

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-7333/66].

Cyclone in Madras Harbour

1555. **Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:**

Shri P. C. Borroah:

Shri D. C. Sharma:

Shri Shinkre:

Shri Hukam Chand

Kachhavalaya:

Shri Gulshan:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether a cyclone of grave intensity rocked the Madras Town and Harbour on the 4th November, 1966 causing a large number of casualties and shipwreck;

(b) if so, the details of the incidents; and

(c) the loss to life and property?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri P. S. Nasikar): (a) Yes Sir. A cyclone hit Madras city and coastal districts of Chingleput and South Arcot on the afternoon of 3rd November.

(b) and (c). The gale and heavy showers caused extensive damage over a distance of nearly eighty miles along the eastern coast. All types of communications were disrupted. One lakh fifty thousand huts were destroyed and a number of irrigation tanks were breached causing damage to standing crops. A bridge was partially damaged and a portion of grand trunk road was washed away. One ship broke into two and three ran aground.

30 persons lost their lives. Total damage is still being assessed. Relief measures have however, already been taken and the total cost by way of relief to people and repairs to tanks, road breaches etc is estimated to be about two crores.

Postal Stationery

1556. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a

number of places in our country, postal stationery and stamps are not available;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when normalcy will be restored?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) Excepting Inland Letter Cards there is no shortage of any other postal stationery and stamps.

(b) Inadequate printing capacity in the Security Press, Nasik.

(c) Necessary foreign exchange for the purchase of printing equipments to increase the capacity in the Security Press has already been released and orders for the machineries have been placed. It is expected that as soon as the machineries are installed at Nasik the capacity would be sufficiently enhanced to meet the requirements of the Inland and Letter Cards in the country.

12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

PROPOSED STUDENTS' NATIONAL MARCH IN DELHI

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over. Shri P. R. Chakraverti.

श्री बागड़ी (हिमाचल) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हम वार्ड में मेरा एक नवाल था।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्वेश्चन ग्रावर खत्म हो गया है।

Shrimati Renu Chakravarti (Barrackpore): We have tabled some very important calling attention notices. Shri Patil has made a statement. The Eastern Command people have said that it is the Railways which are responsible. . .

Mr. Speaker: I have got a call attention notice from Shri Kishen Pattanyak.