

[Shri Ambeth Rajan]

defence equipments from foreign countries and ensure timely completion of defence projects.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Now, Shri Avinash Rai Khanna.

Demand To give adequate compensation to people affected By cloud bursts and earthquake in Kargil and Bhaderwah (J and K)

श्री अविनाश राय खन्ना (पंजाब): महोदय, अगस्त के पहले सप्ताह में कारगिल, जम्मू-कश्मीर में बादल फटने से वहां के लोगों का काफी नुकसान हुआ। बादल फटने से आर्मी की यूनिट में भी काफी कीचड़ और पानी भर गया। इसी तरह सारे शहर में कीचड़ ही कीचड़ हो गया और इर्द-गिर्द के गांवों में लोगों की सम्पत्ति का भारी नुकसान हुआ। सरकारी सड़क, पीने के पानी व बिजली के खम्भों को भी काफी क्षति हुई। लोग अभी तक उस त्रासदी से उबर नहीं पाए हैं। उसके कुछ दिन बाद भद्रवाह में भी भूकम्प के काफी झटके लगे। उसके कारण वहां के दो गांव तो बिल्कुल नष्ट होने के कगार पर आ गए। लोगों की पूरी सम्पत्ति नष्ट हो गई। ये गांव लखखजाना और लखदयाराम हैं। लोगों को अपने घरों को छोड़ कर बाहर खुले आसमान के नीचे समय बिताने पर मजबूर होना पड़ा। सरकार की तरफ से न खाने-पीने की, न टेन्ट की तथा न ही अन्य किसी प्रकार की कोई व्यवस्था थी। इन्हें कोई मुआवजा भी नहीं दिया गया। मैं सरकार से आग्रह करता हूं कि कारगिल और भद्रवाह में एक विशेष टीम भेज कर लोगों की गम्भीर समस्या को हल किया जाए। अभी राहत के तौर पर कुछ राशि पीड़ित परिवारों को दी जाए और जम्मू-कश्मीर सरकार को निर्देश दिया जाए कि लोगों का जो नुकसान हुआ है, उसे शत-प्रतिशत पूरा किया जाए।

Demand for inclusion of Dalit Christians in Scheduled Castes Category

SHRI T. RATHINAVEL (Tamil Nadu): There is a long pending demand of Dalit Christians for their inclusion in the list of Scheduled Castes. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has written to the Prime Minister that as a result of their exclusion from the list of Scheduled Castes, Dalit Christians remained outside the purview of all Centrally-assisted welfare and ameliorative measures. Most importantly, they were excluded from the benefit of reservation in educational institutions and employment in public services meant for Scheduled Castes. Social tensions over the status of unbalanced growth between Hindu Scheduled Castes and Christian converts have

worsened with the passage of time. The sense of alienation among the minority communities has further deepened. After extensive study, Ranganath Misra Report submitted in May, 2007 eminently justified and insistently recommended SC status to Dalit Christians. Subsequently, the Government referred the matter to the National Commission for Scheduled Castes, which also recommended the same. Further, the National Commission for Minorities also recommended it. But no action has been taken by the Government so far. This issue was taken up by our hon. Chief Minister in November 1995 as well with the then Prime Minister, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao. In 2005 the Union Government told the Supreme Court that it would take a decision based on the Ranganath Misra's recommendation. Then on 23.01.2008 the government informed the court that it would take a decision and file a reply in eight weeks' time. But unfortunately, no decision has been taken so far. Therefore, I appeal to the Government to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 so as to include Dalit Christians in the list of Scheduled Castes and render justice to them.

Demand for withdrawing circular issued by NABARD to ensure the independent functioning of Primary Agriculture Credit Societies

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL (Kerala)*: Sir, the Circular issued by NABARD, dated 22.07.2013, has directed all State Cooperative Banks to take steps to make all Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies Business Correspondents (BCs) of Central Cooperative Banks. As per the Circular, it is understood that this BC facility will be allowed to Primary Banks only if the cooperative banking system is fully computerized.

The Circular further directs to transfer the assets of Primary Agriculture Credit Societies to the books of Central Cooperative Banks/ State Cooperative Banks. Similarly, all deposits collected by the PACS would also be transferred to the Central Cooperative Banks/ State Cooperative Banks. Primary Agriculture Societies will not accept deposits on its account and will not do lending operations of any kind on its behalf. In short, PACS can only act as collecting/ distributing agents of Central Cooperative Banks/ State Cooperative Banks.

* Laid on the Table.