

Central Drought Relief Assessment for Tamil Nadu

2088. SHRI C. CHINNASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the assessment of Central drought relief team for Tamil Nadu; and

(b) the amount so far released to the Tamil Nadu Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI): (a) The following are the important assessment made by the Central Team on drought situation in Tamil Nadu:

(i) Scarcity of drinking water in the affected areas was a serious problem. In a number of places, the existing sources had failed and new sources had to be provided or arrangements made for transporting water;

(ii) Priority will have to be given to the provision of employment to the vulnerable population, mainly consisting of marginal farmers, landless labourers and small farmers in addition to the employment generated under the budgeted plan schemes and programmes. Special emphasis should be placed on productive works such as de-silting of irrigation tanks, percolation ponds, improvement of canals, strengthening of flood embankments etc., while construction of kucha road works be given a low priority.

(iii) Both preventive and curative schemes have to be strengthened by way of medical cover to the population affected in the drought affected areas;

(iv) Fodder situation in some areas was quite serious. Arrangements for supply of fodder to such areas may be necessary. Animal Health cover may have to be strengthened particularly for the cattle belonging to the target group under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRD) and other special programmes, as otherwise these beneficiaries are likely to lose their source of livelihood.

(b) On the basis of the report of the Central team and the recommendations

of the High Level Committee, the Government of India had approved a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 48.90 crores—non-plan ceiling of Rs. 6.10 crores and plan ceiling of Rs. 42.80 crores during the current financial year. As against the Plan ceiling, 'on account' payment of advance Plan assistance of Rs. 10.00 crores has already been released to the Government of Tamil Nadu. Further release of Central assistance for drought relief will be considered in the light of the progress of expenditure on various works approved by the Government of India, to be submitted by the State Government in due course.

समाचार सहकारी समिति लिमिटेड, नई दिल्ली

2089. आचार्य भगवान देव : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बड़ी संख्या में हिन्दुस्तान समाचार सहकारी समिति लिमिटेड, नई दिल्ली के पदाधिकारी तथा इसकी कार्यकारी समिति के सदस्य अपने पदों पर आसीन हैं हालांकि नियमों के अनुसार उनका कार्यकाल काफी समय पूर्व समाप्त हो गया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार पंजीयक सहकारी समितियां, दिल्ली को निवेश देगी कि सम्बद्ध नियमों के अनुसार वह प्रबन्ध समिति को विघटित करे और उक्त संगठन के कर्मचारियों और प्रशासकियों से युक्त एक तदर्थ समिति नियुक्त करे ?

कृषि तथा ग्रामीण पुनर्निर्माण मंत्रालयों में उप मंत्री (कृषि) कम्ला कुमारी) :

(क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं होता।

Flush System in Government Quarters, Lodhi Road

2090. SHRI ANWAR AHMED: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether flush system in Lodhi Road Government Quarters, New Delhi does not work throughout the year, if so, reasons thereof;

(b) whether keeping of water tanks for flush system at very high place (roof of 2nd floor) is the cause of non-functioning of flush;

(c) whether putting of water tanks on the roofs of first floor can result in the functioning of flush by reduction in height by 11 feet and increased pressure thereby;

(d) whether non working of flush is a health hazard to cause epidemic and can be controlled by construction of over-head water tank also; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government to rectify the defects to ensure functioning of flush and by what time?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Forest Preservation Commission

2091. SHRI HARINATH MISRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to constitute a Forest Preservation Commission comprising persons with necessary expertise; and

(b) whether Government propose imparting necessary education in our schools and colleges on the subject of afforestation and conservation of forests?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Essential aspects of nature conservation including the role of forests are already included in the syllabi of schools and colleges.

Allotment of Land to various States, Union Territories under 20-Point Programme

2092. SHRI RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) how many acres of land have been allotted during the last six months in Delhi, other Union Territories and in various States under 20-Point Programme to landless labours, Harijans and Scheduled Castes categories, Minority communities, Adivasis and other weaker section of the society;

(b) how many of them have actually been disbursed out of them;

(c) what other types of assistance, has been provided to them;

(d) what are the plans and programmes for such allotments during the next six months; and

(e) what steps are to be taken to provide safeguards to these allottees so that their lands are not taken back by various authorities and landlords etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM):

(a) and (b). The information relating to distribution of ceiling surplus land under the revised ceiling laws is given in the appended statement.

(c) Under a scheme of providing financial assistance to the allottees of ceiling surplus land, Central assistance to the extent of Rs. 15.66 crores has been released to the State Governments since the inception of the scheme. This includes Rs. 38.26 lakhs released during the current financial year.

(d) The Government of India do not fix any targets for allotment of land. They have, however, urged State Governments to accelerate the pace of distribution.

(e) The State Governments have been requested to ensure that the allottees of ceiling-surplus land are not disturbed in their possession and evicted therefrom either by the erstwhile owners or by other powerful interests. There are no reports of dispossession of allottees on any significant scale.