the National Institute of Rural Development have recently brought out in a Report that the implementation of this programme by these societies has not been very hopeful and therefore they have suggested that the management of the water-shed

system and the conservancy of rainfall must become a part of the integrated rural development programme managed through the panchayats and the blocks. I would, therefore, like to know from the hon. Minister whether he would review the procedure for the implementation of the drought-prone areas development programme, and whether the Government would consider it. Sir, I find at page 15 of this Report that the Prime Minister herself is seized of the situation. At para 11, it has been mentioned that the Minister himself sent a telex message in this regard to the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. There are reports about the various other communications from the States to the States. But I find no mention here at all about any communication received from the State Governments to the Centre, whether on their own initiative or in reply to the messages from the Central Government. I would presume that all these States which I have mentioned do not have adequate resources which will enable them to meet the situation on their own. Their resources are inadequate and surely it is my presumption that these State Governments have asked the Central Government for assistance in fund, in cash, in kind, and through financial assistance as well as through equipment. I would like to know, therefore, details of this assistance required by the State Governments and the response of the Central Government thereto. I feel his sending teams of officials to these areas is not enough and, perhaps, the Minister himself should visit these areas. One final point I would like to know is that keeping the present situation in mind, what is his latest forecast of the kharif crop. As we know, in 1980, the kharif crop was 54 million tonnes in the case of paddy. I would like to know what the prospects this year

are. I would like to make one last point and there I would supplement what my distinguished colleague has pointed out, namely, that the Government of India should look into the possibility of creating a system for disaster management. After all, some part of the country or the other is affected by drought or floods from year to year. Therefore, there should be adequate assistance, as he mentioned like fodder banks, foodstocks and even drilling rigs, so that at the time of drought you do not have to ask them or make a survey but that you should be in a position to extend immediate assistance to the affected States.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, it is not only communications from the Centre with which we are satisfied; we keep on monitoring the progress and implementation of the Central Government's directives and instructions by the States. Already 12 officers have been deputed to visit various States. Even the Secretary (Agriculture) visited only the other day parts of western U.P. to see for himself whether electricity as promised by the State Government was being actually provided to the farmers. Similarly, officers have gone to other States. We also want to see whether the quantity of water for canals is also of the order that has been decided by the Government of India, and what is necessary. We keep on checking. We do not expect the State Governments to write back to us as to how far they have implemented the instructions. We take it for granted that whatever Instructions have been given are being followed; unless, of course, we find through our own means or from complaints from hon. Members and other sources that in a particular State things are not what they should be.

The hon. Member wants to know what procedure for Drought Prone Areas Programme is being adopted. As

I have already said, Sir, in fact, we are sure that the only remedy in India is to extend irrigation to dry areas. That is being done and special attention is being paid in the matter of irrigation to drought prone areas. Even certain norms as regards cost benefit ratio has been relaxed in respect of drought prone areas and the percentage of area under irrigation is steadily increasing in drought prone districts as compared to previous years and also as compared to the average percentage under irrigation in each State.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Sir, my question was what mechanism is being followed for the implementation of this programme; whether it is the district rural development societies or integrated rural development programme, managed through blocks and panchayats.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Drought management is the responsibility of the States, so also is the implementation. We are following a certain pattern of assistance over the years for providing relief to the States. For the present drought conditions we have not received any reports from the States for assistance. No memorandum has been received from any State. And it is only on asking by the States that out of the margin money that has been provided that the State Government is not able to provide assistance for drought or for floods that the Central teams visit and recommend to the Government special assistance.

The hon. Member also asked about crop prospects for kharif. I would not like to hazard a guess in this respect. Our target for paddy production for rice in this year was put at 58 million tonnes. But, as I said, it can only be a guess, which I would not like to make. In spite of prevailing drought conditions last year, last

year was also not a very good year climatically and from the point of view of rainfall, large areas had received insufficient rain, but we could produce 54 to 56 million tonnes. Farm estimates have not yet been received. And we hope that in spite of these conditions in various parts of the country, we shall still be able to achieve our target*

SHRI V. B. RAJU (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, The Calling Attention notice has requested the Government to say not only about the States specifically mentioned but about other parts of the country also; I do not know why the Minister has Chosen not to say anything about the other parts. He has only said about the north and north-west areas. I would be happy if he could throw some light on the situation in penurular India also.

Sir, he says the States have not requested for it. But my information is. States like /Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu also have drought-affected areas; some pockets are there which are drought-affected. But since he has said much about Rajasthan, I would like to conhne myself only to that area for my intervention. Sir, my friend Mr. Singh raised the question of fodder but the Minister has chosen not to say anything about it. I would suggest that Suratgarh Farm could be considered to be used fully for growing fodder. Now, what are the problems in drought areas? First is the problem of drinking water. The cattle not only requires that but also fodder. But transportation of fodder is very difficult sometimes; it is not as easy as the foodgrains to be transported. I would like the Minister to throw some light on that point and also on drought conditions, with particular reference to States like Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka

Then, Sir, drought, flood, cyclonS—are all natural calamities. We have got before us some records of a century by which it is found that there are certain parts which are chronic with regard to drought; there need not be much attempt to discover it; it is all on recorda. Now, taking that data into account as the basis, as Mr. Shahabuddin also suggested, can we have some permanent mechanism? The Minister actually shelved it saying that it is a State subject; no doubt about it; but in fact, our Parliament, discusses only on State subjects, and not much about union government affairs. Anyhow, since it relates to human life and animal life, we are very much concerned, because we come from those area*. Therefore, can it be thought in term* of constituting a permanent Natural Calamities Relief Authority, a statutory authority, taking powers from the States to implement the measures? State Governments may also be brought into the picture. The State Governments could create certain permanent facilities and make certain arrangements, in order to minindse the damage. Forewarned is forearmed.

Unfortunately, Rajasthan has been the victim of the two calamities—flood and drought. This has been one of the most calamitous happenings. So, for all these things, advance preparation is necessary. It is not merely a question of relief, or some payment by way of assistance or some such thing. It is a question of taking up this matter seriously on a permanent basis. For that, a permanent department, a permanent mechanism is required. Even advance medical facilities may be necessary. Therefore, can the Government think in terms of creating a permanent agency in regard to the chronic areas; flood-affected areas are also chronic areas? May I request the hon. Minister to throw some light on this also?

~* RAO BIRENDRA' SINGH: I have not mentioned in this regard. We think, the existing the Southern States, because, the drought condition* mechanism is working properly and we want how prevailing are only in the four States of U.P., to improve It wherever possible. Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. The rest of the

country if reported to have received normal rainfall, or excess rainfall. Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka were also provided relief in the pre-monsoon period of 1981-82. Andhra Pradesh was given a Central assistance Of Rs. 26.25 crores. Karnataka was given an assistance of Rs. 8.06 crores. Tamil Nadu was given Rs. 48.90 crores. This was during 1981-82. For this current period, as I said, we have not received any request from any of the States. The hon. Member mentioned about the Suratgarh farm. This increased irrigation, water supply, will very much benefit the Suratgarh farm. This receives water through the Rajaathan Canal and we hope, the fodder requirements will be looked after. Rajasthan received, for fodder alone, Rs. 1.95 crores, during the pre-monsoon period of 1981-82. Even in the previous year, it had received Rs. 1.49 crores. We have a break-down of the various sectors. But I would not like to waste the time of the House. For cattle fodder, drinking water, employment generation and so on, under the Monsoon-Plan and Plan programmes, we make definite allocations for looking after all these things.

SHRI V. B. RAJU: Sir, he has not answered about the most important matter which I had asked. What about setting up a permanent statutory Natural Calamities Relief Authority, which will deal with preparations for meeting any damage which may be caused?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH All these things are being considered by the Government of India from time to time. There has been some thinking on this subject. But for the time being, we have not taken any decision

श्री सत्यपाल मलिक (उत्तर प्रदेश) :

मान्यवर, यह साफ है कि अभी भी हिन्दुस्तान का किसान आसमान के भरोसे रहता है और कोई इस तरह का मेकेनिज्म अभी भी हमारे देश में डेवेलप नहीं हुआ है कि जिस तरह से बाढ़ के बारे में पहले से ही पता चल जाता है कि बाढ़ आएगी, तूफान के बारे में भी पहले से ही अन्दाजा हो जाता है कि तूफान आएगा, लेकिन सूखे के बावत पहले से ही कोई जानकारी नहीं होती है जिससे सरकारी स्तर पर कोई व्यवस्था की जा सके। इस संबंध में रायलसीमा में तुंगभद्रा हाई लेवल कनाल के सुपरिन्टेंडिंग इंजीनियर श्री रामकृष्णशा ने एक रिपोर्ट तैयार की है। मैं चाहूंगा कि मंत्री जी उसको देखें। वह उनके काम आएगी। उन्होंने अपनी रिपोर्ट में बताया है कि किस तरह से यह मोनीटर किया जा सकता है कि जुलाई के पहले हफ्ते में कहां-कहां पर सूखा पड़ने की संभावना हो सकती है और कहां-कहां पर मानसून की वर्षा कम होगी। इसके अलावा दूसरी चीजें भी उन्होंने अपनी रिपोर्ट में दी हैं। मैं चाहूंगा कि उसको मंगाकर मंत्री जी कोई ऐसी परमनिट व्यवस्था करें कि जिससे सूखे की संभावना के पहले ही सूखे की संभावना को मोनीटर किया जा सके और उसका कोई स्थायी इलाज किया जा सके। मैं मंत्री महोदय की इस बात से सहमत नहीं हूँ कि इस साल हरियाणा और पंजाब में फसल नार्मल रहेगी। मान्यवर, आज के टाइम्स आफ इंडिया के पहले पन्ने में उसके एग्रीकल्चरल कारस्पोंडेन्ट ने कहा है कि हरियाणा और पंजाब में वर्षा अच्छी नहीं हुई है।

[श्री सत्यपाल मलिक]

वर्षापि वहाँ पर 90 प्रतिशत सिंचाई का इलाका है, लेकिन फिर भी स्थिति अच्छी नहीं है। चूंकि पंजाब और हरियाणा की बिजली कम मिली है, किसानों को 3 P. M. कम बिजली मिली है इसलिये वहाँ भी धान की पैदावार कम होगी, ऐसा भ्रंदाजा है। इसके अलावा बिहार में, करीब आधा बिहार बाढ़ से ग्रस्त है और आधा सूख से ग्रस्त है। उत्तर प्रदेश के तीस जिलों में सूखा है। महेलखंड जो धान का कटोरा माना जाता है, सूखाग्रस्त है। मध्य प्रदेश का छत्तीसगढ़ इलाका जहाँ बहुत अधिक चावल पैदा होता है वहाँ पर भी सूखा है। राजस्थान के बारे में राजस्थान के मुख्य मंत्री ने 11 सितम्बर को कहा है कि हमारे यहाँ 13 जिले सूखे से प्रभावित हैं। 21 हजार से ज्यादा गांव राजस्थान में हैं जहाँ आज भी पानी के पानी का इंतजाम नहीं है। अभी मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि उन्होंने ज्यादा नहीं मांगा है लेकिन मेरी जानकारी के अनुसार, 19 अप्रैल के 'पेट्रियट' में हमने देखा है, उसमें रिपोर्ट है कि राजस्थान सरकार ने 156 करोड़ रुपये आपसे सूखे के मामले में सहायता के तौर पर मांगे थे। आपकी जो स्टडी टीम वहाँ गई है उससे यह मांग की गई थी। आपने सिर्फ 18.07 करोड़ रुपये दिये थे और अब जो नया सूखा आया है इसमें राजस्थान की जो जरूरतें हैं वे और भी ज्यादा बढ़ गई हैं। खैर, मैं इस बात को छोड़ता हूँ और मैं पश्चिम उत्तर प्रदेश और खास-तौर से उत्तर प्रदेश के 30 जिलों की जो स्थिति है उसकी तरफ आना चाहता हूँ। आप यह जानकर हैरान होंगे कि कल मेरठ में, बल्कि इस पर मुझे बहुत अफसोस है, अगस्त के पहले हफ्ते, इस बात का भ्रंदाजा तो होता ही है कि

मानसून की बारिश जितनी होनी चाहिए उतनी नहीं हुई, सितम्बर के पहले हफ्ते तक केन्द्रीय सरकार की तरफ से कोई डाइरेक्टिव किसी किस्म के सूखे की स्थिति में निपटने के लिये जायज नहीं। लेकिन अगस्त के पहले हफ्ते से सारे पश्चिम उत्तर प्रदेश के किसानों ने बिना किसी राजनैतिक रूझान के गांव-गांव में पंचायत तक के यह तय किया कि हम बिजली का किराया भ्रंदा नहीं करेंगे चूंकि सारे पश्चिम उत्तर प्रदेश के हर जिले में 24 घंटे के दौरान केवल 3 घंटे बिजली पिछले डेढ़ महीने से मुश्किल से मिल रही है। यह बात मैं नहीं कह रहा हूँ। कल वहाँ के चीफ मिनिस्टर मेरठ में पहुंचे और वहाँ उन्होंने कहा कि हम 10 घंटे बिजली देंगे। हमने पिछले हफ्ते 4 घंटे कहा था, अब 10 घंटे देंगे। लेकिन उनकी मौजूदगी में ही वहाँ के जूनियर चीफ इंजीनियर कहते हैं कि हम 10 घंटे में ज्यादा बिजली देने की स्थिति में नहीं हैं और उन्हीं की मौजूदगी में मेरठ के कमिश्नर कहते हैं कि हम सिर्फ 5 घंटे के बीच में बिजली दे पाएंगे। यह कल की स्थिति है, मान्यवर। अगर माननीय मंत्री महोदय बुरा मानें तो मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि मैं उस जगह से आता हूँ जिस जगह से लाल बहादुर साहू के सदस्य और भूतपूर्व प्रधानमंत्री चौधरी चरणसिंह आते हैं। मैं गैर जिम्मेदारी के साथ आरोप नहीं लगाता। लेकिन मैं मजबूर हूँ यह कहने के लिये कि इस सारे इलाके में पिछले डेढ़ महीने में एक घंटे भी बिजली नहीं मिली है और उनकी बात को कोई सुनने को तैयार नहीं हैं, कोई भी बात जिला ब्लेकट या कमिश्नर सुनने के लिये तैयार नहीं है। उस इलाके के जो एम० पी० हैं उनके प्रति जो दुर्भावना है उसकी

नतीजा यह है कि जब कोई व्यक्ति दफ्तरो में जाता है तो उसको कहा जाता है कि तुम चौधरी चरण सिंह के पास जाओ, वहीं से तुम्हें बिजली मिलेगी। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या वे बात की इन्तवायरी करावेंगे कि बागपत इलाके की, बड़ौत की फोडर लाइन के जरिये पिछले डेढ़ महीनों में कितने घंटे बिजली 24 घंटों के अन्दर दी गई है? इससे आपके सामने स्थिति साफ हो जायेगी।

मैं मंत्री महोदय से तीन सवाल पूछना चाहूंगा।

पहला, आज के यह सूखे की स्थिति है तो सूखा अचानक नहीं आता है। सूखे की मारवाड़ की मार की तरह दीखती नहीं है। सूखे की मार बहुत खतनाक होती है। वह आदमियों पर पड़ती है, जानवरों पर पड़ती है, व्यापारियों पर पड़ती है लेकिन दीखती नहीं है। तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वे इस बात पर आश्वासन देंगे कि सूखे को मोनोटर करने के लिये आप कोई एजेंसी बनायेंगे या नहीं बनायेंगे?

दूसरा, क्या सरकार कम से कम उन इलाकों में, जैसे कि पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश का इलाका है, जहाँ धान की फसल बुरी तरह से चौपट हो गई है, वहाँ के मुख्य मंत्री जो ने मेरठ में कहा कि धान की फसल बर्बाद हो गई है, मन्ने को फसल 50 फीसदी खत्म हो गई गेहूँ को बुआई को दूसरा तथा सपकाअ कम से कम उन इलाकों में, जैसे कि पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश का इलाका है, जहाँ धान की फसल बुरी तरह से चौपट हो गई है वहाँ के मुख्य मंत्री जी ने मेरठ में कहा कि धान की फसल बर्बाद हो गई है, गन्ने की फसल ५० फीसदी खत्म हो गई गेहूँ की बुआई

को ऊपर जहाँ बर्बाद हो गई तो क्या मंत्री महोदय हाँ सारे सगकारी कर्जों को फिलहाल इस साल के स्थगित करने के लिये राज्य सरकारों को निर्देश देंगे।

तीसरा, क्या आप यह देखेंगे कि की कम से कम दस घंटे किसानों को बिजली दी जाय उन तमाम इलाकों में जहाँ इस वक्त पानी की कमी है?

राव बोरेंद्र सिंह : उपसभापति जी, सूखा और असल में सारे ही मौसम के हालत की पहले से जानकारी देने के लिए मॉरियलागजिकर डिपार्टमेंट गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया का बहुत बड़ा डिपार्टमेंट है, उनके बहुत सेंस्टीज है और वे पेशगी खबरें देते हैं तथा अंदाजा लगाते हैं कि कैसा मानसून होगा, किन किन इलाकों में होगा। के मौसम को खबर देते हैं तथा महीने के महीने के और हफ्ते के हफ्ते खबर देते रहते हैं और यही नहीं बल्कि दुनिया में दूसरे मुल्कों में भी की सैटेलाइट के जरिये से हर मुल्क का अंदाजा लगाया जाता है। लेकिन बावजूद इस बात के कि साइंस ने काफी तरक्की की है अब भी जितनी पेशेंटग्रीड इस मनी में होती है वह 60-65 फीसदी सहो निकलती है, इससे ज्यादा पता मौसम का निकलता नहीं है। भगवान के सारे राजों को मालूम करना अभी इन्सान के बस की बात नहीं है और इससे ज्यादा बेहतर एजेंसी जो हमारा मॉडिरियलागजिक डिपार्टमेंट है, क्या हो सकते हैं, वैसे तो जंतरी भी पेशेंटग्रीड करते हैं ज्योतिषी भी करते हैं महीने में किस किस दिन कितनी वर्ष होगी, कहां बादल छाये रहेंगे वे अभी भी आम तौर पर कुछ अंदाजा लगाकर कहते हैं। उसमें भी 50 फीसदी शायद कुछ सच्चाई निकल सकती है लेकिन अगर कोई कोई तजबीज नारेबल मेम्बर

या आनरेबुल मेम्बरों दे सकें कि इस तरह की एजेंसों बनाने से या कुछ और खोज करने में इसमें फायदा हो सकता है तो हमें बड़ी खुशी होगी। सरकारों ता इस मामले में बहुत ज्यादा इच्छा है कि क्या मुक्ति आने वाली है आगे मौसम को इसमें पहले से पता लगाया जायें।

बाढ़ और सूखे से निपटने के लिए गवर्नमेंट को बिल है। अभी प्रधान मंत्री जो ने भी 12 प्वाइंट का प्रोग्राम सारो स्टेट्स को दिया हुआ है। हर बार हम उसको रो, ट्रेट करते हैं, यह कोई हम इसको रो, ट्रेट करते हैं, यह कोई नयी बात नहीं है कि हम उसमें हर महोने या हर वक्त के मुताबिक हिदायत भेजते रहें। सारो स्टेट्स को पता रहता है लेकिन उनको फिर से तेज करने के लिए हम उनको लिखते हैं उनको तार देते हैं, मैसेज देते, हमारे आफिसर्स भी जा करके पता करते हैं। मेरठ के इलाके का दौरा जैसे मैंने अभी कहा कि अभी हमारे सेक्रेटरी एग्जिक्यूटिव हो करके आये हैं उस इलाके के अन्दर और वे देख कर आये हैं कि जो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने हमसे वादा किया है 8 घंटे तक बिजली देने का पहले पांच घंटे बिजली मिलती थी उसके मुताबिक बिजली मिल रही है या नहीं। हमें यह कहीं से रिपोर्ट नहीं आयो है कि आठ घंटे की बिजली स्टेट गवर्नमेंट किसानों को मुहैया नहीं कर रही है। लेकिन जैसा आनरेबुल मेम्बर ने कहा है मैं इसको फिर से चेक करा लूंगा अगर बागपत के इलाके के अन्दर किसानों की बिजली नहीं मिल रही है तो मैं दुबारा इसका पूरा पूरा पता करा लूंगा और स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से हम बातचीत करेंगे।

जो बिजली की कमी की बात है तो एकदम पूरी नहीं हो सकती है। उत्तर प्रदेश अन्दर बिजली की कमी

कमी है, डिमांड बहुत ज्यादा है और खपत के मुताबिक पैदावार नहीं है। 1640 मेगावाट बिजली इस वक्त उत्तर प्रदेश में उपलब्ध है जबकि डिमांड बिजली को 2380 मेगावाट है। तो यह कमी 31 परसेंट 30 परसेंट के करीब है उत्तर प्रदेश में इसी तरह से दूसरे प्रांतों में यह कमी है जो आहिस्ता आहिस्ता दूर बिजली को पैदावार बढ़ाकर दूर हो सकेगी। लेकिन फिलहाल तो इतना हो कर सकते थे हम कि कुछ और सेक्टर से बिजली कटवाकर किसानों को ज्यादा दिलवाने की कोशिश करें और वह हमने को है और उसके मुताबिक जिलो कुछ बढ़ो है।

SHRI SWAMI DINESH CHANDRA (Rajasthan): Sir, I will confine myself to the problems of Rajasthan only Rajasthan is in the grip of aevera drought and famine. We have been facing this affliction continuously for the last three years. Drought is a regular feature in our State. Excepting a respite of three or four years during the last three decades, -we have been facing this malady almost every year. Water is a very effective tool in the development of the desert area. I feel that we can blunt the rigours of drought and famine' and make the life of our people happy and prosperous if the Rajasthan Canal project is expedited and completed as early as possible.

I would like to ask a few questions* from the hon. Minister. Sir, recently a seminar was held at Jaipur on the development of desert and drought-prone areas from 6th to 8th March, 1981. This seminar was organised by the State Institute of Public Administration in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Public Administration and this was sponsored by the National Committee for the Development of Backward Areas and the Planning Commission.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the important recommendations of this seminar. My second question is, keeping in view the fact that drought is a regular feature in Rajasthan, what steps does the Government propose to take to stem this and to provide a permanent solution? Central assistance during the year 1980-81 has been only Rs. 15.75 crores. This amount is very meagre, looking to the gravity of the problem. Will the hon. Minister try to be more sympathetic by providing more funds to meet this challenging job? My last question is: Is it a fact that if the Rajasthan Canal is completed, we will be able to bid good bye to all our sorrows and miseries? What steps the hon. Minister would like to take in getting this project expedited? The hon. Minister was pleased to observe that the Planning Commission has given sufficient funds. Sir, I would like to submit that the Planning Commission has given only Rs. 162 crores which means that this project will be completed only by 1918. I would humbly request the hon. Minister to allot Rs. 235 crores so that this project may be completed during the Sixth Five-Year Plan. Thank you, Sir.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, so far as the Rajasthan Canal is concerned, we are getting assistance also from outside, and the Plan allocations have been made. It is not possible to allocate the whole expenditure required to complete this canal within a year or two because, after all, implementation and execution of works also takes time and the allocation is made accordingly. I don't know what were the recommendations of the seminar that was held at Jaipur. I have not seen them so far. But, we have various programmes for drought-prone areas. We have the Desert Development Programme in 21 districts and for each block Rs. 15 lakhs is provided on a fifty-fifty basis—50

, per cent assistance is given by the Central Government and 50 per cent by the State Government. So, for each block under the Desert Development Programme, there is an allocation of Rs. 15 lakhs per annum. Similarly, under our Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), we allocate another Rs. 15 lakhs per block per year. That is also on a fifty-fifty basis. All these programmes are for providing irrigation facilities for raising the water table, for afforestation and for various other things which reduce the effects of drought.

The hon. Member has also asked If we could find more money to assist the State Government. As I have already said, this relief is given under a set pattern and the Government of India has to look into its own coffers also. So, it is not that the Government of India can give any amount of assistance for drought relief. The report of the State Government is examined by a Central team which visits the State, after that it is put before a high level committee and then, ultimately, the Ministry of Finance sanctions the amounts keeping in view the overall situation of the country and the situation of our finances.

SHRI K. CHATHUNNI MASTER (Kerala): Sir, we have been discussing this problem and the remedial measures also here in this House for long, but the calamity is spreading at an alarming speed to other parts of our country also. Now the States of Rajasthan, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh and some parts of Bihar and Assam also are under drought. These areas constitute a big part of the country. This calamity is spreading alarmingly, but Minister's statement mainly confines itself to saving our crops, especially the food crops. That is a necessity, I agree. But, at the same time, what

about the misery of the people and what about the misery of the cattle? Nothing has been stated about that in the Minister's statement. The Minister has told us that the officers have been going to the States to assess the position. My first question is: what is the assessment of the officers in regard to the calamity in each and every State? Then, many crores of rupees have been allotted for Rajasthan. I wonder where all this money has gone because in Rajasthan there is no drinking water, there is no fodder and the peasants were compelled to sell their bullocks and milching cows for the price of chickens. This is the position there. The Rajasthan bullocks are famous in our country, but they are being sold for the price of chickens.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Where?

SHRI K. CHATHUNNI MASTER: In Rajasthan. There is no water there. The Minister has stated that many crores of rupees have been allotted for Rajasthan. But where has this money gone? I want to know that. And what is the progress about the Rajasthan Canal? And what about immediate relief for the people and the cattle? I want to know all these things.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have already replied.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, I have already replied. I want to inform the hon. Member that all the funds that are given to the States for relief in case of drought or flood are looked into and audited. The Central Finance Ministry also looks into the question whether the expenditure has been proper. This is not wasted, the hon. Member may feel assured. Sir, I admit that the misery is very great and the funds that we have been able to provide for relief cannot be said to be sufficient in the case of all these States, but, as I said, we have our own limitations, but we try to

assist the State Governments as much as possible.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we go over to the special mention. Shri Advani.

**REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED
VIOLATION OF THE EMBLEMS AND
NAMES (PREVENTION OF IMPROPER
USE) ACT, 1950 BY THE CHIEF
MINISTER OF MINISTERS-CONTD**

SHR LAL K. ADVANI: Sir, in the year 1946, the General Assembly of the United Nations Organisation recommended to all its member States that they should initiate legislation to prohibit the use of the name of the UN or its emblem unless it is authorised. A similar recommendation was made by the World Health Organization. In the year 1950, Parliament responded to these appeals because we are also a member country of the United Nations. In response to the recommendations of the UN, an Act by the name of the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act was framed by this Parliament. At that time the Government pointed out to Parliament that in instances had also come to light of abuse in India and abroad of the Indian National Flag and the Emblem and of the names of Mahatma Gandhi and other national leaders, etc. etc. So this Act was framed in 1950 to prevent any abuse of the names of the national leaders or any National Emblem or Symbol unless authorised by the Central Government, in fact, that should be authorised by the Central Government. The words used are:

"without the previous permission of the Central Government or of such officer of the Government as may be authorised in this behalf by the Central Government"

From time to time the schedule to this Act is being enlarged. At that