

be taken by Government for permanent solution to this menace ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :

(a) to (c) According to the State Government 16 districts covering 3751 villages in the North Bihar were affected by heavy rains/floods this year. The details of the number of persons killed and loss of property reported are as under :

- (i) No. of persons killed : 29
- (ii) Population affected : 40.86 lakhs.
- (iii) Cropped area affected : 3,645 lakhs ha.
- (iv) Value of crop affected : Rs. 2880.07 lakhs.
- (v) No. of houses damaged : 53093
- (vi) Value of houses damaged : Rs. 273.07 lakhs.
- (vii) Loss of public utilities : Rs. 120.73 lakhs.

(d) The State Government would continue to take short term measures by construction of embankments, drainage channels, bank protection measures etc. Central Water Commission has also established a network of flood forecasting stations in the area to issue advance warnings to mitigate the loss of human lives, cattle as well as movable properties.

Disparity in Payment of Provision Allowance to Floating Staff of I.W.T. Directorate

2699. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the floating staff of Inland Water Transport Directorate have been getting Provision Allowance at the rate of Rs. 3/- per day since last 10 years ;

(b) whether floating staff working on

vessels under the Fisheries Organisation are getting Messing Allowance at the rate of Rs. 10/- per day effective from May, 1982 ; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to enhance the rate of Provision Allowance of the floating staff of the I.W.T. Directorate to Rs. 10/- per day as admissible to the floating staff of the Fisheries organisation ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL) : The floating staff of the Inland Water Transport Directorate is getting provision allowance at the rate of Rs. 3/- per day from March, 1983 onwards.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The question of increasing the rate of Rs. 3/- per day of Provision Allowance being paid to floating Staff of the IWT Directorate, is under consideration.

Flood/Water Management for Drought Prone Areas

2700. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the policy towards operational procedure for flood management and water management for drought prone areas ;

(b) the policy of Government towards the development of river basins since most rivers flow through more than one State ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for modernisation of existing irrigation water distribution system and for a systematic switch over to new technologies ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :

(a) The Policy for flood management includes structural measures like construction of reservoirs, flood embankment and drainage channels and non-structural measures like flood forecasting and warning and flood plain zoning.

The policy for drought management