

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री जावेद अली खान (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

† جناب جاوید علی خان (اثر پردیش) : مہودے، میں بھی خود کو اس وشنے کے ساتھ سمبڈھ کرتا ہوں۔

श्री विजय पाल सिंह तोमर (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री अहमद अशफाक करीम (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

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MR. CHAIRMAN: The next speakers are Shri K.K. Ragesh and Shri G.V.L. Narsimha Rao.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Sir, now it is too late. I will speak tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next speaker is Shri P. Wilson.

Deaths due to falling in tubewells/borewells

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Sir, I rise to bring to kind attention of this august House an important deficiency in the preparedness of the National Disaster Management Authority.

Sir, NDMA is a specialized statutory authority constituted under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 to spearhead and implement a holistic and integrated approach to Disaster Management in India.

Recently, all of us were horrified at the plight of a young boy Sujith who fell down into a borewell in Trichy District - On Tamil Nadu. People in Tamil Nadu did not celebrate Diwali happily because of this incident. There were no programmes on television except the rescue operations of the boy. The two year old boy fought valiantly to stay alive, but even after 80 hours of rescue operations involving 800

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

personnel, his life could not be saved. In case of Sujith, even after the National Disaster Rescue Force was called in, the NDRF could not do much to save the young life. Speaking later, the spokesperson of NDRF showed the helplessness of NDRF in such cases, particularly, when the soil is muddy and slushy. It was quite apparent that the NDRF lacks state of the art technology.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Wilson, what is your suggestion?

SHRI P. WILSON: Sir, the problem is two-fold. One is that even the NDRF is not equipped with state-of-the-art machinery to perform borewell rescue quickly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time is over. Thank you.

SHRI P. WILSON: Secondly, the State Disaster Rescue Forces have no access to...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour.

SHRI P. WILSON: Sir, my suggestion to the hon. Prime Minister who is the Chairman of the National Disaster Management Authority to engage the services of IITs or leading research body to come up with specialized equipments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Question Hour.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri P. Wilson.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

New international airport near Bhubaneswar

*31. SHRI SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is considering to construct a new international airport near Bhubaneswar;
- (b) if so, what is the status of the said project;
- (c) how much of budgetary allocation has been made towards this project; and
- (d) by when this project would be commissioned?