

Singh is a saine poet. There is one memorial here that is worth several crores, and the bank is a tenant. If it has got loan, there is nothing wrong. Therefore, my stand should be correctly published in the "Hindustan Times".

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I hope the newspapers will please correct the misunderstanding that has crept into the report. It should not be like that.

डा० भाई महावीर (मध्य प्रदेश) :
उप-भारति जी, क्योंकि मेरा नाम भी इस रिपोर्ट में उसी जगह लिखा हुआ है, मुझे भी एक वाक्य कहने की इजाजत दी जाए।

श्री उप-भारति : नहीं नहीं। उन्होंने कहा कि उन्होंने रिपोर्ट नहीं किया और उनको निख दिया कि रिपोर्ट किया है .. (व्यवधान आपका विषय नहीं है।
... (व्यवधान)

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी (गुजरात) :
आपने उनको अनुमति दी है, तो इनको क्यों नहीं दे रहे हैं (व्यवधान)

डा० भाई महावीर : उसी बात को मैं भी कहना चाहता हूँ और आप सुनने को तयार नहीं हैं। (व्यवधान)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Who said that. (Interruptions) Just a moment.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: If there is any wrong mention...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. She has got my permission. She has raised it on a personal explanation. She had sought my permission. What is the point? Have you been wrongly reported? She said that she had been wrongly reported. Do you say like that?

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Since the matter is before the House...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No matter is the e.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: I am also in the same boat in this context. I am also being represented as having said the same thing, whereas what I said was not like that. What is the particular difficulty...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I do not know. You did not inform me earlier. Therefore, I cannot say anything. You please meet me and tell me what the contradiction is, and then I will allow. Not a fresh discussion.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Not a discussion. If you want to be so rigid in every rule when a particular name has been raised... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No question. I think if you had been misreported, you could have protested. (Interruptions)

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: I have been misreported. The misreporting is that a particular portion of the report says, as she has said, that Members so and so demanded a CBI enquiry. I did not demand a CBI enquiry-to be true to fact. What I said "The hon'ble minister's responsibility is two-fold". He has to see that corruption should not be shielded and at the same time he has to be careful that no honest man should be dubbed as corrupt simply because of hearsay report. On this particular statement I made a statement. I asked the hon. Minister to come forward and say if he had a *prima facie* case or the Reserve Bank had discovered anything. Then he should take cognizance. This is what I said. He should have been more honest in this respect.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Reported acute drought conditions in Rajasthan and some other parts of the country—contd.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND IRRIGATION AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): Sir, my attention has been distracted. I would like it to be called again.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: It is so important that I have to do it twice.

I call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction and Irrigation and Civil Supplies to the acute drought conditions in Rajasthan and some other parts of the country and the steps taken by the Government in this regard.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, this year, the monsoon has been satisfactory as most of the districts in the country have recorded good rainfall. Out of 350 Meteorological districts, 75 per cent recorded either normal or excess rainfall. The districts which received deficient rainfall during June-September, 1981 were mostly in Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and West Madhya Pradesh. This deficiency was mainly due to a prolonged break in monsoon from the middle of August to the 3rd week of September, 1981. Fortunately, towards the end of September, a spell of good rainfall provided some relief to the North-West India.

2. The season's rainfall from the 1st October to the 25th November was excess in Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat States and normal in West Madhya Pradesh, Marathwada, Rayalaseema, Tamil Nadu, Interior Karnataka, Kerala, Andaman Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep. The rainfall during this period was scanty or deficient in 18 out of 35 Meteorological sub-divisions in West Bengal, Bihar, U.P., Jammu & Kashmir, East Madhya Pradesh and parts of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

3. When in September the deficiency in rainfall in the North-Western regions was observed, the Government

of India took immediate action to save the standing Kharif crops by ensuring supply of diesel and electricity for tubewells and pumpsets and canal water for providing life-saving irrigation. Twelve Teams were sent to 24 districts in the drought affected areas of Punjab, Haryana and Western U.P. to watch and report on the measures taken. As a result of timely steps taken by the State and Central Governments prospects of kharif crops are reported to have greatly improved in Punjab and parts of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan.

4. The Government of Rajasthan have intimated that all the 26 districts of the State covering a population of 199 lakhs have been affected by drought. It is unfortunate that the State of Rajasthan has been passing through severe scarcity conditions since the Kharif season of 1979. The Government of India have been extending Central assistance to Rajasthan to meet the recurrent drought situation. The Government of India had sanctioned a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 1875 lakhs during 1979-80. and Rs. 4030.75 lakhs during 1980-81. In the beginning of the current financial year also, the Government of India sanctioned a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 3392.80 lakhs for drought.

5. For drinking water programme in Rajasthan, the Central assistance extended included an aggregate total of Rs. 1877 lakhs for the period from 1979-80 to 1981-82. In addition, Central assistance of Rs. 972 lakhs was extended under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme. The Government of India also allotted 36 rigs to the State Government during 1980 and 1981.

6. As regard cattle conservation, we have requested the States adjoining Rajasthan to extend grazing facilities to the cattle migrating from Rajasthan. The Government of Gujarat have agreed to help the State Government in procuring fodder, while the Government of Uttar Pra-

desh have agreed to provide grazing facilities to 30,00 cattle in the districts of Uttar Pradesh adjoining Rajasthan.

7. The Government of Rajasthan sent a Memorandum on the 24th November, 1981 seeking Central assistance. A Central Team will be visiting Rajasthan on 15th instant to assess the drought situation and Central assistance required herefor. I have myself visited Rajasthan and I assure, Hon. Members, that all possible assistance will be provided to the State in meeting the drought situation.

8. Haryana has also been passing through drought conditions during the current monsoon. This State suffered from drought conditions last year also. Seven out of 12 districts covering a total population of 25 lakhs have been affected. During 1980-81 and 1981-82 (pre-monsoon), the Government of India sanctioned a total ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 802.00 lakhs. The State Government have forwarded a Memorandum on the 2nd November, 1981 and a Central Team concluded its field visits on the 21st November and its report is awaited.

9. As regards Himachal Pradesh, the State was affected by drought during the pre-monsoon period during 1980-81 when assistance of the order of Rs. 1001 lakhs was sanctioned. The State suffered from a dry spell during August-September, 1981. Ten districts out of twelve and a population of 22.07 lakhs have been affected. At the request of the State Government, a Central Team visited Himachal Pradesh from 29th November to 1st December, 1981 and its report is awaited.

10. Hon. Members are aware that every State has a margin money as recommended by the Finance Commission and this money is available to meet the urgent expenditure for providing relief to the affected people on account of drought and other natural calamities. Further, the Govern-

ment of India have sanctioned Rs. 199.33 crores to the various States as short-term loans for purchase and distribution of agricultural inputs during the Kharif and Rabi season this year. Under the National Rural Employment Programme, all the States have been allotted foodgrains including cash assistance. This assistance, i.e. NREP and short-term loans for agricultural inputs is available to the State Governments to take up ameliorative measures also in areas affected by drought.

11. The twelve-point programme for drought management suggested by our Prime Minister continues to provide the basic strategy and guidance at all levels for meeting the drought situation. A Crop Weather Watch Group at the Centre has been continuously monitoring the situation and suggesting remedial measures to the State Governments. Steps have been taken to maintain supplies of cereals and other essential commodities through Fair Price Shops in the drought affected States.

12. The Government are alive to the drought conditions prevailing in certain parts of the country and are taking all possible steps to mitigate the effects of such aberrant weather conditions on crops, human and cattle population.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister has made a very elaborate statement. Therefore, please be brief.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I have a very unhappy duty of rising once again in this House to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the drought situation and the suffering of the people of Rajasthan as a result thereof.

Some months back there were the worst possible floods in Rajasthan. This was in July. Now the tragi-

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pendulum has shifted from July floods which are said to be the worst ever in Rajasthan to the worst ever drought in Rajasthan which, according to some people, is the most severe in this century. The situation becomes much more difficult and tragic when we realise that for the last four years, in some cases even five years, the major part of the State has been continuously under very severe drought conditions. There are 33,305 villages in the State out of which 23,238 are drought affected. And the situation is what we call Trikal, namely, fodder famine, water famine and cereals famine.

Out of a population of 25 million people, as many as 20 million people are affected. All districts and most of the tehsils are affected and there is hardly any area which remains unaffected. One redeeming feature of the whole situation is the sympathy and consideration that this situation has received from Rao Birendra Singh who visited Rajasthan and has seen himself some of the sufferings of the people there. We put very great faith in him and we certainly accept the assurance he has given the highest spirit in which they have been advanced.

I may briefly say something about the cattle situation and the drinking water situation in Rajasthan. In many parts of Rajasthan, animal husbandry is more important than even agriculture. The cattle population in Rajasthan is more than 41 million which is much more than the human population. Out of this as many as 27.5 million cattle have been affected and you can imagine what a tragic situation this is! Before partition of the country our cattle used to migrate to areas of Sind, Bahawalpur and areas which now form part of Pakistan. But that is now denied to us. We had thought that this situation would impel the neighbouring States to receive these migrant cattle in their areas so that our misery could be remedied to some

extent. It is no pleasure to go hundreds of miles with hundreds of cattle. It is a very difficult existence by itself. But I am sorry to say, Sir, that our neighbouring States like Gujarat, like Maharashtra, like Madhya Pradesh, are most unhelpful in this respect and in spite of the action taken by the hon. Minister personally, nothing has resulted therefrom. This situation certainly needs to be rectified and I think we need to invite the intervention of the Prime Minister to see that the neighbouring States extend facilities to accept the migrant cattle in their areas, in their forest areas, so that we may be able to save these breeds of cattle. These breeds of cattle are the most important not only for us, but also for the whole western India. Breeds like Nagour, Kankrej, Tharparkar, Rathi, etc., are actually the most valuable breeds in this country and because of these breeds we are having increased production of milk and other things in the neighbouring States. If these breeds vanish, it would be a colossal loss to the country as a whole and not merely to Rajasthan. Now, to save these cattle, the Rajasthan Government have taken steps and they have various types of schemes. But I regret to say that even schemes of cattle conservation, of which the hon. Minister spoke—some items like cattle camps, migration depots on the route or the feeding centres which have been opened in certain places are not taken into account for assistance by the Government of India while giving assistance which is a most tragic thing. It is a most tragic situation and I do not know why it is so. I say this because if we do not take these steps, these cattle cannot be saved.

Similarly, Sir, even in the case of the rural water supply schemes—the hon. Minister mentioned about the water supply schemes which have been accelerated—they are faulty because while formulating these schemes, only the human population is taken care of and the cattle

population is completely neglected. Even well-organised schemes with pumps and wells become inadequate if we consider the human population plus the cattle population which is just as important.

Now, Sir, the situation with regard to drinking water is still worse. Out of the 33,305 villages in Rajasthan, 24,000 odd villages have been categorised as problematic villages according to the criteria laid down by the Government of India itself. Twenty-four thousand villages to this day are problematic and out of these 24,000 villages, 11,317 villages have no water source at all or the water source is so brackish that it is unfit for human consumption. In 11,000 villages, Sir, the people have to trek miles and miles just to fetch a bucket of water so that their children and women and cattle could survive. Here also, Sir, the Government has launched certain programmes. International Decade for Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation—1981—1990 which the Government of India has announced that it will provide potable water to people within a distance of 1.6 km. Now, Sir, that would be the greatest boon if it is done. It is the declared policy of the Government to do so. But I do not know to what extent it has progressed. Now, Sir, we have to go up to five kilometres or even ten kilometres to fetch water. So, these schemes should be accelerated. Here again I would like to mention about the inequitous nature of the governmental assistance. With hundreds of tankers for giving water to these villages, about which I have mentioned, since the situation is very bad, it would be better if some money is given to the villagers by way of subsidy so that these villagers could engage camels and bullocks to get water from wells. Now, Sir, these wells are 80 metres or 100 metres or 200 metres in depth and it is inconceivable that they lift water from these wells. Now, this money which the State Government plans to give by way of subsidy to the villagers for fetching water and for providing water

tankers is an item which is again ignored like the cattle camps and cattle conservation schemes by the Government of India in their assessment of assistance. These emergency measures for providing water are again not taken care of by whatever criteria they have.

Now, Sir, coming to the relief works, a large number of people have to be provided with assistance and they have to be provided work so that they can get something to live by. Here the situation is most tragic, again because of the policy of the Government which I would like to point out.

Sir, the last rains were in July in Rajasthan and, at that time, about four to five lakh people were working in the relief works. In September, which is the best part of the year so far as cultivation is concerned, again more than a lakh of people were in relief works. The relief works could not be stopped in some of the areas and they had to be continued. And I believe that by May-June, 1982 as many as 10 or 12 lakh people have to be provided with work on the relief works, which is just 2 per cent of the people affected. It is nothing very much. That amount comes to Rs. 162 crores. But the unreality of the whole situation as seen from Delhi is apparent from the fact that from 1st April, 1981 to the 30th September 1981, the relief works ceiling fixed by the Government of India was Rs. 8 crores, whereas the actual expenditure incurred by the Rajasthan Government was Rs. 45 crores. You just cannot push those people away. I do not know in what way these calculations are made that the ceiling fixed becomes so unrealistic not only in the case of relief works but also so far as irrigation works are concerned as well as drinking water works are concerned. (Time-bell rings).

Well, Sir, I will end by making a request to the hon. Minister. He has mentioned about the Seventh Finance Commission. Even when that recommendation was made, we had our reservation and we expressed them. But

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even on the recommendations as accepted by the Government, the Government of India is not acting. I will just read out one paragraph to show that even those recommendations have up till now not been acted upon by the Government. Sir, I quote from the Seventh Finance Commission recommendations as accepted by the Government:

"If the expenditure requirement as assessed by the Central team and high-level committee cannot be adequately met in a particular case even after the State Plan contribution is taken into account, the extra expenditure should, in our view, be taken as an indication of the special severity of the calamity which would justify the Central Government assisting the State to the full extent of extra expenditure. This assistance should be made available half as grant and half as loan."

Now, Sir, this para has not up till now been invoked. There is a further paragraph later on which says:

"In case of rare severity..."

I do not know what rarer severity can be than the present situation.

"...In case of rare severity..."

We want now that the Government should invoke this paragraph:

"...there should be total assistance from the Centre".

Sir, I will end by saying that the present method of calculating the assistance by the official team is completely contrary to the letter as well as the spirit of the Finance Commission recommendations. I would request that in view of this, the inequitable situation, the unrealistic and unhelpful attitude on the part of the Government should be stopped and relief provided to us.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Sir, as my hon. friend Mr. Mirdha has stated, there is no doubt that Rajasthan, unfortunately, has been suffering conti-

nuously for the last three years because of very acute drought conditions. But it would not be correct to say that the conditions this year are much worse than what they were last year. The number of districts affected as compared to last is also less.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: I am talking of acute conditions.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: And deficiency of rain fall. We have done whatever we could in the past about Rajasthan. We provide relief under Plan and non-Plan programmes. As the hon. Member knows, quite a substantial amount of money that is given by the Central Government as assistance is in the form of grant, too. As for instance, previously we had given hundred per cent assistance under the Food for Work programme, special programme for drought affected States. That was hundred per cent Central Government assistance for water supply, for fodder and other things—a large amount of money that is spent by the Central Government. But the rules, as have been followed by the Central Government in the matter of drought relief and flood relief are not the same, and I myself said it on previous occasions in the House that personally I see no difference between people suffering from drought and the misery on account of flood. But the House knows that in the case of floods, 75 per cent of the assistance is in the form of grant whereas in the case of drought, it is less. We have always been conscious of this fact and it is only on that account that we try to provide more relief in the case of drought. But Rajasthan, to my mind, has had a fair share in assistance from the Central Government right from the year 1979-80. If I am allowed to give the figure, Sir, the Central assistance under Plan and Non-plan heads during the kharif period in 1979 was Rs. 18,75,00,000/- for Rajasthan. Then again in the year 1980-81, pre-monsoon period, it was Rs. 20,10,75,000/-. Then in 1980-81, post-monsoon period, it was Rs. 20,20,00,000/-; successively for the third time. Then in 1981-82,

pre-monsoon period, it was Rs. 33,92,80,000]. Twice a year; almost during the three years, the Central assistance has been provided to Rajasthan. Then, Rajasthan unfortunately suffered from severe floods. It is a vagary of nature, Sir, and it is very ironical that a State suffering from persistent drought should also suffer badly on account of flood. This happened some time back. But the Central Government gave a very generous assistance to Rajasthan. For flood damage it was Rs. 45,00,50,00- And as I said earlier, Sir, on flood it is 75 per cent of the total damage that occurs.

Sir, the Finance Commission has recommended some margin money to be placed at the disposal of the States. But if the amount of margin money is not enough to meet the situation, it makes no difference because immediately as a State sees that margin money is not enough, they come to the Centre, ask for more funds and the assistance is provided both under the Plan heads and Non-plan heads and also as advance Plan assistance at times. Therefore, Sir, I hope Mr. Mirdha would agree that it is not possible for the Central Government to change its norms and its policies only in respect of one State. But within the framework of the policies that we have been following, we have tried to be as liberal for Rajasthan as it could be possible. I have myself seen the conditions in Rajasthan. I agree that a very large number of villages are suffering from the hardship on account of non-availability of drinking water. But we are formulating schemes. It may not be possible to find ground water which may be potable for thousands of these villages. And it is on that account that we have been trying to see if lift irrigation could serve the dual purpose of providing irrigation for agriculture as also provide drinking water for these villages in the interior desert parts of Rajasthan. After Mr. Mirdha suggested last year in the House that the

neighbouring States should be persuaded—we cannot force them—to allow grazing for the Rajasthan cattle, we approached all the neighbouring States, and we have done the same this year. Madhya Pradesh has regretted its inability because they say that there is already a very heavy pressure on their grazing grounds from their own cattle. Uttar Pradesh has agreed. We are thankful to Uttar Pradesh. Gujarat has promised to supply fodder. The amount, that we have been giving for fodder relief for cattle camps, for drinking water and other things has been of a substantial order. I would not like to take the time of the House by repeating all that. There is no denying the fact that in Rajasthan, a very large State in area, and having all the desert, 70 per cent almost of the desert that the country has is in this State, the cattle population somehow or the other remains very high and it is a very good breed of cattle. They are hardy because these cattle have been born and bred in an area with very difficult conditions of grazing and this is the breed of cattle, milch cattle particularly, which can transform just dry fodder into milk and fat. They are wonderful and they can be compared with any other good breed of greener areas in the country or anywhere in the world. We want to save these cattle and we want to do all that we can. We would not like Rajasthan cattle wealth to perish and I shall further see what more could be done for Rajasthan but the real solution to the problem would be provision of irrigation. We are paying attention to it, as Mr. Mirdha knows. On all the occasions last year, when rabi crop was to be saved, we released additional water from Pong Dam and from Bhakra to save the crop in Rajasthan. This year, again, for the Kharif we have released additional 25 hundred cusecs of water... (Interruptions).

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA: We are thankful to you.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: ...for sowing of rabi crop so that the

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people's hardship could be mitigated to some extent. And we have seen to it that this water reaches Rajasthan canals and irrigates the areas there and it is not utilised on the way by some people. I hope Mr. Mirdha would be satisfied.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA (Orissa): Sir, I was a little surprised when I heard the statement of the hon. Minister for Agriculture. It is a lengthy statement but it contains absolutely no reference to the acute drought conditions prevailing in the western parts of Orissa. I do not know whether there is a Government in Orissa at all and whether they have reported to the Centre that acute drought conditions exist in the western parts of Orissa, particularly the district of Bolangir, from where I come, and the districts of Kalahandi and Phulbani. In fact all the Members of this region made a demand on the Orissa Government for bringing out a report on the acute drought conditions in this region. I do not know whether the Agriculture Minister has received any report regarding the drought conditions prevailing in that region. Since I found absolutely no mention of that region, I thought I should bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister.

Sir, you will kindly notice that every year we discuss this flood and drought situation prevailing in various parts of the country. You will not find a single year, as an exception, in which we have not discussed either the drought condition or the flood situation. Natural calamity has become a part of the Indian way of life. That is why, Sir, whenever I have participated in a debate of this kind, I have always placed my demand for the constitution of a national calamity board so as to monitor all this Central assistance through that board and though occasionally I have received favourable response from the people occupying the Treasury Benches, I do not know how the present Minister—

of course, the present Agricultural Minister had responded quite favourably—will receive my suggestion. In spite of his favourable response, I do not find any action being taken for the constitution of a National Calamities Board to monitor all these things and to allocate Central assistance, because the Central assistance is there as a matter of routine. Mirdha has already pressed his demand for Rajasthan; I do not want to repeat it, and the Minister has already said that they have done a lot for Rajasthan. But the point is, it is not enough that Central assistance is given. What has got to be looked into is, whether that assistance given to various States is properly utilised, whether assistance given towards drought relief, is utilised for drought relief, whether assistance towards flood relief, is utilised for that purpose. Sir, it has been mentioned in the statement that steps have been taken to maintain supply of cereals and other essential commodities through fair-price shops in the drought-affected States. So far as the Centre is concerned, that is all right. Now I give you an instance. Cereals were supplied to Rajasthan through NCCF, the National Consumers Co-operative Federation. I am asking whether the cereals supplied through this Federation reached the destination or have been passed on elsewhere, and how much of profit was made by the NCCF and its Chairman out of it. The Minister would say that the Centre is giving all this assistance; but the point is to see whether that assistance rendered by the Centre to the States on account of drought or floods, is being properly utilised. What is the mechanism established by the Centre to see to the proper utilisation of the assistance rendered by the Centre? Therefore, I am more particular about the utilisation of the assistance than about the mere fact that assistance was given by the Centre.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Implementation part is looked after by the State Government; you know it better.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: If the State Government eats away the money, you mean to say that the Centre has no responsibility? Is it your contention?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not my contention.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: If the State Government eats away the money, or the organisation through which the Centre gives assistance to the State Government eats away the assistance and the whole thing disappears before reaching the State, has the Centre no responsibility in the matter? Therefore, I would like to know particularly about the cereals which were supplied. Rajasthan has been affected by drought for the last 3 years. The cereals have been diverted through the NCCF to somewhere else and the things have disappeared and have not reached the people. Therefore, I am asking this question to find out from the Minister.

RAO BIRENDR SINGH: Sir, the hon. Member has pointed out that some districts of Orissa also are affected by deficiency of rain. So far as the Government of India is informed, in parts of Orissa, four western districts were deficient in rains, Bolangir, Surendragarh, Sambalpur and Gorakhpur; but deficiency of rainfall was marginal and no information has been given by the State Government about any acute conditions existing there nor have they sent any memorandum asking for relief. But as normal provision for assistance, Orissa has already got its share. Orissa has a margin money of Rs. 8,71,000 at its disposal. It is only after this margin money is fully utilised that they come forward with a demand for further assistance. They also get short-term loans, money for short-term loans, both for Kharif and Rabi. Rs. 3 crores was given for Kharif and another Rs. 2 crores for Rabi. The total amount on account of short-term loans was Rs. 5 crores for Orissa and we hope that they would have been

able to look after the needs of the farmers through this amount placed at their disposal, both as margin money and also for advancing short-term loans.

Allocation under the National Rural Employment Programme has already been made. The first instalment has been released; a cash amount of Rs. 4 crores and 10 lakhs. Seven thousand tonnes of foodgrains have already been released. That way, we have been looking after the needs of Orissa. The hon. Member has pointed out some irregularities about some supplies made by the NCCF, of cereals. I do not know, at the present moment, whether the NCCF had supplied any cereals to Orissa.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: I did not say Orissa. I said, Rajasthan. Please find out.

RAO BIRENDR SINGH: Supplies, normally, are made from the FCI godowns. The public distribution system is looked after by the Food Corporation of India, and not by the NCCF. If there had been any transaction between the NCCF and any other authority in Rajasthan, it must have been on their account and not on Centre's account. This is because, NCCF supplies some commodities in the domestic market and it must have been one of those transactions. But if further details are made known to me, I will certainly look into the matter.

Another question on which hon. Member, Mr. Nanda, was insisting was the mechanism that we have got for monitoring and for checking whether the use of the assistance made by the Central Government has been proper. We have our own system. The States are accountable to the Centre. A team of the Finance Ministry also visits the States to find out whether the accounts rendered by them are proper and whether the money has been properly utilised.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Bhabhra,

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: What about my suggestion in regard to the National Calamity Board?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: Such a Board has not been formed so far.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: What is your response, Mr. Minister? On an earlier occasion,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has heard you.

SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA: Mere hearing will not help. We do not just talk for the sake of talking. I would like him to respond. I would like to know, whether he will take into consideration...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has already said that such a Board has not been formed.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: We have a Relief Commissioner in the Government of India under the Ministry of Agriculture. We have a relief organisation, a full-fledged organisation. Other Ministries are also associated with it. Whenever there is any report of a national calamity, a Central team is immediately sent and action is taken. It is not on account of a particular type of Board not being in existence that we allow people to suffer. This is a suggestion which has been made by the hon. Member. This has been thought over by the Centre from time to time. But there is no decision in this matter so far.

श्री हरी शंकर भाभड़ा (राजस्थान) :
उपसभापति महोदय, इसके पहले कि मैं अपने इस कालिदा अटेंशन पर बोलना प्रारम्भ करूँ, आपसे एक निवेदन करना चाहूँगा कि यह कालिदा अटेंशन मेरे नाम से था। मेरे नाम से होना चाहिए था लेकिन कुछ माननीय भवती से आपके कार्यालय की यह मेरे नाम से नहीं हुआ है इसलिए आप को मुझे थोड़ा समय देना चाहिए।

श्री उपसभापति : आपका नाम तो है ही।

श्री हरी शंकर भाभड़ा : नाम तो है लेकिन...

श्री उपसभापति : नाम तो अब भी है, आप बोलिये।

श्री हरी शंकर भाभड़ा : माननीय मिर्धा जी ने कहा कि राजस्थान त्रिकाल से पीड़ित है और जो त्रिकाल उन्होंने बताया, उससे भिन्न एक और त्रिकाल है। एक तो अकाल है, दूसरा वहाँ की सरकार और तीसरे यहाँ की केन्द्राय सरकार—अब यह तीनों लगे हुए हैं... (व्यवधान)

श्री उपसभापति : यह तो अकाल हुआ नहीं।

श्री हरी शंकर भाभड़ा : यह तीनों लगे हुए हैं राजस्थान की पीड़ा को बढ़ाने के लिए। मान्यवर, राजस्थान के हालात बहुत खराब हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कहा है—लेकिन शायद वह भी उन हालात को देख नहीं पाए कि जो वास्तव में वहाँ के लोगों पर गुजर रही है।

मैं इस संबंध में तीन उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ। पहला उदाहरण तो उन मवेशियों के माइग्रेशन पर और उन आदिमियों के माइग्रेशन पर कि जिनको सदियों से जब भी राजस्थान को डेजर्ट इलाके में अकाल पड़ता है, तो अपने स्थान को छोड़ कर बाहर जाना पड़ता है। पहले तो तिव में और भावपुर में वे चले जाते थे। लेकिन अब स्वतंत्र भारत में उनकी स्थिति क्या है? अभी विजय नगर में जोधपुर के कुछ मवेशियों को लेकर वहाँ के व्यक्ति गये थे। राजस्थान सरकार ने या केन्द्र सरकार ने उनके चारे और पानी की व्यवस्था नहीं की।

परिणाम यह हुआ कि विजय नगर के आसपास के गांव में जब मवेशी खेतों में चारा चरने के लिए भेजे, तो लड़ाई हुई और छः आदमों वहाँ कत्तल कर दिये गये और मातवां कत्तल अभी और हुआ है। यानी इस प्रकार की वारदातें निरन्तर होनी रहती हैं क्योंकि न तो केन्द्र सरकार इस ओर ध्यान देती है और न ही जहाँ की सरकार इस ओर ध्यान देती है। परिणामस्वरूप एक ओर तो अकाल पीड़ित लोगों को बाध्य होकर अपने घर छोड़ कर अपने हजारों मवेशियों को साथ में लेकर के जाना पड़ता है और जहाँ वे पड़ाव डालते हैं, वहाँ की जनता को परेशानी होती है क्योंकि उनको न तो चारा, पैसे देकर भी नहीं मिलता और यदि वह खेतों में चरने के लिए भेजते हैं, तो स्वाभाविक है कि खेत वाले उनके लड़ाई करेंगे और उनकी हत्याएं होंगी।

दूसरा उदाहरण मैं पीने के पानी का देना चाहता हूँ। ग्यारह हजार से ज्यादा गांव ऐसे हैं, जहाँ पीने का पानी नहीं है। पता नहीं कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो बहुत लिफ-सम्पेथी दिखाई है कि हम इतने करोड़ दे रहे हैं, क्या दे रहे हैं, लेकिन हो क्या रहा है ?

मान्यवर, यदि आपको जोधपुर से जैसलमेर जाने का कभी अवसर पड़ा होगा, तो यह तन सौ किलोमीटर का लम्बा रास्ता है और वहाँ पर इस प्रकार की घटनाएं रोज होती हैं कि जैसलमेर के इलाके के जो चारोंहे थोड़ा सा पानी साथ में लेकर अपनी गायों को या मवेशियों को चराने के लिए जाते हैं और यदि उनका पानी चूक जाता है, तो सड़क पर आवर के वे चलती हुई गाड़ियों, कारों को रोकते हैं और यदि दुर्भाग्य से किसी का पानी नहीं मिला, तो ऐसे लोगों को तड़प-तड़प कर के

सड़क के किनारे जान देनी पड़ती है। मैंने स्वयं इस प्रकार के हादसे देखे हैं जो आज आजादी के बाद भी घटते जा रहे हैं। यानी कि वह बीस किलोमीटर से पानी लाते हैं कई ऐसे गांव हैं जैसे लोनी, बीसलपुर, लालकी कि जहाँ एक बूंद पानी पीने के लिए नहीं है। ऐसे तो हजारों गांव हैं। लेकिन यदि चरवाहों को तड़प-तड़प करके पानी के बिना जान देनी पड़ती है--यदि कार वाले के पास पानी मिल गया, तो ठीक है। नहीं तो हालत इतनी खराब है और तीसरी हालत यह है कि जिन गायों की नस्ल के बारे में अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने बड़ी प्रशंसा की, मिर्घा जी ने भी कहा, उन गायों को उनके ओरस को बाध्य होकर के कसाईखाने में काटने के लिए छोड़ना पड़ता है। हजारों की संख्या में उन्होंने उन गायों को छोड़ दिया है और वह कसाईखाने में कतने के लिए जा रही हैं।

मान्यवर, यह हिंदुस्तान या इस देश की सम्पत्ति है, केवल यह आपको करेंसी तो नहीं है। यह मवेशी जो चर करोड़ राजस्थान में हैं और पिछले तीन साल से वहाँ अकाल पड़ रहा है और उसके बावजूद भी केन्द्रीय सरकार के मंत्री यह कह रहे हैं कि हम राजस्थान की सरकार को बहुत मदद दे रहे हैं और राजस्थान की सरकार यह कह रही है कि हमने जो रुपया केन्द्र से मांगा है, 255 करोड़ रुपये उन्होंने मांगा है, जिसमें वह पचास करोड़ रुपया शामिल नहीं है कि जो उन्होंने मार्जिनल मनी या और अन्य जगह से खर्च किया है उसको बाध्य करके और उनका कहना है कि उनको सेन्ट्रल टीम से 1/10 से ज्यादा कभी नहीं मिला है। दसवें हिस्से से ज्यादा केन्द्र से मदद मिल नहीं सकती है, कौन झूठ बोल रहा है, केन्द्र

[श्री हरी शंकर भाभड़ा]

सरकार या राजस्थान का सरकार झूठ बोल रही है, इसका निर्णय मंत्री महोदय ही कर और बतलाएं?

मान्यवर, मंत्री जी ने कहा कि हम अपने केन्द्र की मदद के क्राइटेरिया को बदल नहीं सकते क्योंकि यह केवल राजस्थान का मामला नहीं है। यह बड़े ताज्जुब की बात है कि मंत्री महोदय एक तरफ तो वह सहानुभूति दिखा रहे हैं कि राजस्थान के लोग परेशान हैं, तीन साल से वहां अकाल पड़ रहा है, लोग मर रहे हैं, मवेशी मर रहे हैं और दूसरी तरफ वह क्राइटेरिया नहीं बदल सकते और जिस क्राइटेरिया को बदलने के लिए बारम्बार राजस्थान की सरकार बाध्य कर रही है, जोर डाल रही है और क्राइटेरिया बदलना क्या है? वहां के पशुओं को चारा देना जरूरी है कि नहीं? उन को पानी मिलना जरूरी है कि नहीं? यदि आप समझते हैं कि जरूरी है तो आप को क्राइटेरियन बदलना हो चाहिए चाहे वह किसी एक स्टेट का मामला लेकर हो चाहे वह सारे स्टेट के मामले को लेकर हो। लेकिन आज राजस्थान के 2 करोड़ लोग और पीने 3 करोड़ मवेशी मौत के मुंह में जा रहे हैं और आप अपना क्राइटेरियन बदलते नहीं। आपने मार्जिनल मनो की बात कही। राजस्थान का साढ़े 7 करोड़ 80 मार्जिनल मनो का पूरा हो चुका है जबकि कायदे से उन को 15-20 करोड़ 80 मार्जिनल मनो का, फाइनैस कमिशन की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक होना चाहिए। वह भी आप तैयार नहीं हैं कि दिया जाए। मिर्धा जी ने फाइनैस कमिशन को जिस रिपोर्ट को और ध्यान दिलाया कि 5 परसेंट स्टेट एनुअल लान पर देरी है, तो मान्यवर राजस्थान के लिए कोई एनुअल प्लान

नहीं है क्योंकि वहां न डैम्स हैं, न इरिगेशन की स्कीम्स हैं। एकमात्र इरिगेशन स्कीम, जो राजस्थान नहर है, जो राजस्थान के विशेषकर पश्चिमी क्षेत्र को खुशहाल कर सकती है वह 1958 से चल रही है, आज 23 साल में उसका प्रथम चरण तक पूरा नहीं हुआ, वह भी 1985 तक हो जाएगा, आप बार-बार कहते हैं कि हम जोर दे रहे हैं। 23 साल से वह पूरा नहीं हुआ और मुझे शंका है, और राजस्थान में अनेक लोगों को शंका है कि शायद इसका प्रथम चरण पूरा होने के बाद दूसरा चरण होगा नहीं और राजस्थान नहर का पानी पंजाब और हरियाणा कंज्यूम कर लेगा और जब पानी राजस्थान में जाएगा नहीं और यह दूसरा चरण पूरा होगा ही नहीं तो हम एक झूठे सपने में हैं, खराब में हैं कि राजस्थान नहर आएगी और इनने मिलियन टन अनाज हमारे यहां पैदा होगा और लोग खुशहाल बनेंगे। यह सारा स्वप्न बन जाएगा और पीने का पानी भी नहीं मिलेगा। तो इस राजस्थान नहर का पानी क्यों नहीं आ रहा है? रोज मुख्य मंत्री कह रहे हैं लेकिन वह हो नहीं रहा है।

राजस्थान में 5 परसेंट एनुअल लान के हिसाब से सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट मदद देती है और जैसा कि मिर्धा जी ने बताया कि उस से अधिक तो फाइनैस कमिशन की रिकमंडेशन है कि वहां की स्थिति को देखते हुए आधा लान सरकार को देना चाहिए और आधा ग्राण्ट के रूप में देना चाहिए। परन्तु आज तक राजस्थान में अकाल हमेशा पड़ते रहते हैं फिर भी सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने आज तक कभी भी इस वार्ज को इन्फर्स नहीं किया। मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहूंगा कि इस बार 15 तारीख

को जो आप वा टोम जा रही है क्या आप यह देखेंगे कि फाइनेंस कमीशन की रिकमण्डेशन है कि राजस्थान को फाइव परसेंट से अधिक जो वह खर्च करती है, जो जरूरी है खर्च करना, उस में से सहा आध आप उन को लोन देंगे और आधा ग्राण्ट के रूप में देंगे। कृपया इसको देखें। इस के अलावा जो भी टोम आपकी सहा से जाती है उस टोम में कोई भी एनिमल हव्डो का एक्सपर्ट नहीं जाता यह देखने कि सहा के मवेशियों की क्या हालत है, उन में क्या सुधार होना चाहिए। इसकी रिकमण्डेशन वे तैयार कर ही नहीं पाते हैं क्योंकि उन में इस विषय की कोई एक्सपर्ट नहीं होता है। इस लिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहूंगा कि क्या वह इस टोम में जो कि 15 लाख को लवहें जा रही है, उस में किसी ऐसे व्यक्ति को भी शामिल करेंगे जो मवेशियों के मामले में जानकार हो, एक्सपर्ट हो और केन्द्र की सरकार को वहां के मवेशियों के जो हालात हैं उन हालात के बारे में बताएं।

मान्यवर, पब्लिक डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन की बात कही गई है बड़े जोर से कि फेयर प्राइस शाप्स बना रहे हैं लेकिन हम तो देख रहे हैं—आप तो सीरियस की बात कर रहे हैं—वहां चीनी भी गांव के लोगों की नहीं मिल रही है पिछले तीन महीने से

श्री उपसभापति : अनाज मिलता है कि नहीं ?

श्री हरी शंकर भाबड़ा : अनाज तो, सबाल ही नहीं है। मैं चीनी की बात कह रहा हूं अनाज मिलने का तो प्रश्न ही नहीं है। जहां तक लोगों के एम्प्लायमेंट का संबंध है राजस्थान में इस ब्रूट के संघर्ष को से कम 52-53 लाख आदिमियों को एम्प्लायमेंट देना होगा। आप नि जो एन० आर० ई० पी० 1507 RSD

की बात कही है, दिसम्बर, 1982 तक काम मिलने का प्रावधान है, 8 लाख लोगों को राजस्थान सरकार के डिपार्टमेंटल वर्क में लगाने का क्योंकि राजस्थान सरकार के पास कोई दूसरा एनुअल प्लान नहीं है, इसलिए वह पी० डब्लू० डी० की मार्फत सड़क बनाते हैं और दुर्भाग्यवश पहले भी ऐसा हुआ है और कहते हैं कि 50 लाख रु० की लागत की सड़क केवल कागजों में रही और वह रुपया बैसा का बैसा हड़प लिया गया और वहां एक पैसा भी नहीं लगा

श्री उपसभापति : बालू पर सड़क बनेगी तो क्या होगा।

श्री हरीशंकर भाबड़ा : 50 लाख बालू में चले गये या किसी के पेट में चले गये, यह मंत्री महोदय के देखने की बात है। वह स्थिति आ सकती है। इसके लिए इनको बिजिलेन्ट रहना चाहिए। 52 लाख लोगों को काम देने के लिए कितना अनाज, कितनी मदद देनी चाहिए इन सब बातों को मंत्री महोदय को सोचना होगा तभी अकाल से लड़ाई लड़ी जा सकेगी, केवल सहानुभूति से नहीं। आप को मदद करनी पड़ेगी, क्राइटेरिया बदलना पड़ेगा। आप कुछ न कुछ सबस्टेंशियल वहां की सरकार की मदद करिए और यह भी देखिए कि वहां पर बैठे हुए लोग उस काम को ईमानदारी से करें।

राव बीरेन्द्र सिंह : डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, जैसा माननीय सदस्य समझते हैं कि कोई बहुत सख्ती से किसी खास फामिली पर, किसी खास क्राइटेरिया पर अमल होता है सूखे में मदद देने के लिए, वैसी बात नहीं है। इस में काफी फ्लेक्सिबिलिटी है। जैसे हालात नजर आते हैं उन के मुताबिक मदद बढ़ा कर भी दी जा सकती है जिस की

[राध बोरेंद्र सिंह]

वजह से कोई दिक्कत नहीं आती है। लेकिन देखना पड़ता है कि सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट कितना भार बर्दाश्त कर सकती है, किसी मुसीबत के वक्त और आइन्दा के लिए ऐसा प्रिंसीपल तो नहीं बन जायेगा कि इन चीजों के लिए बढ़-चढ़ कर मांग आने लगे सब स्टेट्स से और कई दूसरे डेवलपमेंट के कामों में बाधा पड़ जाय। आम तौर पर अब तक जिस तरीके से मदद दी जाती रही है वह पिछले सालों में बढ़ती ही रही है भारत सरकार की तरफ से, वह घटी नहीं है। हमारी ज्यादा से ज्यादा कोशिश होती है कि गुंजाइश के मुताबिक—किसी और बात का ध्यान न रखते हुए—जिस पैमाने से मदद दी जाती रही है उस को बढ़ाने की कोशिश करें।

यह बात मैं माननीय सदस्य की समझ नहीं पाया कि मवेशियों के लिए कुछ नहीं हो रहा, पीने के पानी के इन्तजाम के लिए कुछ नहीं हो रहा। मैं पहले भी आंकड़े दे चुका हूँ, अब फिर बताये देता हूँ। 1979-80 में मवेशियों के चारे के लिए 1 करोड़ रुपया खरीफ-ररीफ में दिया गया। यह नान-प्लान था। इसी तरह से प्लान के नीचे मवेशियों के चारे के लिए 25 लाख रुपया अलग दिया गया। इसी तरह 2 करोड़ 50 लाख रुपया 1980-81 में प्रि-मानसून पीरियड में सिर्फ कैटिन के कैम्प के लिए फांडर के लिए दिया गया। यह एसिस्टेंस थी। प्लान के अन्दर 32 लाख रुपया दिया गया। इसी तरह 1980-81 में मानसून के बाद कैटिल के फांडर के लिए 1 करोड़ 49 लाख रुपए की असिस्टेंस राजस्थान को दी गयी। यह खाली मदद थी नान-प्लान। प्लान के नीचे और 22 लाख रुपया दिया गया। 1981-82 इस साल प्रि-मानसून जो मदद

दी गयी वह कैटिल और फांडर के लिए 1 करोड़ 95 लाख की थी करीब 2 लाख के। प्लान में 32 लाख 80 हजार की थी।

इसी तरह पानी के लिए जो पीरियड मैंने बताये हैं 1979-80 से लेकर इस साल तक चार मौकों पर साल में दो-दो बार 4 करोड़ 66 लाख रुपया नान-प्लान एसिस्टेंस में दिया गया। टंकियां गावों में भेजीं, रिग भेजे, कुएं बनवाए। इसी तरह प्लान के नीचे...

श्री हरी शंकर भामड़ा : राजस्थान सरकार के पास 199 टंकियां हैं जब कि 12 हजार गांव हैं जहां पानी नहीं है...

राध बोरेंद्र सिंह : आप ने जो कहा वह हम ने सुन लिया। अब हम जो कह रहे हैं उस को सुनिए।

श्री हरी शंकर भामड़ा : 199 टंकियों से पानी सप्लाई किया जा सकता है 12 हजार गावों में?

राध बोरेंद्र सिंह : 199 टंकियां ही बनेगी 7 करोड़ रुपए के अन्दर। 6 करोड़ 94 लाख हम ने दिया है इस दो वर्षों के अन्दर 18 करोड़ 77 लाख रुपया पीने के पानी के इन्तजाम के लिए दो सालों के अन्दर दिया गया। यह पीने के पानी की बात कह रहा हूँ। यह फरमा रहे थे कि लोगों को काम नहीं मिलता। सूखे का जो सख्त मौसम होता है वह मानसून से पहले होता है, आप समझते हैं छिपुटी चेंयरमैन साहब। इस साल बारिश से पहले का जो पीरियड था प्रि-मानसून उस में 7,52,648 आदमियों को अप्रैल में हर रोज काम मिला। मई में 7,77,000 से ऊपर लोगों को रोज काम मिला। जून में जब और ज्यादा सख्ती होती है गर्मी

की और लोग फी होते हैं काम करने के लिए क्योंकि फसल का कोई मौका नहीं होता न कानूनी का, न बोनो का। 9,66,372 आदिमियों को रोजाना काम मिला राजस्थान में। दस लाख के करीब लोगों को रोजाना काम मिला। जुलाई में बारिश हो जाती है और लोग खेतीबाड़ी के काम में लग जाते हैं और फिर वे काम करने कम आते हैं।

इसलिये यह तादाद घट कर 4,71,000 रोजाना की हो गयी। फिर अगस्त में 4,11,000 हो गयी और कुछ कम हो गयी क्योंकि लोग खेतों में काम में लग गये और दूसरे धर्मों में लग गये। सितम्बर में यह तादाद घट कर और कम हो गयी इस लिये कि फिर फसल का मौका आ जाता है और लोग खेतों में काम करने चले जाते हैं। नेशनल रूरल एम्प्लायमेंट के कामों पर वह नहीं आते। तो दस-दस लाख लोगों को काम हम देते रहे हैं। तो माननीय सदस्य का यह कहना दुस्त नहीं है कि राजस्थान में इन चीजों पर ध्यान नहीं दिया जा रहा है। लेकिन वह अपनी निगाह से देखते हैं और सरकार अपनी निगाह से देखती है। और जो सरकार के काम की सराहना करते हैं, मिर्चा जी जैसे, वह सही निगाह से देखते हैं। जो काम हुआ है उस की तारीफ होनी चाहिए और आप जो काम हुआ है उस को भी मानने को तैयार नहीं तो इस का तो मेरे पास कोई जवाब नहीं है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The discussion will continue.

अब सदन की कार्यवाही 2 बजे तक के लिये स्थगित की जाती है।

The House then adjourned for lunch at seven minutes past one of the clock.

2.00 P.M.

The House reassembled after lunch at two minutes past two of the clock, Mr. Deputy Chairman in the Chair.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL) 1981-82

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a statement (in English and Hindi) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for the year 1981-82 (December, 1981).

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR EXPENDITURE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM FOR THE YEAR 1981-82

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a statement (in English and Hindi) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants for Expenditure of the Government of Assam for the year 1981-82.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will now continue with the Calling Attention.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Reported Acute Drought conditions in Rajasthan and some other parts of the country—*contd.*

DR. M.M.S. SIDDHU (Uttar Pradesh): While appreciating the assistance given by the Central Government to ameliorate the conditions of the drought and famine affected areas, may I ask a simple question to the hon. Minister? Is it enough? Does it satisfy the people? Take the example of Rajasthan. Since the formation of Rajasthan, Rs. 700 crores have been spent on providing relief to famine-hit people in that State. May I have the attention of the House?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order. Now, you please go on.

DR. M.M.S. SIDDHU: Since the year 1967-68 to the year 1980-81, out of these 16 years, only for three years the State of Rajasthan has been free