

been fixed, taking into account the repaying capacity of the beneficiaries and are applicable for all Schemes throughout the country, it has not been possible to accede to the request of the State Government.

**Persons Employed under Food-for-Work Programme and free Food under Food and Nutrition Programme**

913. SHRI OSKAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons engaged daily in Food for Work Programme at present State-wise, in the drought affected areas;

(b) whether Government have also made arrangements for the old and infirm people, destitutes, expectant and lactating mothers and children to be given free food under the Food for Nutrition Programme; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the States in which this programme is being implemented and other assistance also being provided to the drought affected areas to help the people?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO):  
(a) Statement (No. 1) is enclosed.

(b) Yes, Sir. Under the Food for Nutrition Programme, arrangements have been made to provide supplementary nutrition daily for 25 days in a month to the most vulnerable sections of the population, viz. children below 6 years of age, expectant and nursing mothers, destitutes, old and infirm and handicapped persons in the 11 (eleven) drought affected States.

(c) The programme is being implemented in the eleven drought affected States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The details of foodgrains allocated and funds required for counterpart expenditure by the State Governments are indicated in the attached Statement (No. 2).

In so far as other assistance being provided to the drought affected areas is concerned, Statement (No. 3) giving the information is enclosed.

**STATEMENT No 1**

Sl. No.	State	Average number of persons engaged per day in FWP including special FWP (persons in lakhs)
1.	Bihar . . . . .	4.72
2.	Haryana . . . . .	0.20
3.	Himachal Pradesh . . . . .	0.40*
4.	Madhya Pradesh . . . . .	6.46
5.	Orissa . . . . .	3.55*
6.	Rajasthan . . . . .	7.65
7.	Uttar Pradesh . . . . .	4.65
8.	West Bengal . . . . .	8.00*
9.	Jammu & Kashmir . . . . .	NA
10.	Gujarat & Andhra Pradesh . . . . .	NA

\*pertains to all employment generation schemes including FWP and Special FWP.

*STATEMENT No. 2*  
*COST OF THE PROGRAMME*

Sl. No.	State	Beneficia- ries (lakhs)	No. of feeding Centres	Cost of feeding for six months excluding cost of wheat/rice supplied by Govt. (Rs. in lakhs)	Quantity of food (Tonnes)	
					Rice	Wheat
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1.	Andhra Pradesh . . . . .	4.50	4500	135	6700	—
2.	Bihar . . . . .	8.30	8300	249	12000	500
3.	Haryana . . . . .	2.80	2800	84	—	4200
4.	J&K . . . . .	2.30	2300	69	3500	—
5.	M.P. . . . .	13.30	13300	399	15000	5000
6.	Meghalaya . . . . .	0.15	150	4.5	150	—
7.	Orissa . . . . .	4.50	4500	135	6700	—
8.	Punjab . . . . .	0.15	150	4.5	—	150
9.	Rajashtan . . . . .	3.90	3900	117	900	5000
10.	Uttar Pradesh . . . . .	22.30	22300	669	28350	5150
11.	West Bengal . . . . .	4.50	4500	135	6700	—
Total . . . . .		66.70	66700	2001	80000	20,000

On the basis of the reports of the Central Team, which visited the drought affected States for an on the spot assessment and the recommendations of the High Level Committee of Relief, the Government of India had approved ceilings of additional expenditure of Rs. 156.95 crores for purposes of Central assistance to the eleven drought affected States. This includes provision for grant of gratuities relly to the tune of Rs. 12.50 crores to the destitutes and Rs. 99.91 crores for employment generation

schemes to benefit able-bodied persons among the rural poor.

A total quantity of over 28 lakhs metric tonnes of foodgrains under Normal and Special Food for Work Programmes had been allocated/released. Besides, one lakh tonnes of foodgrains had been made available to the States for launching the Food for Nutrition Programme to cover the most vulnerable sections of the population such as nursing and expectant mothers, pre-school children, old and

infirm persons and physically handicapped individuals.

Short term loans of Rs. 136 crores for both kharif and rabi season of 1979-80 were sanctioned for providing agricultural inputs.

*Special Concessions:* The Government of India allowed subsidy for seeds, pesticides and fertilisers including nitrogenous fertilisers for small and marginal farmers not only in areas covered by the special programmes of SFDA, DPAP and IRD but even in other areas where damage to crops has been more than 50 per cent. The subsidy on nitrogenous fertilisers for small farmers etc. was allowed for the first time.

In order to give relief to small and marginal farmers who are saddled with sizeable burden of debt, the interest liability on kharif loans in areas where the crops loss was more than 50 per cent had been waived provided the loans were repaid by the rescheduled dates expenditure on this is shared equally by the State Government and the Government of India.

Exports of Cattle-feed had been completely banned. Export of expeller cakes of oil seeds and de-oiled ricebran as well as compounded cattle and poultry feed had been stopped.

*Electricity and Power Supplies:*

When the present Government took over the State Governments were advised that at least 50 per cent of the diesel should be earmarked and actually made available to the farmers for providing one or two critical irrigations during the rabi season. Since diesel is an essential inputs for farmers during the Rabi season, the Ministry of Petroleum against heavy odds, made additional allocations over and above the earlier quotas and a substantial part of the additional allocation had gone to the drought affected States.

The State Governments have been advised by the Centre that at least 50 per cent to 60 per cent of the electric power should be made available to rural areas, if necessary, by curtailing consumption of power-intensive consumers like arc-furnances, rolling mills, etc. The Ministry of Railways and the Department of Coal took steps to increase coal supplies to the thermal power stations particularly in the northern region.

State Governments issued orders staying the recovery of land revenue and also for suspension of land revenue/remission of arrears of land revenue.

*During 1980-81*

On the request of the Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa Government of India deputed Central Teams during the April-May, 1980 for on-the-spot assessment of the drought situation. On the basis of the reports of the Central Teams and the recommendations of the High Level Committee of Relief thereon, the Govt. of India have approved a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 177.37 crores for purpose of Central assistance to these States. This amount includes provision of Rs. 34.45 crores for grant of gratuitous relief and Medical care etc., Rs. 79.59 crores for employment generation schemes and Rs. 37.84 crores for drinking water arrangements. Central Teams visited Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh also recently and on their reports assistance to these States will be considered.

Besides a total quantity of 6.90 lakh metric tonnes of foodgrains have been made available to all the drought affected States as well as for the Union Territories of Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, A&N Islands during 1980-81 under the special Food for Work Programme. This is in addition to the normal Food for Work Programme of 3.10 lakh metric tonnes of foodgrains. The Food for Nutrition Programme launched during 1976-80

is being continued till the end of September, 1980. As an incentive to the effective implementation of the Programme, the State Government have been allowed to utilise margin money for counterpart expenditure. The Ministry of Social Welfare have also relaxed the conditions of providing cooked food in exceptional circumstances by allowing distribution of uncooked food where the organisational infrastructure is lacking.

The Central Government has made available 2500 MT of edible oil and 1500 MT skimmed milk powder to the drought affected States for feeding women, children, ect.

The Government of India have sanctioned short-term loans totalling Rs. 38.60 crores for the 11 drought affected States, for providing agricultural inputs during kharif season.

The existing subsidy on agricultural inputs, (including nitrogenous fertilisers) to small and marginal farmers in the conocropped drought affected areas where no Rabi crop could be grown has been extended to the end of September, 1980.

#### *Drinking Water:*

The drinking water problem is being tackled on war footing in the drought affected States. Central assistance sanctioned during 1980-81 included provision of Rs. 37.84 crores for the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Besides, Rs. 11 crores has been placed at the disposal of Ministry of Works & Housing for procurement of indigenous rigs for supply to State Governments for boring wells in the drought affected areas, augmenting the normal provision under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme.

Further Rs. 4 crores have been placed at the disposal of the Ministry of Works & Housing as counter part

funds for accepting to 10 rigs from Sweden on gift basis.

The Railways have made arrangements for transport of water to the drought affected areas in U.P. and Rajasthan.

The Ministry of Defence is extending all possible assistance to the drought affected States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh for transporting drinking water to the affected villages by supply of tankers, drums, barrels, canvas tanks, etc.

The Prime Minister's 12-Point Programme for drought management provides the Basic farm work and a plan of action to fight on a war footing the unprecedented drought conditions prevailing in the country. It provides for appointment of full time relief officers in the most seriously affected districts, setting up monitoring cells at the State and district levels, strengthening of the public distribution system for supply of foodgrains, edible oil and kerosene deterrent action against anti-social elements who try to exploit the scarcity situation, smooth implementation of Food for Work Programme by ensuring a shelf of schemes at the Panchayat circle level and mounting a massive afforestation programme by tying it up with the Food for Work Programme. The Programme also emphasises preparation and implementation of contingency plans for supply of water to the affected villages and initiating advance action for arranging tankers, trucks, drums, barrels, etc. Apart from relieving the distress to human population, the programme provides for the setting up of cattle camps. The Twelve-Point Programme is being implemented in right earnest and has galvanised the State machinery at all levels.

#### *Monitoring:*

A Task Force in the Department of Agriculture as well as a Monitoring Group in the Department of Food have been regularly monitoring the

movement of foodgrains, the allocation of desel, drinking water arrangements, etc. A Control Room has been set up in the Ministry of Agriculture to monitor the drought relief operations and assist the State Governments in getting the problem regarding drought relief operations looked into expeditiously.

*Long term measures: Irrigation:—*

One of the long term measures proposed for minimising the drought conditions is to extend irrigation facilities. Out of estimated gross cropped area of about 170 m.ha. the area irrigated from major, medium and minor irrigation projects was 52 m.ha. upto the end of March, 1978. It is estimated that by the end of June, 1980, the potential created through all irrigation programme would be 57 million ha. as against 22.6 m.ha. in 1951.

Ministry of Energy and Irrigation have tentatively proposed to have a potential creation target of 8.5 million ha. during the Plan 1980-81 from major and medium schemes. A potential of 8.5 m.ha. will further be created through minor irrigation schemes. The present long term objective is to create an overall irrigation potential of about 110 million ha. by the end of 2000 A.D.

*Drought Prone Area Programme:*

Since 1970-71, the Government of India have initiated the Drought Prone Areas Programme which has been in operation in 74 districts in these States and also in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The Programme seeks to improve the economy of these areas through a package of infrastructural and on-farm developmental activities and has the ultimate aim to immunise these areas from recurring droughts. The important elements in the strategy are: (i) development and management of irrigation sources, (ii) soil and moisture conservation and afforestation, (iii) restructuring cropping pattern and

pasture development, and (iv) assistance to small and marginal farmers and landless agricultural labourers through subsidy.

During 1979-80, the Central share Rs. 4177.50 lakhs for the Programme and for 1980-81 there is a provision of Rs. 3960 lakhs. The cost of the Programme is shared between the Centre and State concerned on a matching basis.

*Desert Development Programme:*

A Desert Development programme has been taken up since 1977-78 to cover the desert areas in 18 districts in the States of Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh (Lahaul, Spiti) and Jammu & Kashmir (Ladakh). The important components of the Programme are:—(a) afforestation, shelter belts, grass-land development and sanddune stabilisation; (ii) ground water development and utilisation; (iii) development of water harvesting structures; (v) development of agriculture, animal husbandry and horticulture; and (vi) individual beneficiary scheme. Rs. 15 lakhs per Block is provided to be shared equally between the Centre and the respective States. The Central allocation for the beneficiary State was Rs. 9.77 crores during 1979-80 and Rs. 8 crores during 1980-81. The State Governments are required to make an equal matching contribution.

**Availability of Text Books Published by NCERT**

914. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken to see that the text books published by NCERT for classes IX, X, XI and XII are made available to the students