

Title: Need to expedite reconstruction of school buildings collapsed due to super cyclone in Orissa.

SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY (KENDRAPARA): As many as 11,960 primary school and 3,779 high school buildings have completely collapsed due to super cyclone in Orissa on 29th October 1999. The money was then released from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund to reconstruct the damaged school buildings. It was decided to reconstruct primary school and high school buildings at a cost of Rs. 3,20,000 and Rs. 8,40,000 each respectively. In the process, 168 primary school and 69 high school buildings were proposed to be reconstructed in Kendrapara district. The Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) was entrusted reconstruction work of the school buildings in Kendrapara District. But only 10 per cent of the total school buildings have been hardly reconstructed so far and the pace of progress of construction of the remaining school buildings in that district is very slow.

Unless immediate steps are taken to undertake the construction work on turnkey basis and the construction work is monitored from the Prime Minister's Office, the construction work would be further delayed. As such, I request the Central Government that the construction work should be taken up expeditiously and monitored by PMO and completed before the commencement of the monsoon.