

(ii) Third Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1972-73, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-8094/74 for (i) and (ii)]

The Gujarat Canal (Amendment) Rules, 1974

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 70 of the Bombay Irrigation Act, 1879, read with sub-clause (iii) of clause (c) of the proclamation dated the 9th February, 1974, issued by the President in relation to the State of Gujarat, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Government of Gujarat Notification No. GH/J/34-74/BTA-1074/4/P, dated the 12th June, 1974, publishing the Gujarat Canal (Amendment) Rules, 1974. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8108/74]

Report on fatal accident at Bassi Meo stone mine, in Ghata

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Report of the Director of Mines Safety, Dhanbad, on the fatal accident which took place at Bassi Meo Stone Mine, in Village Ghatta Bassi Meo, Tehsil Ferozpur Jhirka (District Gurgaon), on the 26th January, 1974. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-8095/74]

Notifications under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Industrial Development :—

(i) Notification S.O. No. 465(E), dated the 1st August, 1974, publishing the Paper (Control of Production) Order, 1974.

(ii) Notification S.O. No. 466(E), dated the 1st August, 1974, publishing the Paper (Conservation and Regulation of Use) Order, 1974.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT-8114/74 for (i) and (ii)]

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Scarcity conditions in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh due to total failure of Monsoon

SHRI K.N. DHULAP (Maharashtra) : Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture to the total failure of monsoon in large parts of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh causing destruction of kharif crops and acute scarcity conditions in these parts and the remedial measures taken by Government to meet the situation.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE) : Sir, this year, due to the late onset of monsoon there has been some anxiety as the sowing of kharif crops has been delayed in several parts. However, the rainfall situation has improved considerably all over North India. In all these areas well distributed rainfall has been received during last few weeks. Deficiency of rainfall persisted in parts of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh for some time. But the monsoon activity has revised in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and wide-spread and heavy rains are reported from a number of areas. These rains are likely to prove very beneficial for the standing crops as well as for sowing operations. Crop conditions have registered a significant improvement as a result of these rains. If weather remains favourable in the remaining parts of the season, we can look forward to a good kharif crop.

2. Detailed reports are awaited from the State Governments. In case scarcity conditions develop in any part of the country, the State Governments who are well equipped to undertake necessary relief measures, would be able to deal with the situation effectively. The situation is being kept under constant review in consultation with the State Governments.

SHRI K.N. DHULAP (Maharashtra) : Sir, the statement of the hon. Minister is not satisfactory. At least, Sir, I am not satisfied with the statement. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra on the 24th of July, in a Press

Conference said that out of 26 districts, in 23 districts the kharif crop suffered very severely. Because of delayed onset of monsoon in certain parts of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka and other States also, the sowing operations could not be taken up. Where the sowing operations were completed, there were no germinations and even germinated crops because of delayed rains dried away. Sir, the mischief is already done. The major part of these States suffered heavily because of no-rains condition and now, Sir, if the Government want to deal with the situation, remedial measures will have to be undertaken as early as possible. Now even though rains have started in some part of the country, particularly in Maharashtra, the kharif crops which were already standing, have been destroyed completely and now resowing operations should be started wherever it is possible. Taking into consideration the limited sources at the disposal of the States, I do not think that these States will be in a position to deal with the situation properly. As agricultural operations were not undertaken in the major portions of the States, the condition of the marginal farmers, poor farmers and particularly the landless labourers in these areas is very precarious. Unless and until, Sir, these relief measures are started, their condition will go from bad to worse. Therefore, as early as possible, the relief measures should be started in these areas. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to see that these remedial measures are immediately started.

As far as the vulnerable sections of the rural areas are concerned, the State is not in a position to deal with scarcity conditions and to start works which are absolutely necessary. The people should not come on the road and charge the Government to start these measures. And if they come on the road for getting these works done, instead of starting the work and instead of giving them bread, the States give them bullets. I am told that as far as the chronic conditions are concerned, the Central Government has adopted a policy recently not to reimburse the expenditure incurred by the State Governments.

I think, Sir, this is a very sorry state of affairs and the Central Government should continue the financial help to the State Governments to start these relief works immediately.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Sir, the hon. Member made reference to the statement of the Chief Minister of Maharashtra.

Actually rains started after the statement of the Chief Minister and naturally the state of affairs which was described by the Chief Minister has changed as a result of the rains received during the last four or five days in Maharashtra.

Sir, sowings were affected to some extent in some parts of Maharashtra. My information is that sowings were almost to the tune of 80 per cent. There will be cases of marginal difficulties but the recent rainfall has considerably changed the situation, and I do not think we should take a very discouraging view. Now in major parts of Maharashtra, even the sowing operation can be taken up.

Then, Sir, the hon. Member made a reference to relief measures. In fact, the Maharashtra Government is so prompt that they undertook in certain areas the work of providing employment under employment schemes. But I think that as a result of these rains, that also will not be so much required.

As far as the hon. Member's reference to the recommendation of the Sixth Finance Commission is concerned, it is true that one of the terms of reference of the Sixth Finance Commission was what should the Centre's role in regard to assistance to be given in the case of natural calamities like drought, etc. The Finance Commission came to the conclusion that provision should be made in the State Budget for providing relief, because they found that a lot of expenditure is wasted in such matters and if activities are taken up they should be part of the Plan. Sir, it is not true to say that the Centre is completely out of the picture. In fact, we have a very ambitious programme about drought-prone districts, which is applicable to 54 districts in the country, and under that a much larger amount than that contemplated in the Fourth Five Year Plan will be there and many of the drought prone districts will be getting relief and help from the Centre.

श्री देवराज पाटिल (महाराष्ट्र) : उपसभापति महोदय, मंत्री महोदय का जो स्टेटमेंट है उसमें उन्होंने स्थिति का सामना करने के लिये सरकार द्वारा किये गए उपन्यारात्मक उपायों के बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा। इस सदन में हर साल हम बाढ़ के बारे में और सूखा के बारे में बहस करते हैं इसलिये मैं आपकी मार्फत मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न की ओर खींचना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ अक्सर सूखा पड़ता है ऐसा भूभाग देश भर के 84 डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में जिनमें 4 करोड़ 70 लाख हेक्टर में खेती

[श्री देवराज पाटिल]

होती है उसका—बन्-फिफ्थ फ़ाफ़ व टोटल एरिया आफ द कन्ट्री है। इसका दूसरा मतलब यह है कि खेती के ग्राम विकास के साथ ही यह भी आवश्यक है कि न्यूनाधिक विकास होने से जो क्षेत्रीय असमानता होती है उन्हें घटाना है। इस प्रश्न का दूसरा भी महत्वपूर्ण पहलू यह है—धकाल के कारण हर साल सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट को स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को रिलीफ देने के लिये करोड़ों रुपये खर्च करना पड़ता है और अगर देखा जाये तो 1971, 1972 और 1973, इन तीन सालों में 350 करोड़ ०० केन्द्र सरकार ने स्टेट को रिलीफ देने के लिये दिये हैं। इसका चौथा महत्वपूर्ण पहलू यह है देश के इन सूखा-ग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में, जैसा कि मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि 72 डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स उन्होंने सिलबट किये हैं, उनमें जो जनसंख्या है वह जनसंख्या भी जो खेती करते हैं उसमें से बन्-फिफ्थ वहाँ रहती है और खास कर जिसको हम "बिलो द पाथटी लाइन" कहते हैं वह जनसंख्या उपसभापति महोदय इन सूखा-ग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में रहती है। इसलिये अगर इस सूखाग्रस्त क्षेत्रों को टेम्परेरी मैजस एडाप्ट करके मंत्री महोदय समझते होंगे कि समस्या हल होगी तो कभी वह हल नहीं हो सकेगी। दूसरा मेरा सुझाव आपकी मार्फत यह है कि इस समस्या की गंभीरता और आपदा को देखते हुए सूखा-ग्रस्त क्षेत्र के विकास के लिये बृहत् कार्यक्रम बनाना चाहिये।

केन्द्रीय सरकार इस बारे में उदासीन रहती है। 1971 में उन्होंने लोकल डिपार्टमेंट प्रोग्राम के मादरफत कुछ कार्यक्रम लिये थे, लेकिन उसका मूल उद्देश्य लोगों को रोजगार दिलाना था। यानी उस एरिया के डेवलपमेंट का कोई कार्यक्रम नहीं था और यही वजह है कि आज तक सूखाग्रस्त क्षेत्र में जो कार्यक्रम बनाये गये, वे फेलियर हुए हैं। इसको उन्होंने ड्राउट प्रोन एरिया डिक्लियर किया है और इसके बाद उन्होंने आफिसर एपाइन्ट किये। 1970-71 में केन्द्रीय सरकार ने कुछ आफिसरों को एपाइन्ट किया और उन्होंने एक कार्यक्रम तैयार किया। इस कार्यक्रम का प्रारंभिक कार्य रोजगार की व्यवस्था करने पर ध्यान देना था। कार्यक्रम को और अधिक रोजगार पैदा करने वाला बनाना था। इस सूखाग्रस्त क्षेत्रों की पुरानी समस्याओं का समाधान करने के लिये (दू साल्व डीप रूटेड प्राबलम आफ दीज एरियाज) समान्वित क्षेत्र विकास विस्तृत आधार वाली योजना बनाना चाहिये यानी इन्टर-ग्रेटेड डेवलपमेंट स्कीम आफ ड्राउट प्रोन एरियाज का कार्यक्रम बनाना चाहिये।

अभी मंत्री जी ने छठा फाइनेंस कमीशन की सिफारिश के बारे में यह कहा है—

"A positive programme for drought proofing all the vulnerable areas has to receive the highest priority in planning for agriculture."

लेकिन एग्रिकलचर मिनिस्ट्री का कहना यह है कि अभी तक सूखाग्रस्त क्षेत्र में जो कार्यक्रम चलते थे उनकी जिम्मेदारी इसकी थी, लेकिन इस साल से उन्होंने कहा है कि इस तरह के जितने भी कार्यक्रम हैं वे सामुदायिक विकास और सहकारी विभाग के अन्तर्गत कर दिया गया है। इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि उसका जो महत्व था वह चका गया है। इसलिये मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि विश्व बैंक ने इस कार्यक्रम के लिये वित्तीय सहायता देना मंजूर कर लिया था और वह यह सहायता देने के लिये तैयार है। इसको एक राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम समझकर आपको करना चाहिये और इसलिये मैं मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ पर कोई न कोई रिलीफ वर्क शुरू कर देने चाहिये। गवर्नमेंट को वहाँ के लिए एक दीर्घकालीन योजना तो बनानी ही चाहिये लेकिन वहाँ पर कुछ न कुछ इस समय जरूरी रिलीफ का कार्यक्रम शुरू कर देना चाहिये।

इस क्षेत्रों के लिये दीर्घकालीन विकास हेतु सिंचाई साधनों का प्रबन्ध तथा विकास करने के लिये सिंचाई के अंतर्गत—भूमि के ऊपर और भूमि के नीचे के सब खेतों की एक साधन सूची तैयार की जानी चाहिये।

इसके बाद दूसरा प्राथमिकता वाण कार्यक्रम भू और नमी संरक्षण का है। भेड़, पशु और बेरी व्यवसाय का विकास करना है। नई नई फार्मिंग टेक्नालाजी को लोकप्रिय बनाना है। दूध व्यवसाय के संबंध में पशुपालन का विकास करना है। इन सब कार्यों के लिये पैसे का प्राविजन होना चाहिये और पंचवें प्लान में 180 करोड़ रुपये का प्राविजन किया गया है ड्राउट प्रोन एरियाज के लिये। इसमें यह भी कहा गया है कि यह पैसा अगर पूरा खर्चा नहीं हो सकता है, तो फूड कंट्रोल का कार्यक्रम भी सरकार अपने हाथ में ले और सूखाग्रस्त क्षेत्रों के विकास कार्यक्रम की स्कीमों को केन्द्रीय सरकार को सम्भाल लेना चाहिये। जिस तरह से फूड के लिए एक कमीशन नियुक्त किया गया है, उसी तरह से सूखाग्रस्त क्षेत्रों के लिये भी एक कमीशन नियुक्त किया जाना चाहिये। आपके मादरफत मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस समस्या को एक नेशनल प्राबलम ट्रीट किया जाना चाहिये आखिरी में, मैंने जो सुझाव दिये हैं उनके संबंध में मंत्री जी को क्या कहना है ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Sir, as far as the suggestion of the hon. Member regarding the integrated development of drought-prone areas is concerned, I think, that is the approach of the Government of India. The drought-prone districts have been selected and the programmes which are expected to be taken up by the State Governments are on the same line as suggested by the hon. Member. The only suggestion with which I am not in full agreement with the hon.

Member is that the Central Government should undertake the responsibility of development of drought-prone areas in the country. Sir, the States are very close to the situation. They have closer understanding of the situation, and they are better equipped to undertake the development programmes of drought-prone areas. And, therefore, it will not be right to undertake this responsibility by the Centre.

Sir, as I have already mentioned earlier, though the Sixth Finance Commission's Report indicates the discontinuance of the previous pattern of assistance, I think they have gone deep into the matter and made very sound recommendations because wasteful expenditure under the present situation even otherwise is not desirable in this country. And whatever drought-prone areas development programmes or scarcity relief measures are to be undertaken will form part of the normal development programme, and the Central Government will come into the picture to the extent it has to. As a part of 54-districts programme, the Central Government will continue to shoulder the responsibility and my Ministry will be constantly in touch with the State Governments and whatever is demanded by the situation, we will not hesitate to take measures.

SHRI N. G. GORAY (Maharashtra) : Sir, in continuation of what my colleagues Shri Dhulap and Shri Patil have just now said, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that this question does not relate only to the districts of Maharashtra State. This year what has happened is that large parts of Andhra, large parts of Mysore, in fact three-fourths of what is known as the Deccan Plateau, have been affected and that is why, Sir, there is a good deal of substance in what Mr. Patil has just now suggested. The States alone will not be able to deal with this question because this scarcity affects large parts from every State and, therefore, it becomes a very huge question and unless there is some sort of a co-ordination, Central guidance and Central financing, it will not be possible for them to deal with this question in a satisfactory manner.

Sir, what is happening is that whenever we talk of famine or scarcity, the Minister comes here and says that for the last two or three days good rains have come. Sir, this two three day's rain is not going to wash away

the entire scarcity which has been there because of the total failure of rains for the last nearly a month and a half. Sir, in our parts there is a saying that if five *nakashwas* are gone, then what remains; nothing remains but dust. Therefore, what I am saying is that nearly three *nakashtras* one and a half month has already gone and what Mr. Dhulap described here is completely true i.e., that either the sowing operations did not take place or what was sown was destroyed. When he talks of improvement in the crop prospects all that he means is that for the rabi season something can be done and hopes that we can look forward with some expectation. I hope he will agree with what I have said. I want to ask him whether these schemes of drought-prone areas, about which he has talked in this House so often, are not going to meet the same fate as the scheme of Mr. Dharia regarding the crash programmes in respect of educated unemployed and all that sort of think.

Sir, I want to see some concrete proof that the Government is moving in the matter because almost every alternate year we are faced with the famine situation and this particular area is so prone to scarcity that people have really lost all faith. That is the position. They have lost cattle, they have lost faith and they have lost everything and every other year they come on the streets, break stones and go back again. This condition is very well known to the Minister and therefore I do not want to emphasise it further. He himself comes from that area. I want to know from him whether he is at all already to think of this question as a Central question and whether he is ready to say that the Central Government will be committed to undertake a vast operation covering the entire area, whether it is in Mysore or in Andhra Pradesh or in Maharashtra and see to it that this entire area is once for all got rid of this particular scarcity which stares it in the face every alternate year with the result that they have lost all hope in any progress or even in the possibility of having a good living standard.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : Sir, it is true that this year there has been deficient rainfall in very large parts of South India, particularly in Maharashtra, Gujarat, South Karnataka and parts of Andhra but to say that because of this and in spite of the recent rains the kharif crops would not be there, is not a correct assessment of the situation. My information is that almost 80 to 85 per cent of sowing had taken place. Now, in shallow soils

[Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde]

the crops may have got damaged but in deep soils where there had been some showers in the meanwhile, the crops will be saved.

And even for the kharif crop I have a detailed statement as to what are the sowing dates and all that but I would not like to take time of the House.

SHRI N.G. GORAY : Mr. Shinde, are you in a position to say that 80 per cent of the kharif crop is saved by these rains ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Sowing has taken place.

SHRI GULABRAO PATIL (Maharashtra) : As a matter of fact, Shri Annasaheb Shinde himself is an agriculturist. He knows, even his whole district is affected.

AN HON. MEMBER : He is speaking as a Minister and not as an agriculturist.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : I would like to give a very realistic statement. With due respect to the hon. Member, I would say that this rain has come at a very crucial juncture. We were really passing through an anxious time and had this rain been delayed by a week or more, perhaps the damage would have been more:

SHRI N.G. GORAY : You would have lost the rabi crop also. This is not good for kharif crop.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Kharif crop would have been damaged but this year the rainfall pattern has been very peculiar. For instance, this has not been confined to drought prone districts alone. Even south Karnataka area which is not a deficient rain area, had deficient rains. In Andhra also, it is the Rayalseema which is a drought-prone area but even Telengana and other coastal areas, as a matter of fact, had deficient rainfall so far. This year the pattern of rainfall was peculiar even in normally good rainfall areas. But there the sowing has taken place. In some areas transplantation had taken place and this rainfall will to a considerable extent improve the economy and prospects of kharif crop. This is my very honest assessment. I would not like to give any wrong assessment.

As far as the Central responsibility is concerned, I think the hon. Member will appreciate that in this country we have so much experience as to how to develop drought-prone areas, what relief measures are required and my Ministry was co-ordinating the greatest drought in 1972-73.

Therefore, I would repeat the—Chairman of the Finance Commission is here fortunately—that a lot of haphazards were going on, a lot of wasteful expenditure was taking place. I do not think a poor country like ours can afford all that. I think purposeful expenditure is necessary in a planned way. What is there in the recommendations of the Finance Commission, which is actually accepted by the Government of India, is a very sound recommendation. It actually draws our attention to even providing relief but in a planned way and there is no question of getting out of that responsibility. In fact, according to the previous pattern the total budget provision for natural calamities was only Rs. 18 crores but according to the new recommendations, it will be Rs. 54 crores. Even in case some State Governments say that this is not adequate and that they would be prepared to take up the next years' plan for development, they can approach the Centre and to the extent possible the finances will be made available to them. Centre would not like to shirk the responsibility. It is a very sound approach, that is my understanding of the situation. Drought-prone areas programme is of course a separate programme and that would continue in a much expanded form as compared to the Fourth Plan.

DR. K. NAGAPPA ALVA (Karnataka) : Sir, unprecedented drought conditions have been prevailing during the last two or three months. In the three districts, Mysore, Mandia and Hasan and some other districts of Karnataka we are facing drought because we did not have the expected rainfall and because of this the sufferings of the people are terrible. In addition to the above areas, certain areas of South Canara have also suffered terribly due to floods. You must have realised the extent of loss to the crops, sufferings of the people and damage to the houses. You must have read in the papers that during the last 50 years we did not have such a situation. So, Sir, I would like to know what action the Government has taken so far and how much help they have given and what action they propose to take immediately on the representation of the State Government.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Sir, as far as the floods are concerned, though it is a matter of concern to all of us, I think I would request the hon. Member to put the question to the appropriate Minister. As far as the south Karnataka area is concerned, I have already made a reference that there is a deficient rainfall in that region which was rather abnormal. Yesterday I myself spoke to the Agricultural

Minister of Karnataka and he gave me an assessment of the prospects of the kharif crop. He said that during the last one week there have been wide spread rains and these rains would prove to be very beneficial to that area. I think by and large the prospects in that area would brighten up now.

श्री शंरी सिंह शोखावत (मध्य प्रदेश) : उप-सभापति महोदय, अकाल के संबंध में माननीय मंत्री महोदय से मैं यह जानना चाहूँ कि सन् 1965-66 से लेकर सन् 1972-73 तक अकाल राहत कार्यों पर लगभग 7 अरब 95 करोड़ रुपये का खर्च हो चुका है, उस खर्च के अनुपात में फाइनेंस कमिशन ने जिस प्रकार की सिफारिश की है और अलग अलग स्टेट्स के लिये जो बजट निर्धारित किया है उसका टोटल 50 करोड़ के लगभग है, तो पिछले वर्षों में जितना भी खर्चा हुआ है उस खर्च के संबंध में स्वयं फाइनेंस कमिशन ने स्वीकार किया है, प्लानिंग कमिशन ने भी इस बात को स्वीकार किया है कि अधिकांश खर्चा अन्न-प्रोडक्टिव कार्यों पर हुआ है और उसके कारण रिलीफ वर्षों में जो प्रोडक्टिव नेचर होना चाहिये जिससे कि परमानेंट रिलीफ मिल सकता हो, इस प्रकार के काम नहीं हुए और स्थिति यहां तक है कि इतना खर्च करने के बाद भी आज भी कहीं वर्षा नहीं हुई तो हालात वही होंगे जो कि आज भी 5 वर्ष पहले हुए। इसलिए आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि सारे देश में इस प्रकार का एक इटीप्रेटेड प्लान बने जिसमें केन्द्र के रिप्रजेंटेटिव बो, राज्य सरकारों के रिप्रजेंटेटिव हों और सब मिलकर रिलीफ वर्क्स के लिये काम करे। माननीय मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि हर स्टेट में इस प्रकार के फेमिन कोड हैं, लेकिन मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि मैंने इस सब्जेक्ट पर गहराई से स्टडी की है और मैं यह कह सकता हूँ कि अधिकांश राज्यों में फेमिन कोड घाउट बेटेड हैं और आज की समस्याओं का समाधान उनसे नहीं हो सकता। उनमें बहुत बड़े परिवर्तन की आवश्यकता है। किसी भी राज्य में अगले 5 वर्षों में अकाल की स्थिति बन जाएगी तो उसका निराकरण हो जायेगा इन फेमिन कोडों से, ऐसा कहना मुश्किल है। बल्कि मैं यह भी कहूँ कि जिन राज्यों में फेमिन कोड के नाम पर पैसा खर्च हुआ पर भयंकर घोटाले हुए हैं, करोड़ों रुपये का मिसयूज हुआ है, करप्शन हुआ यह मैं नहीं कहता। सेंट्रल स्टडी टीम की जो भी रिक्मेंडेशन्स थी उनको वायोलेट किया गया कई राज्यों में चाहे मध्य-प्रदेश हो, या राजस्थान हो, या महाराष्ट्र हो। जो भी सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने फारमूले लिखित किये उनका वायोलेशन होता है। वह इस कारण होता है कि जब अकाल के कामों का दबाव पड़ता है और जनता का बहुत प्रेशर पड़ता है तो राज्य सरकार इस प्रकार के काम करती है कि जो अन्न-प्रोडक्टिव काम होते हैं। इसलिये पहली आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि भारत सरकार को इस प्रकार का एक कमिशन नियुक्त करना चाहिये जो हिन्दुस्तान में जहाँ जहाँ अकाल

पड़ता है उन अकालग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में जायें और देखें कि किम किस प्रकार के काम बढ़ा लिये जा सकते हैं, कौन से ऐसे काम हैं जो कि प्लान में शामिल किये जा सकते हैं और कौन से ऐसे काम हैं कि जो रिलीफ वर्क्स में शामिल किये जा सकते हैं। जब तक इस प्रकार की एक रूपरेखा हिन्दुस्तान की केन्द्र सरकार नहीं बनायेगी या राज्य सरकारों को इसके लिये विषय नहीं करेगी तब तक निरन्तर खर्चा बढ़ता जायेगा और इस प्रकार के अकाल के कामों का निपटारा हम नहीं कर सकते। इसलिये मैं सबसे पहले यह चाहता हूँ कि राज्य सरकारें इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था करें।

दूसरे भेरा कहना यह है कि अकाल पड़ गया तो आप यह कहें कि 80 परसेंट फसल खराब हो गई। खरीफ की फसल के बारे में मैं आपको मध्य प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री का स्टेटमेंट पढ़कर सुनाता हूँ —

“Mr. Sethi told newsmen that almost all the kharif borne districts had been affected.”

यह सही है कि राजस्थान के 6 जिलों के अन्न अकाल पड़ा है। आप यह मान कर चले कि खरीफ की फसल नहीं होने वाली है क्योंकि वर्षा नहीं हुई है और अकाल पड़ जायेगा। इस स्थिति के अन्न इस वास्तविकता से बचने के लिये अन्न भविष्य में अकाल राहत कार्यों के संबंध में भारत सरकार ने कोई योजना नहीं बनाई तो निश्चित रूप से लोगों को इस महंगाई के जमाने में अकाल का सामना करने में बड़ी कठिनाई उत्पन्न होगी। इसलिये मैं सरकार से चाहूँगा कि फाइनेंस कमिशन की रिक्मेंडेशन के लिए राज्य सरकार से कह देना चाहिये, जिस जिस क्षेत्रों में अकाल पड़ा है, कि उसके अकाल राहत के कार्य कौन-कौन से हैं जिनको प्लान में शामिल किया है और शामिल करने के बाद कौन से काम ऐसे हैं जो आवश्यकता पड़ने पर लिये जा सकते हैं। इस ढंग से अन्न हम योजना न बनाये तो अकाल की स्थिति और भयंकर होगी। इस कारण से जो जनता की समस्याये होंगी सरकार उनका निराकरण भी नहीं कर पाएगी।

SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE : Sir, I quite agree with the hon. Member that there was wasteful expenditure involved in relief measures in the past and I have already made a statement regarding that earlier. I would like to inform the hon. Member and the hon. House that we have had a very close look into some of the points raised by him during the last two or three years. Actually in consultation with the State Governments and in the light of suggestions made on the floor of both Houses we have reviewed the entire position of the different Famine Codes prevailing in the various States and we are likely to come to a conclusion whether there could be some guidelines given under the Famine Code to the State Governments

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and whether they could be brought up to date. That is under the active consideration of the Ministry at the moment.

Secondly as far as the specific drought-prone districts are concerned there is a lot of data available. During the last century the State Governments and the Central Government have collected a lot of data. Areas have been identified and we have suggested to the State Governments to prepare a master plan for each district so that necessary works are started promptly and only productive works are there.

I would not agree with the hon. Member's statement that even in Rajasthan the situation is very bad. We have been reviewing the position and in fact Rajasthan has had good rains and...

SHRI B. S. SHEKHAWAT : Jaisalmer had no rains.

SHRI ANNASAHB P. SHINDE : Rajasthan has had one of the best crops during the last few years. Except for some three or four districts the position is good. Jaisalmer for instance is not a productive area. Of course we will wish for good rain-fall in that area.

SHRI B. S. SHEKHAWAT : Barmer is there.

SHRI ANNASAHB P. SHINDE : Barmer is also very close to Jaisalmer. Therefore I do not think we should create panic or unnecessarily create a scare among the people.

SHRI B.S. SHEKHAWAT : I am not creating any panic; the panic is already there.

SHRI ANNASAHB P. SHINDE : That would not be in the interest of the people there. I would therefore appeal to the hon. Member not to create panic in this matter.

श्री भैरों सिंह शेखावत : सभापति, महोदय, मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि राजस्थान के बहुत जिलों में वर्षा नहीं हुई। वहाँ की राज्य सरकार ने जनता के साथ बड़ी खोखाबाजी की कि जोधपुर, जैसलमेर और बाड़मेर आदि जिलों में पानी नहीं पहुँचाया।

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN (Kerala): The seriousness of the drought in Maha-Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh has been well brought out. Some of the areas have been continuously in the grip of drought which I think is unprecedented. The peasants not only in

Maharashtra but in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and so on, particularly poor peasants, are in a very bad condition. According to the statement of the Maharashtra Chief Minister in 23 of the 26 district the kharif crop has been very seriously affected. Despite all this there has been no effective programme by the Government to checkmate the onslaught of the vagaries of the monsoon. In Mysore District for instance there is serious drought while in the southern parts of Karnataka there is flood. Similarly in Kerala we have serious floods in some areas and drought conditions in other areas. The problem has to be considered in its totality of the vagaries of the monsoon. They are two sides of the same problem, floods in certain areas causing damages and drought in some other areas equally causing damages. The Government must bring forward a scheme by which the vagaries of Nature could be effectively controlled. The question really is how long are the people of India to be kept to ransom by the vagaries of Nature and what concrete steps the Government of India is taking. Sir, I am really surprised by the usual light-hearted merry-go-round manner of dealing with the problem by the Government which sometimes gets reflected in the Minister's statements in Parliament, to the effect that the Government is doing everything, it is giving assistance to the State Governments which is very paltry and passing the buck on to the State Governments.

The Minister talked about a master-plan. I would like to know why is it that no master-plan for the control of drought and flood has so far been made. Even in the Fifth Plan document the allocation for flood control and drought-prone programmes and so on is a meagre allocation which cannot even touch the fringe of the problem. Regarding irrigation projects very often Members of Parliament have been laying emphasis on medium and small irrigation projects, but the Government makes massive investments on large projects which do not have any pay-off in the immediate future. Regarding relief measures I would suggest that the Government should take it up on a war footing. Corruption in the administration regarding the utilisation of relief money should be stopped forthwith. I would suggest that the Government should change the famine code. A large number of memoranda from various people have suggested the concrete manner in which the famine code

should be changed. So far no effective measures have been taken. I would suggest that the famine code should be appropriately modified, so that this problem can be solved more effectively. Lastly, I would refer to the question of Central assistance. Every time such an issue is brought forward in the Rajya Sabha or the Lok Sabha the concerned Ministers say that some assistance is being given, that the Finance Commission has made certain recommendations and they would like the State Governments to provide massive assistance to the needy. While States like Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka suffer from drought, States like Kerala suffer from flood which is the other side of the coin, leading to catastrophe and tragedy on a large scale. Therefore, I suggest that we should give massive assistance to State Governments outside the Plan and ensure that whatever relief measures the State Governments want to implement are effectively implemented and they are not starved of resources. Today all the State Governments are in such a financial crises that they cannot undertake even developmental measures. Unless the Central Government takes the responsibility of providing massive assistance outside the Plan, this kind of pleading that the State Governments should take effective measures will be infructuous. I would request the Minister to take this into account.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : The hon. Member has made a suggestion that we should effectively control the vagaries of nature. I do not know how it could be controlled. It is a difficult subject and I would not like to dilate on that. As far as relief measures are concerned, I have already explained the position adequately in my earlier replies. Regarding the other suggestion of the hon. Member it will not be possible to provide assistance outside the Plan except under the conditions which I have explained earlier.

SHRI S. W. DHABE (Maharashtra): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to put a question. It has been admitted that from 1971 onwards Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, a part of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and a part of Madhya Pradesh are always having famine and a large number of workers have to suffer. The figures show that in Maharashtra alone they had to provide succour to 46 lakh agricultural workers. Now, saying that the Maharashtra Government is facing the problem is no reply. What is the Central Government

going to do? It has been stated that the Sixth Finance Commission's recommendations have been accepted. You are issuing Ordinances whereby the workers are asked to sacrifice and deposits have to be made by them. Now, what steps are the Government going to take? Agricultural production is going to be affected. Cotton, wheat and groundnut could not be sown. The season for 25 per cent of this category of crop is already over and re-sowing will have to be made. I would like to know from the Minister whether they are going to consider the question of agricultural workers. Agricultural production has to be tackled on a war-footing. You just say that the Finance Commission's recommendation has been accepted and stop there. It is not only a question of agricultural production, but the employment of a large number of workers who will be without employment because there is famine in many parts of the country.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : The State Governments will take necessary steps to provide employment if in any part of the country acute scarcity conditions develop. That is what I have submitted earlier. The Central Government will continue to co-ordinate drought relief measures, if need be, in times to come.

SHRI BIRA KESARI DEO (Orissa) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Minister in his original statement has very correctly stated that Orissa has not yet got any rains even though other parts like Maharashtra, North Canara and Western Andhra Pradesh have already got rains within the last three or four days. It is very correct. Even the Hirakud dam in Orissa is not yet full. Naturally the canals have not yet started to flow. That is why only today you must have read in the papers that when the Food Minister of West Bengal visited Bhubaneswar to get 8,000 tonnes of rice from there, very correctly the Chief Minister of Orissa refused to hand over the rice because Orissa itself is facing shortage in food. So, Sir, I suggest that the Government of India should take in its stock whatever food we have got at present in the whole country and see to it that all those States which are either suffering or are likely to suffer due to drought for these one or two months more get ample food for their people. This is suggestion number one.

Secondly, when the hon'ble Annasaheb very recently visited Orissa along with the Prime Minister to discuss the question of giving

[Shri Bira Kesari Deo]

impetus to agricultural operations in Orissa, the people of Orissa had great hopes that something would happen although the monsoons has failed. Orissa does not need big amounts by way of funds. What we need is technical know-how to change the traditional rice production to some other varieties of cereals. For example, up till now our farmers do not know how to grow wheat. That is why in addition to the money that Orissa might get for boosting agricultural production according to new thinking, I would request the Minister of Agriculture, Shri Annasaheb Shinde, to visit Orissa at least once a month to give moral courage to the Orissa people.

Lastly, Dr. Kurian has very correctly said that the monsoon is holding the people to ransom. He forgot to mention in this connection the role of the astrologer. The astrologer has his day because presently there is no official agency to give a correct assessment of the monsoon to the poor agriculturist in the villages. He has to depend on the astrologers and naturally they are exploited. Therefore, there should be an agency under the Ministry of Agriculture directly to give a correct forecast as to when the monsoon will come, how it will behave and which part of the country will get the rain, when and how.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE : Sir, as far as the food situation in Orissa is concerned on 1.7.1974 the stock position with the State Government was about 1,64,000 tonnes of rice. In addition to that we continued to make allotment of wheat from the Central pool every month to Orissa. I think the food situation need not present any difficult position in the near future. Of course, the rainfall there continues to present some difficulty. But we are constantly in touch with the State Government. The suggestion of the hon'ble Member that wheat and some other crops need to be encouraged is a very right suggestion because we find that in Orissa unemployment in rural areas poses a very serious problem. This needs diversified agriculture bringing in double cropping etc. These are problems which are being discussed in the State Government. We are proceeding in that direction.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Shrimati Adivarekar. But before she puts her question I may say that I have called enough number of Members from Congress from Maharashtra. There are some names which have come from Mysore and Andhra. (*Interruption*) The

lady has been called. But I am trying to tell you that after the lady I am not going to call Members whose names are there on the Order Paper. But I would like to call one Member at least from Mysore and Andhra Pradesh.

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : You must turn to Bihar also.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I could finish the Calling Attention if I wanted to. But I would not do that. I would like to give opportunity to Members from other States to which the Calling Attention also refers.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, it is a well-known fact that the 15 districts that have been affected by drought are continuously having this drought since the last more than three years. I would like to know whether we will always be having these temporary measures which are taking just to have a little patch-work, to give relief to the agriculturists and labourers who are affected by drought. Or are we going to devise some permanent remedies for these drought prone areas ? The drought is a permanent feature for these areas. Nature has been so unkind to these areas that every time, for the last so many years, these areas have been hit by drought. Is the Government going to consider some permanent remedies, or is the Government going to be always very optimistic to say that assistance will be given when the situation arises? I would like to know whether the Central Government will consider taking some timely steps to meet the minimum requirements of the State in regard to these drought affected areas by giving them special assistance and also by taking up measures on a permanent basis for these drought prone areas. I would also like to know whether the Ministry will take up these measures along with the other allied Ministries so that the measures will have the top-most priority with the concerned Ministries also.

SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE: Sir, I entirely share the view of the hon. lady Member that the measures should be of a permanent nature. In fact, I have said that we have suggested to the State Government that there should be a master plan for those districts and the measures which are to be taken should be more or less of a permanent nature, which would add to the development of the economy of that area.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY (Karnataka): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Minister, while answering the Calling Attention motion on this subject, did not give a proper reply particularly with regard to the question of Karnataka. In Karnataka, particularly in South Karnataka i.e. the old Mysore area. Chitradurg, Tumkur, Bellary, Bangalore, Kolar, Hassan, Mandya, Mysore and Shimoga were affected. Four or five districts in South Karnataka have been chronically famine-stricken areas and there is very scanty rainfall there. Even if there was some rainfall when the sowing was done, the crops have withered away. No relief works worth the name have been undertaken in those areas. Neither permanent nor semi-permanent nor works with regard to construction of roads have been undertaken there. There is difficulty even for drinking water in many villages in those areas. There is no fodder at all for the cattle in those areas and people are leaving those places in search of jobs elsewhere. The situation in Chitradurg, Tumkur and Bellary is worse than what it was in Gulbarga last year. In Gulbarga about Rs. 65 crores were spent on famine relief works. Out of these Rs. 65 crores, only Rs. 45 crores were paid by the Government of India. The remaining amount of Rs. 20 crores, which Mysore has spent, has not been paid by the Government of India. Therefore, the Government of Karnataka is hesitating to undertake any relief work worth name in these areas. I am sure the Government of Karnataka must have approached the Central Government for adequate funds for relief works. Permanent relief works should be undertaken. That will give employment for a large number of people affected by this drought in these areas.

Particularly the feeder channels to Ranikere Vanivilas Sagar and Upparbudhi projects should be undertaken so that permanent relief may be given to these people so that they may get good irrigation facilities. I would also like to bring to the notice of the Minister that in June 1973, 30,000 tons of wheat were allotted to Mysore, but now only 5000 tons per month have been allotted to Mysore. This has created a very difficult situation in Karnataka. Prices are soaring. Wheat is not available. Jawar is not available. Bajra is not available. These things are not available at reasonable prices. I would like to know what the Government of India is going to do to help this famine stricken area.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : As far as food part is concerned, we continue to allot 5000 tons of wheat and 10000 tons of coarse grains—that is 15000 tons. In addition to that, under our wheat policy, about 36000 tons of wheat would be given to Karnataka from Punjab and Haryana. Therefore, food situation should not present a problem in Mysore. Then as far as rainfall conditions are concerned, the honourable Member must be aware that in the last one or two weeks there has been considerable improvement in the rainfall situation in South Karnataka and that should go a long way in providing necessary relief for sowing operations, etc. I have been examining the situation in Karnataka and I find that kharif crop can be sown by August for so and therefore, there should not be much damage to the economy.

श्री सिकन्दर अली बज्द (महाराष्ट्र) : मैं शिन्दे साहब से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि मराठवाड़ा के लिये आप ने क्या किया है ? उसके लिये आप ने कुछ किया है या नहीं और यह इसलिये वहाँ कहीं कहत न पड़ जाए जैसे कि दो साल पहले पड़ा था । हमारे लोग पता नहीं फावड़े को फावड़ा क्यों नहीं कहना चाहते ? कहत तो पड़ा था और अभी वहाँ पानी नहीं बरसा है । मेरे पास इत्तला है कि महाराष्ट्र और कर्नाटक में कहत है । मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह जो आपने स्टेट्स बनाये हैं इनको आप तोड़िये और इरिगेशन की पालिसी एक रखिये । कहत के लिये अपनी एक पालिसी रखिये । ऐसा किये बिना कुछ नहीं हो सकता । लेकिन इस के साथ ही मेरी दरखास्त है कि आप मराठवाड़ा को तो बचाइये । आप की क्या है मुझे नहीं मालूम लेकिन मेरी इत्तला तो है कि वहाँ बहुत बड़ा कहत पड़ गया है । अभी से ।

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE : Marathwada is very close to my district and all my sympathies to my honourable friend there. Fortunately Marathwada has received very widespread rains during the last week. And even otherwise, Maharashtra Government is very alert and they are in touch with the situation there and are taking steps to help the farmers there in all respects.

श्री आर०डॉ० जगतब एवरगोयंकर (महाराष्ट्र) : जनाब नायाब सदर, मेरे से पहले बोलने वाले दोस्त ने जो कुछ आप के सामने कहा है उसी सिलमिले में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ की हालत बहुत नाजुक है और अभी हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब ने जो जवाब दिया उसे सुन कर मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि शायद सही रिपोर्ट उन के पास पहुंची नहीं है । हाल ही में, 27 तारीख को वहाँ के चीफ मिनिस्टर

[श्री आर०डी० जगतब एवरगोपेकर]

ने जो एक मीटिंग औरंगाबाद में बुलाई थी उस में सभी एम०एल०एज० और एम०पी०जे० थे और जिला परिषद् के लोग भी थे। वहां जो चर्चा हुई और वहां जो बातें कही गयीं और वहां जिन हालात का इजहार किया गया उस से पता चलता है कि अब बारिश वहां गिरने से भी कोई असर होने वाला नहीं है क्योंकि खरीफ की फसल तकरीबन जाया हो चुकी है, खत्म हो चुकी है और हमारे आनरेबिल मिनिस्टर साहब एग््रीकल्चर में काफी माहिर हैं, मुझे उन से यह बिनती करना है कि वह एक दफा हमारे इलाके का दौरा करें। अगर उन्होंने वहां का दौरा किया तो उन को वहां के सही हालात मालूम हो जायेंगे दूसरा प्राबलम जो अभी वहां उठ रहा है वह यह है कि वहां चूहे फसलों को खराब कर रहे हैं। हम इंसानों की तो फौमली प्लानिंग कर सकते हैं लेकिन चूहों की फौमली प्लानिंग करना बड़ा मुश्किल है। तो मैं इस प्राबलम की तरफ भी मिनिस्टर साहब का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। इन चूहों को मारने के लिए भी आप को कोई प्रोग्राम बनाना पड़ेगा। उन्होंने बहुत सी फसल को कुत्तर दिया है और बड़ा बहुत नुकसान हो रहा है। यह मैं नहीं कह रहा हूँ बल्कि बड़ा के चीफ मिनिस्टर के सामने यह सवाल आया और उन्होंने इस चीज को महसूस किया है।

तो मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि ये कहतशुदा जो हालात है, इनके बारे में सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट जब तक इम मसले को हल करने के लिये कोशिश नहीं करेगी—क्योंकि स्टेट्स के पाम यह मसला हल करने के लिये ताकत कम है—तब तक यह काम ठीक नहीं हो सकता। स्टेट्स की माली हालत आज ठीक नहीं है।

I P. M.

इसलिये मैं दरबन्दास्त करूंगा कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को इस सवाल पर गम्भीरता से विचार करना चाहिये। मुझे आशा है कि जब यह अहम सवाल इस सदन के सामने आया है तो सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट कुछ जरूर कार्यवाही करेगी।

इतना कहकर मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :

I am thankful to the hon. Member for inviting me to his district. I shall take note of it and see that I am in a position to visit his district as soon as it is possible. I am aware that the district from which the hon. Member comes has some difficult situation as a result of failure of rains during the last five to six weeks. But I am glad to mention that Marathwada had some recent rains. We are in touch with the Maharashtra Government and the situation is expected to improve considerably there. Maharashtra Government has a very well organised relief set up and they are also looking into the situation there. If there is anything more that is needed, we will be glad to do it.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE GOVERNMENT BUSINESS FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING 5TH AUGUST, 1974

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI OM MEHTA) : Sir, I beg to announce that the Government business in this House for the next week will consist of —

1. Consideration and return of the Pondicherry Appropriation Bill, 1974, as passed by the Lok Sabha.

2. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Amendment Ordinance, 1974 and consideration and passing of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 1974.

3. Consideration and passing of the Press Council (Amendment) Bill, 1974.

4. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Indian Iron and Steel Company (Taking over of Management) Amendment Ordinance, 1974 and consideration and passing of the Indian Iron and Steel Company (Taking over of Management) Amendment Bill, 1974.

5. Consideration and passing of :—

(a) The Alcock Ashdown Company Limited (Acquisition of Undertakings) Amendment Bill, 1974.

(b) The Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Bill, 1974, as passed by the Lok Sabha.

6. Consideration and return of the Direct Taxes (Amendment) Bill, 1974, as passed by Lok Sabha.

7. Discussion under Rule 176 on the reported harassment, victimization and break in service of thousands of Railway employees for their participation in the recent railway strike.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : We would like to know when the discussion will take place.

SHRI OM MEHTA : I think it was agreed that it would be on Tuesday.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I am glad that he has agreed to it.

With regard to business, we want to know how long we want to continue this session so that we can fix our programme accordingly. I