

inclusive of Central Assistance of Rs. 1221.85 crores, has been approved by the Planning Commission on the basis of anticipated utilization by the State.

[English]

**Crash of Naval Chetak Helicopter**

915. CH. KHURSHID AHMED:  
SHRI HET RAM:  
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:  
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJES-  
WARI:  
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Naval Chetak helicopter crashed near Rameshwaram recently killing some officers and sailors of the Indian Navy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the outcome of the investigations made into the crash of the helicopter and the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRID.L. BAITHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Naval Chetak Helicopter, while on a routine patrol sortie, crashed near Mandapam in Tamil Nadu on the 31st May, 1989, killing all the five Naval personnel on board the ill-fated helicopter. A Board of Inquiry is in progress. The findings of the Boards of Inquiry are treated as classified and are not disclosed in the public interest.

**Report of Commissioner for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes**

916. SHRI BHATTAM  
SRIRAMAMURTY:

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MAN-  
DAL:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has submitted his latest report to the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether the report has revealed that about 70 per cent of the Scheduled Caste people continue to be below the poverty line; if so, the remedial steps contemplated in this regard; and

(c) the other salient observations and recommendations made by the Commissioner in regard to the social, educational and economic Status of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with particular reference to the employment opportunities and other facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) and (c). The latest report i.e. the 28th report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which has been tabled in Parliament on 9th May, 1989 may be referred to for this information.

(b) No, Sir. The report does not say that 70% of SC/ST continue to be below the poverty line. It has referred to that position in 1977-78. Since then there have been a variety of measures taken to reach the section of population below the poverty line for income generation. The special Central assistance, which is additive to State plans, the schemes taken up by State Corpn for SC/ST, a minimum share in poverty alleviation programmes e.g. IRDP, NREP and RLEGP and now the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna and the operation of Trifed were all steps to improve the economic condition of Scheduled Castes