

BOB DOLE
1ST DISTRICT, KANSAS

243 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
AREA CODE 202
225-2715

COMMITTEE:
AGRICULTURE

DISTRICT OFFICE:
210 FEDERAL BUILDING
HUTCHINSON, KANSAS 67501

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COUNTIES:

BARBER	HODGEMAN	RAWLINS
BARTON	JEWELL	RENO
CHEYENNE	KEARNY	REPUBLIC
CLARK	KINGMAN	RICE
CLOUD	KIOWA	ROOKS
COMANCHE	LANE	RUSH
DECATUR	LINCOLN	RUSSELL
EDWARDS	LOGAN	SALINE
ELLIS	MEADE	SCOTT
ELLSWORTH	MITCHELL	SEWARD
FINNEY	MORTON	SHERIDAN
FORD	NESS	SHERMAN
GOVE	NORTON	SMITH
GRAHAM	OSBORNE	STAFFORD
GRANT	OTTAWA	STANTON
GRAY	PAWNEE	STEVENS
GREBLEY	PHILLIPS	THOMAS
HAMILTON	PRATT	TREGO
HARPER		WALLACE
HASKELL		WICHITA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - December 9, 1965

DOLE CALLS FOR ACTION ON FAMINE CRISIS IN INDIA

Congressman Bob Dole (R. Kansas) today urged the Johnson Administration to begin taking some concrete action to avert a serious famine in India.

annual

Speaking at the 20th/meeting of the National Beet Growers Federation yesterday in Colorado Springs, Colorado, Congressman Dole said "a catastrophe is just around the corner for 8 to 10 million Indians and we as Americans should give it our immediate attention."

Dole recently returned from Rome, Italy, where he attended the 20th anniversary meeting of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations as a congressional advisor to the U. S. delegation.

"While in Rome, I had a chance to have a private discussion with Dr. Sen of India, the FAO's Director General," Dole said. "He pointed out to me the urgency of the situation in India as a result of this year's severe drought," Dole continued, "and I assured him that Americans would never sit idly by and allow any friendly peoples of the earth to starve if it could be prevented.

"The time has come," Dole said, "to act if sufficient lead time is to be allowed for planning, transporting and distributing sufficient wheat and other foods to India before famine starts.

"It should be made clear by our government," Dole said, "that any emergency aid granted to India at this time should be conditioned on the Indians making further necessary reforms in their domestic agriculture to insure adequate production of food in the future.

"Obviously, those responsible for carrying out the program must make certain that adequate reserves are retained by our government to meet our own future needs." At the present time the U. S. supplies about 7 million tons or 200 million bushel of grain to India. If the famine takes place as predicted, we will have to double this yearly amount.

"While the Indian attitude has been puzzling at times," Dole concluded, "they are still basically our friends and as far as I am concerned I would rather give our surplus to a friend than sell it to an enemy."

###