

Irrigation Schemes are concerned, such schemes do not require clearance from the Union Government and they are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments. The details of such minor irrigation schemes are, therefore, not maintained by the Central Government.

[English]

Holidays for Employees

4057. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government provide maximum number of holidays to its employees;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the country suffers a loss of thousands of crores of rupees and industries have to lose four hundred crore rupees in a day on this account;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to announce a new policy with regard to holidays in the light of the above facts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M. R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (d) Government appreciate the implications of a holiday and for this reason, the number of holidays have been reduced over the years for administrative offices from 23 effective holidays in early 50s to the existing level of 17 which includes festivals falling on Sundays/Saturdays etc., thereby reducing the effective number of holidays. Industrial establishment observe upto 16 holidays, inclusive of three national holidays. After a recent review, it was decided that no holiday will be declared in future on the death of any VIP other than the incumbent President or the Prime Minister of India.

Inland Fisheries

4058. SHRI BIKRAM KESHAR! DEO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Institute for Fresh Water and Aquaculture (CIFA) Bhubaneswar worked out any programme to develop Inland Fisheries in the Big Reservoirs in the KBK District of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to breed and propagate the Mahaseer Fish in these Reservoirs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) No, Sir. The development of Inland Fisheries in big reservoirs is not a mandate of CIFA, Bhubaneswar.

(b) The question does not arise.

Natural Calamities

4059. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:

SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE :

SHRI BHIM DAHAL :

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR :

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the amount requested by each flood affected states and the funds sanctioned and actually released by the Union Government during the last three years;

(b) whether despite the visit of Central teams to various flood affected States to assess the aftermath of natural calamities, the funds sanctioned have not yet released;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay and the time by which the funds are likely to be released;

(d) the reasons for low allocation and disparity amongst the States; and

(e) the names of the districts declared 'Scarcity hit districts' this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Details indicating State-wise assistance sought and assistance provided from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) during 1995-96 to 1997-98 in the wake of Cyclone, rains/floods are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) to (d) Assistance from the NFCR is provided for calamities of rare severity only. In accordance with the scheme for constitution and administration of the NFCR, the National Calamity Relief Committee (NCRC) considers and decides whether a calamity is to be treated as a calamity of rare severity for assistance from the NFCR. The quantum of assistance from the NFCR as decided by the NCRC, is released to the concerned State Government. The request for assistance from the NFCR received during 1997-98 from Madhya Pradesh and Manipur in the wake of heavy rains and floods is at various stages of process.

(e) Details indicating the districts affected by drought during South West Monsoon period, 1998 (June to September), as intimated by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

Status of Requests for Assistance From N.F.C.R.

1995-96

					(Rs. in Crore)
S.No.	State	Calamity	Assistance sought	Assistance approved	Date of release
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Flood/Cyclone	293.20	.	—
		Flood	582.06	21.00	23.08.1996
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Flood	50.50	10.00	23.08.1996
3.	Bihar	Flood	1102.28	21.00	23.08.1996
4.	Haryana	Flood	588.09	39.41	06.11.1995
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Flood	481.96	12.49	29.11.1995
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	Flood	211.08	18.17	06.11.1995
7.	Meghalaya	Flood/Landslide	41.13	10.00	23.08.1996
8.	Mizoram	Flood	59.99	4.71	29.11.1995
9.	Orissa	Cyclone	264.00	25.75	06.11.1995
			300.00	5.00	17.09.1996
10.	Punjab	Flood	658.00	16.16	06.11.1995
11.	Rajasthan	Flood/Drought	612.99	21.00	23.08.1996
12.	Uttar Pradesh	Flood	357.40	#	—
13.	West Bengal	Flood	631.99	21.00	23.08.1996
Total			6234.67	255.69	

* Not Considered as calamity of rare severity.

No team was deputed.

Status of Requests for Assistance From N.F.C.R.

1996-97

					(Rs. in Crore)
S.No.	State	Calamity	Assistance sought	Assistance approved	Date of release
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	i. Flood/Cyclone	125.74	#	—
		ii. Flood/Cyclone	550.63		
		iii. Flood/Cyclone	2143.00	142.00	01.01.1997
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Flood	110.53	03.00	23.12.1996
3.	Assam	Flood	415.91	21.00	17.09.1996
4.	Bihar	Flood	168.92	07.00	23.12.1996
5.	Gujarat	Flood	282.01	@	—
6.	Haryana	Flood	102.00	@	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Flood	458.37	10.56	17.03.1997
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	Flood	273.97	#	—
9.	Karnataka	Flood	621.00	@	—
10.	Kerala	Flood	342.00	@	—
11.	Madhya Pradesh	Flood	55.00	@	—
12.	Rajasthan	Flood	321.00	@	—
13.	Sikkim	Flood	43.92	5.52	17.03.1997
14.	Tamil Nadu	Cyclone/Flood	621.55	25.00	17.03.1997
15.	Uttar Pradesh	Flood	589.90	@	—
16.	West Bengal	Flood	309.00	@	—
Total			7535.00	214.08	

Not Central Team deputed.

@ Not considered as calamity of rare severity.

Status of Requests for Assistance From N.F.C.R.

1997-98

					(Rs. in Crore)
S.No.	State	Calamity	Assistance sought	Assistance approved	Date of release
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Cyclone	168.00	Nil	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Flood	105.15	#	
3.	Bihar	Flood/Hailstorm	428.82	10.00	14.01.98
4.	Gujarat	Flood	664.33	86.90	18.8.97
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Flood	609.78	24.80	5.12.97/ 14.1.98
7.	Kerala	Flood/Landslide	1106.26	12.91	29.8.97
8.	Madhya Pradesh	Flood Heavy Rains	121.36 2103.75	22.50 \$	14.1.98
9.	Maharashtra	Drought, Flood, Hailstorm & U.T. Rains	156.76	#	
10.	Manipur	Flood	59.13	\$	
11.	Orissa	Heavy Rains	151.50	#	
12.	Punjab	Flood	175.72	Nil	
15.	Uttar Pradesh	Heavy Rains Flood/Landslide	242.97 323.10	Nil #	—
16.	West Bengal	Flood	177.00	Nil	—
Total			6593.63	157.11	

\$ Memoranda under consideration.

Not considered necessary to depute Central Team.

Statement-II

Districts Affected by Drought in Various States During the Southwest Monsoon Period (June to September, 1998)

State	District
Orissa	Bolangir, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Phulbani, Sundargarh, Sambalpur
Uttar Pradesh	Pilibhit
Punjab	Faridkot, Sangrur, Amritsar
Bihar	Vaishali
Rajasthan	Jalore, Pali, Bhilwara, Jhalawar, Kota, Sirohi
Madhya Pradesh	Chattarpur, Hoshnagabad, Rajgarh, Sehore, Seoni, Shivpuri, Bastar, Mandla, Rajnandgaon, Satna, Raipur, Shahdol, Sidhi
Himachal Pradesh	Sirmaur
Jammu & Kashmir	Ladakh, Srinagar, Udhampur, Kupwara
Gujarat	Kutch
Assam	Jorhat, Dhubri, Kabri-anglong
Kerala	Wynad
Tamil Nadu	Kanyakumari, South Arcot, Tiruvannamalai
West Bengal	Hooghly, Howrah, Bankura

[Translation]

Setting Up of Divisional Office

4060. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation to set up a divisional office of the Department of telecommunication by merging Deoria and Kushinagar districts in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Mau, Deoria and Kushinagar (Padrauna) are the revenue districts falling under Mau Telecom District headed by Telecom District Manager with headquarter at Mau. Creation of separate Telecom District at Deoria is not feasible because of administrative and operational reasons.

[English]

Prasar Bharati Board

4061. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "IB Ministry Prasar Bharati lock horns" appearing in the 'Statesman' dated October 16, 1998;

(b) if so, whether the Prasar Bharati Board have been turning down the Government's instructions to re-view allocation of the commissioned programmes;

(c) if so, the facts and details in this regard; and

(d) the corrective measures propose to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All programme matters fall within the purview of Prasar Bharati and decisions in such cases including allocation of commissioned programmes are taken by them keeping in view the programme requirements of Doordarshan.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

T.V. Transmitters in H. P.

4062. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed to set up T.V. Transmitters at various places in Himachal Pradesh to cover the entire State; and

(b) the details of steps taken to promote the cultural programmes of the local people in their dialect at Shimla and other places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) Schemes for the establishment of 11 TV transmitters (LPT-1, VLPT-10) in Himachal Pradesh have been sanctioned and action for finalisation of sites/procurement of equipment has been initiated. Installation work would depend upon the availability of sites and equipment. Lead time involved in completion of these projects is about one year from the date of taking over the site. Locations are given in statement enclosed. After commissioning of TV transmitters under implementation, the TV coverage in the State would increase from present