

LOK SABHA DEBATES

3097

LOK SABHA

Friday, 31st May, 1957

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Damage to Rabi Crops

*678. { Shri Shree Narayan Das +
Shrimati Tarkeshwari
Sinha:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether any assessment as to the extent of damage caused to rabi crops by the recent heavy rains accompanied by hailstorm has been made, and

(b) if so, the extent of loss sustained by different States and centrally administered territories?

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b) No damage has been reported from Andhra, Bombay, Kerala, Madras, Manipur, Tripura and Andaman and Nicobars. The States of Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan and the Union Territory of Delhi have reported some damages, but they are not of a widespread character. All these States, except Delhi have made only preliminary assessment of damages. In parts of Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh, damage has been larger, but assessment reports have not been received. Reports of the assessment on damage have not so far been received from the State Governments of Mysore, Orissa, West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir and

3098

the Union Territory of Himachal Pradesh

If you will permit me, Sir, I shall give briefly the information available with us so far as relief to the people affected by the damage to crops is concerned. In Bihar, we have given a ways and means advance of Rs 1 crore. In Madhya Pradesh, relief by way of suspension and remission of land revenue for 1956-57 is being given. Relief already granted by way of suspension is Rs 25,08,196/98 nP, remission is Rs 1,54,204/59 nP. Suspension under consideration is Rs 8,57,306/32 nP and the remission under consideration is Rs 9,05,448/94 nP. Relief works are to be done at a cost of Rs 34,100 m. Satna and Sidhi districts of Rewa division.

In Punjab, cent per cent remission, in villages which have been affected to the extent of more than 50 per cent damage to the crops, is given. Between 25 and 30 per cent damage, 75 per cent remission is granted. Rs 6 lakhs as taccavi and Rs 20,000 as gratuitous relief have been sanctioned. Suspension of taccavi instalments and cheap gram shops have also been resorted to.

In Rajasthan, collection of land revenue has been suspended wherever there has been affliction. Test relief works, such as village roads, digging of nadis etc., have been started. Gratuitous relief is also being paid to those who cannot earn their living from relief works on account of physical infirmity and disability. A sum of Rs 12,500 has been provided for this purpose. Taccavi loans to the extent of Rs 2,00,000 for purchase of seeds, bullocks, fodder and agricultural implements have been sanctioned.

UP. Gratuitous relief of Rs 1,57,000; loans to agriculturists, Rs 16,35,000;

relief works, Rs 25,000 Besides, in areas sustaining damage amounting to eight annas and over in a rupee, realisation of land revenue has been suspended Remission will be granted after detailed enquiries about the extent of remission necessary have been completed

So far as Delhi is concerned, fair price foodgrains shops have been opened Remission of land revenue has also been decided upon Recovery of all taccavi instalment dues has been postponed A sum of Rs 5 lakhs is being distributed as fodder and seed taccavi Another sum

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow further It is a lengthy statement

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There is only one more item Another sum of Rs 25,000 has also been sanctioned Rs 15,000 has been given from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund and another sum of Rs 10,000 from IPFT for distress relief in the affected areas has been given

Mr. Speaker: If the hon Ministers want to make a long statement of this kind, they may intimate to me and I shall allow time These are matters regarding which, the Government right like to make known to the people from time to time what exact the measures or relief are being adopted But the Question Hour is not the proper time for this Next question

Shri Shree Narayan Das: One question, Sir

Mr. Speaker: Yes

Shri Shree Narayan Das: It is good to know that all these measures have been adopted and monies sanctioned I would like to know to what extent they have been implemented What is the number of shops that have been opened in the affected areas?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Whatever the recommendations of the State Governments are so far as these matters are concerned in the affected areas, they

are generally discussed and considered most sympathetically and adequate relief is given.

Shri B. N. Tiwari: May I know whether realisation of rent has also been stopped?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: In many places it has been done I could not say where it has been done in Bihar In many places it has been remitted, not merely suspended.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The hon. Minister said that assessment report has not been received from Bihar. But at the same time he said that the Government have advanced about Rs 10 million to the Government of Bihar May I know on what basis that advance was made, if no assessment report had been received

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): So far as we are concerned, we sanctioned them a block advance of Rs 1 crore The State Government have not sent us the final estimate of the losses, but none-the-less it does not mean that the State Government undertakes no schemes of relief The State Government is going ahead with relief schemes

Shri M. R. Krishna: Is it not a fact that heavy damage has been caused to the crops in Telangana part of Andhra Pradesh and if so what assistance has been given, either by the State or the Central Government

Shri A. P. Jain: No damage has been reported from Andhra

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Which area of Bihar was affected by hailstorms most and may I know whether any relief is being given to that area or not?

Shri A. P. Jain: A number of districts were affected and among those which I visited was Patna, part of Monghyr and part of Bhagalpur and relief is being given everywhere.

Shri B. K. Galkwad: Are Government aware that due to hail storms

the crop of onions has been damaged in Nasik district?

Shri A. P. Jain: No report of any damage there has been received, I believe.

Shri B. K. Galkwad: Are Government aware of the fact that the rabi crop has been damaged due to rust in Bombay State?

Shri A. P. Jain: It may have been to a very small extent. But no damage has been reported by the Bombay Government.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I explain?

It is not necessary or incumbent on the State Governments to report the smallest damage, because they themselves are capable of carrying relief to them. Damage there may have been, but we may not be knowing it, because the State Government may not have reported.

Shri Amjad Ali: In view of the fact that in Assam hailstorms and rains are a continuing process up to which particular date the damages mentioned refer and if so whether later damages by hailstorms have been taken into account in granting relief?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It relates to all crops and all crop damages. We have tried to ascertain the extent of damage done and so far as my information goes, it refers to all damages.

Flood Control Measures in U.P.

*677-A. { **Shri Bishwanath Roy +**
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Panna Lal:
Shri Masuriya Din:
Shri Rup Narain:
Shri Dubliah:
Shrimati Tarkeshwari
Sinha:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government of India has been drawn to the statement of the State Minister for Irrigation, U.P. **Shri Rama Murti**

at Gorakhpur on 20th May, 1957 to the effect that flood control works in the State have been abandoned owing to lack of funds promised by the Union Ministry of Planning; and

(b) if so, whether Government would enable the State Government of U.P. to complete the works which have been already undertaken?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 100.]

Shri Bishwanath Roy: In view of the havoc created by floods during the last two years in many districts, may I know whether the whole question will be reconsidered?

Shri S. K. Patil: That does not arise out of this particular question, but, surely, if there is a contingency later we shall be reconsidering that.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: May I know how many out of the measures started in U.P. have been stopped and have not been completed?

Shri S. K. Patil: The question refers to a certain statement made by the Minister and not all these things.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: May I know what particular measures the Government have so far taken or propose to take to avoid a recurrence of floods in the eastern parts of U.P.?

Mr. Speaker: It does not arise. The question refers only to a statement by a Minister.

Tenders for Landing and Delivery of Coal

*681. **Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether tenders were called for giving contract for landing and delivery of sea-borne coal in the port of Cochin for the year 1957-58;

(b) if so, how many tenders were received;