

mainly responsible for the poor progress in formulation and implementation of ARC schemes.

For improving upon the existing level of flow of ARC schemes in these States, the Corporation has set up a Technical Consultancy Service at Lucknow to help formulation of projects in the Eastern States where there is a backlog of development. State Governments are being urged that plans for rehabilitation of weak central cooperative and land development banks should be drawn up and implemented. States have also been requested to strengthen their ground water organisation, to have more effective coordination between project authorities and commercial banks to involve the latter in the development works, particularly in areas ill-served by the land development banks, and to bring in speedy legislation on the recommendations of the Expert Group on State Enactments having a bearing upon agricultural lending by the commercial banks.

Financial Assistance to Drought Affected Areas

1758. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY :
SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total expenditure incurred during the current year by the Central Government in helping the drought affected areas in the country, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : A statement is laid on the Total of the House.

Statement

The expenditure incurred by the Government of India so far during the current financial year by way of financial assistance given to State Governments towards drought relief measures is as follows :-

(Rs. in crores)

	Loan	Grant	Total
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	2.00	—	2.00
2. Assam	0.01	—	0.01 +

	1	2	3	4
3. Gujarat		0.20	0.40	0.60 @
4. Jammu and Kashmir		1.62	0.75	2.37 @
5. Maharashtra		13.00*	5.50	18.50
6. Mysore		3.00	—	3.00
Total.		19.83	6.65	26.48

Further assistance will be released on the basis of the progress of expenditure reported by the State Governments as against the accepted ceilings.

+ Released by Ministry of Agriculture for agricultural inputs.

@ Assistance released as arrears. Amount for Gujarat includes assistance towards flood and earthquake relief expenditure.

* This includes Rs. 7 crores sanctioned by the Ministry of Agriculture as short-term loans for agricultural inputs.

Enquiry into death of Major Bahuguna

1759. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Inquiry Committee to go into the causes of death of Major Bahuguna of the International Expedition to Everest has submitted its report ;

(b) if so, what are its recommendations ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to protect the life and general welfare and other interests of Indians participating in similar international expeditions in future ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.