

SHRI NEPAL CHANDRA DAS (KARIMGANJ): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a severe cyclone has hit certain areas of Karimganj District of Assam on the 9th March, 2000 causing immense hardships to the people. The cyclone was so severe that it had uprooted trees, damaged houses and badly destroyed the standing crops. The cyclone with its fury rendered thousands of persons shelterless.

Thousands of persons have become homeless and they need immediate financial help for their rehabilitation. They are at the mercy and clemency of the State Government but the State Government's poor financial condition and their indifferent and apathetic attitude towards the affected persons have added fuel to the fire.

I demand that the Central Government should immediately come forward and extend all possible financial or material help to the affected persons for their rehabilitation. I am afraid, if immediate help is not extended to these persons by

the Central Government, the plight of the affected persons would soon double in size, sorrow and miseries.

(ends)