

**श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालाजी चौरडिया :** क्या श्रीमन्, यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि आगरा में एक अनुपम कलाकृति जो कि राधा स्वामी मंदिर के नाम से बनाई जा रही है, वहां पर बहुत से टूरिस्ट देखने के लिए जाते हैं, वहां के रास्ते के बारे में भी खयाल करेंगे ताकि वहां का मार्ग टूरिस्टों के जाने के लिए सुविधाजनक हो सके और यह स्थान भी टूरिस्ट के पैम्फलेट में स्थान पा सके ?

**डा० करण सिंह :** वहां पर राधा स्वामी का जो मंदिर है, वह बहुत ही विशाल मंदिर है, लेकिन जिस तरह से वह बन रहा है, उसमें शायद 50 और 100 साल लग जायेंगे। जब तक वह पूर्ण नहीं हो जाता है तब तक मैं समझता हूं कि वहां पर टूरिस्टों के जाने की सम्भावना नहीं होनी चाहिए। बैसे तो उस स्थान के लिए मार्ग जाता है, लेकिन जब वह पूर्ण हो जायेगा तो उस मार्ग की ओर भी विशेष ध्यान दिया जायेगा।

### बिहार में अकाल

\*89. **श्री राजनारायण :** क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार में अकाल की स्थिति का मुकाबला करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार तथा बिहार सरकार की एक संयुक्त समिति गठित की गई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो समिति के गठन, कर्तव्यों और उपलब्धियों का व्यौरा क्या है ?

†[FAMINE IN BIHAR

\*89. **SHRI RAJNARAIN:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Joint Committee of the Central Government

and the Government of Bihar has been constituted to meet the famine situation in Bihar; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the constitution, duties and achievements of the Committee?]

**खाद्य कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकारिता मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री डी० एर्रिंग) :** (क) जी हां।

(ख) एक विवरण सभा के पटल पर रखा जाता है।

### विवरण

समिति में इस समय निम्नलिखित सदस्य हैं :—

1. केन्द्रीय खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकारिता मंत्री—अध्यक्ष
2. बिहार के मुख्य मंत्री—सदस्य
3. डा० रामसुभग सिंह, संसदीय कार्य तथा संचार मंत्री—सदस्य
4. बिहार के उपमुख्य मंत्री सदस्य
5. बिहार के राजस्व मंत्री—सदस्य
6. भारत सरकार के सचिव, खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्रालय (कृषि विभाग)—सदस्य
7. भारत सरकार के सचिव, वित्त मंत्रालय (व्यय विभाग)—सदस्य
8. भारत सरकार के सचिव, खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्रालय (खाद्य विभाग)—सदस्य सचिव
9. बिहार सरकार के मुख्य सचिव—सदस्य
10. सहायता आयुक्त, बिहार—सदस्य
11. विकास आयुक्त, बिहार—सदस्य

समिति का कार्य बिहार में सूखे की स्थिति पर निगरानी रखना और समय

समय पैदा होने वाली स्थिति का मुकाबला करने के लिए बिहार सरकार अथवा भारत सरकार द्वारा जो उपाय किये जाते हैं, उनके बारे में सुझाव देना है।

समिति की तीन बैठक, नई दिल्ली में 27 दिसम्बर, 1966 को और पटना में 2 फरवरी, 1967 और 24 मार्च, 1967 को हुई है।

समिति द्वारा सहायता कार्यक्रमों की समीक्षा करने से इन कार्यक्रमों को शीघ्रता-पूर्वक तथा अधिक दक्षता से कार्यान्वित करने में सहायता मिली है।

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI D. ERING): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### STATEMENT

The Committee consists of the following at present:—

1. Union Minister for Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation—*Chairman*.
2. Chief Minister of Bihar—*Member*.
3. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Communications—*Member*.
4. Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar—*Member*.
5. Revenue Minister of Bihar—*Member*.
6. Secretary to the Govt of India, Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Agriculture)—*Member*.
7. Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Finance

†[ ] English translation.

(Department of Expenditure)—*Member*.

8. Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Department of Food)—*Member-Secretary*.

9. Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar—*Member*.

10. Relief Commissioner, Bihar—*Member*.

11. Development Commissioner, Bihar—*Member*.

The function of the Committee is to keep a watch on the drought situation in Bihar and to suggest measures that might be taken either by the Bihar Government or by the Government of India for meeting the situation as may develop from time to time.

The Committee has met thrice, on 27th December 1966 at New Delhi and on 2nd February 1967 and 24th March 1967 at Patna.

The review of the relief programmes by the Committee has helped in their speedy and more efficient implementation.]

श्री राजनारायण : क्या मंत्री जी यह बतायेंगे कि यह जो समिति गठित हुई है, जिसका विवरण पटल पर रखा गया है, इसके पूर्व भी कोई समिति थी और अगर थी, तो उसमें कौन-कौन के सदस्य थे ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : I have no information about the previous Committee if it was in existence at all. I will try to get the information for the hon. Member.

श्री राजनारायण : क्या सरकार यह बतायेगी कि यह जो समिति 11 सदस्यों की बनी है, यह कब बनी और अब तक इस समिति की ओर से संपूर्ण बिहार में जो भुखमरी है और अन्न की कमी से जो मौत हो रही है, उनका सामना करने के लिये क्या क्या सुझाव दिये गये और उन सुझावों पर केन्द्र सरकार ने अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की ?

**SHRI ANNASAHAB SHINDE:** This Committee was set up in the month of December, 1966 and so far the Committee has had three meetings, one on 27th December, 1966 at New Delhi and then on 2nd February 1967 and on 24th March 1967 at Patna. The Committee considered a variety of matters. I can give a long list but I do not think I should take the time of the House but most of the important matters in regard to giving relief to the drought-affected areas were considered and as far as Central assistance to the drought-affected areas was concerned, the Central Government promised that financial difficulties would not come in the way of the Bihar Government if it decided to undertake more and more drought relief operations. A number of specific problems were discussed, for instance the number of fair price shops were to be increased. During the last 2 or 3 months about 4,000 more fair price shops have been opened and it was decided that as far as possible each Panchayat should have a fair price shop. Not only that but if a fair price shop is opened, foodgrains should be available within 24 hours after the opening of the shop. There were a number of suggestions considered. I do not know what the hon. Member wants exactly and if he wants any specific question to be answered, I will be prepared to do it.

**श्री राजनारायण :** श्रीमन्, मैं फिर आपसे अर्ज कर रहा हूँ कि मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप एक व्यवस्था दे दें कि मिनिस्टर तैयार हो करके आया करें। मिनिस्टर के जवाब में ही यह शामिल है कि यह कमेटी दूसरी है, इसके पहले भी एक कमेटी बनी थी; क्योंकि मिनिस्टर साहब ने बताया कि दिसम्बर, 1966 में पहली बैठक हुई। दिसम्बर, 1966 में वहाँ कांग्रेस की सरकार थी और अब वहाँ पर गैर-कांग्रेसी सरकार है। तो साफ है कि वहाँ अब दो कमेटियाँ, एक पहली कांग्रेस सरकार की कमेटी और दूसरी गैर-कांग्रेसी कमेटी। इसलिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि जब

मिनिस्टर लोग आया क, 10 पेपर 1 कर आया क।

अब हमारा सवाल यह उठता है कि समिति की तीन बैठकें नई दिल्ली में 27-12-66 को, पटना में 2-2-67 और 24-3-67 को हुई हैं। 24-3-67 को जो बैठक पटना में हुई है, उस बैठक में क्या समिति ने यह मांग की थी कि पूरे बिहार को अकालग्रस्त क्षेत्र घोषित कर दिया जाय। चूँकि गया में, आरा में, सहरसा में लोग भूख से मर रहे हैं, इसलिये माननीय जयप्रकाश नारायण जो ने और जो पहले कमेटी बनी थी जिसका रिफ्रेंस श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी जी ने यहाँ पर दिया था, उन्होंने भी उसकी मांग की थी। लेकिन खाद्य मंत्री, श्री जगजीवन राम का जो परसों अखबारों में बयान आया है कि हम बिहार को अकालग्रस्त क्षेत्र घोषित करने के लिये तैयार नहीं हैं और बिहार की मांग को हमने ठुकरा दिया, इसका क्या कारण है?

**श्री सभापति :** ठुकरा दिया।

**श्री राजनारायण :** “ठुकरा दिया” शब्द हमारा है। हम अपना शब्द जोड़ सकते हैं।

**श्री सभापति :** आप अपना शब्द कैसे जोड़ सकते हैं।

**श्री राजनारायण :** मैं यह कहूँ कि उन्होंने नहीं माना है, तो यह न मानने का मतलब ठुकराना होता है। तो केन्द्रीय सरकार ने बिहार की मांग को ठुकरा दिया है और मेरा निवेदन है कि फिर इस समिति की उपयोगिता क्या है। जब एक कमेटी बनती है और संपूर्ण बिहार की अन्न संकट से कराहती हुई जनता के उत्थान के लिये कुछ मुझाव देती है, तो उसको केन्द्र की सरकार मानने से गुरेज करती है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने ऐसी मांग की या नहीं की।

**SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE:** As I have already submitted, all these Committees looked into a number of things. Most of the decisions of the Committee were more or less unanimous. There was only some discussion about the requirements of food for Bihar and at present the position is this. As far as Bihar is concerned, the entire State of Bihar is more or less covered by an informal system of rationing. About 45 lakhs of cards have been distributed and three crores of people are getting advantage of this. Of course the Bihar Government representatives made a demand that the food quota allotted to Bihar should be increased. Now formally Bihar was getting about 75,000 to 80,000 tons of foodgrains. A few months earlier that quantity was increased to 1,78,000 and we are thinking now of increasing it by another 10,000. Of course we will have to examine it. I must explain to the House and very humbly suggest to the House that the food situation in the country is very difficult. The position about imports is very uncertain and from whatever quantity we are getting from outside we are trying to see that Bihar gets the maximum share out of it. At the moment out of 7 lakh tons of food—I am again giving the rough figure only—which are distributed all over the country, practically 3 lakh tons are distributed between U.P. and Bihar.

**SHRI G. RAMACHANDRAN:** My question attaches to that part of the question here which refers to the achievements of the Committee. Can the Minister tell us up to date, after the Committee has gone into action, how many deaths have taken place because Shri Rajnarain again and again refers to deaths having taken place? How many deaths have come to the notice of this Committee, deaths due to starvation, and is the Committee now confident that at least deaths will be prevented in the future even if food is insufficient in quantity? Can the Minister give us the answer?

**SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE:** I must submit that as far as reported deaths are concerned about which some reports have appeared in the press, the Bihar Government has not communicated to us that there has been any death due to starvation. Not only the previous Government but even the present Government has not communicated that there have been any deaths due to starvation.

**AN HON. MEMBER:** It was reported by Congress M.L.As....

(Interruptions)

**SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE:** I can answer only on the basis of information provided to me by the Bihar Government.

**SHRI G. RAMACHANDRAN:** May I suggest that he answers my English question in English?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** There is some arrangement for simultaneous translation. That will become redundant if this rule is followed.

**SHRI G. RAMACHANDRAN:** You have some idea about the translation. I have brought it to your notice.

**श्री गौडे मुराहरि :** क्या यह सही नहीं है कि जब यह बैठक पटना में 24 तारीख को हुई तो वहाँ पर श्री जगजीवन राम ने कहा कि बिहार को अकालग्रस्त एरिया डेक्लेयर करने से विदेशों में हमारी बहुत हमी होगी, इस लिये इस चीज को नहीं करना चाहिए ? मैं यह जानना चाहूँगा कि जब लाखों लोग बिहार में मरने की अवस्था तक पहुँच रहे हैं, उस वक्त विदेशों में हमारी अवहेलना होगी या कोई उसको देखकर के हँसेगा, इस चीज को मद्दे नज़र रखते हुए क्या बिहार अकालग्रस्त एरिया घोषित नहीं किया जाएगा ? हम यह भी जानना चाहेंगे सरकार से कि बिहार की सरकार ने क्या यह मांग नहीं की कि बिहार को अकालग्रस्त एरिया डेक्लेयर किया जाय और अगर उसने ऐसा किया है तो फिर श्री जगजीवन राम ने

वहां पर ऐसा बयान क्यों दिया ? उसको अकालप्रस्त एरिया डिक्लेयर करने से सरकार इसलिए हिचकती है कि अगर उसको अकालप्रस्त एरिया डिक्लेयर किया जाता है, तो उसका कुछ परिणाम होता है और वहां पर कानूनी कार्यवाही करनी पड़ती है और उसकी सारी जिम्मेदारी केन्द्र पर आती है। इसलिये मैं चाहूंगा कि मंत्री जो इसका सोच समझ कर जवाब दें।

**SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE:** Sir, about this demand of the Bihar Government that the entire Bihar should be declared as a famine area, I will have to find out the position, because the hon. Minister, Jagjivan Ram Babu, is indisposed today. He returned only yesterday from Patna. I could not really ascertain from him what detailed discussions took place in the meeting. The information contained in the noting which I have got does not indicate that this matter was discussed.

**SHRI CHITTA BASU:** Is not the situation in Bihar very grave? It is reported that adults are leaving the villages in search of food—to work for and get food—for the town areas. There is scarcity of drinking water. People are standing in queues for hours together to get a bucketful of water. Even the attempts to produce rabi crop over an area of 7.9 million acres were not found very fruitful, it was successful only over an area of 22,000 acres of land. Not only that. So far as newspaper reports go, out of the 587 Block areas in the State, the conditions in 508 Block areas are very alarming and people are living on roots of grass. That being the grim situation, the Government of Bihar demanded that the entire Bihar should be declared as a famine area under the Famine Code. May I know from the Minister now what worse situation than this should prevail in Bihar, what worse conditions should prevail in the State so as to warrant the acceptance by the Government of India that it was a famine-stricken

area according to the Famine Code? This is number one.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** It is a rather long number one.

**SHRI CHITTA BASU:** Number two is this. Has the attention of the Government of India been drawn to the statement made by the Local Self-Government Minister of Bihar, Mr. Bhola Prasad Sinha, early this month condemning the attitude of the Government of India to the situation of famine in Bihar?

**SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE:** Sir, the first question to which the hon. Member referred was about the drinking water supply schemes. I agree with the hon. Member that there have been large areas where there has been scarcity of drinking water. But during the last one week or so there have been widespread rains in various parts, in certain areas at least, as a result of which we hope that the difficult position will be alleviated to a certain extent. As far as the drinking water supply schemes are concerned, whatever schemes were submitted by the Bihar Government, they have been approved entirely by the Centre, and financial assistance for them would be forthcoming. There are at present about 28,023 relief works in progress on which about 3,29,000 persons are employed. Moreover, there are about 3,24,000 persons employed on 6,080 Plan schemes. As far as the feeding programme is concerned, about 1,67,000 persons are receiving free cooked food from kitchens run by voluntary organisations. Then about 3,33,000 persons are receiving gratuitous relief, and a large-scale feeding programme has been organised in collaboration with CARE and UNICEF. The number of beneficiaries, it is about 15,39,000 at present, is expected to reach the target of 60,00,000 a month later. So a comprehensive relief programme is being undertaken to give relief to the Bihar population.