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Title: Need to provide relief to the flood affected people before onset of marsoom in Assam.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (LAKHIMPUR): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the devastation caused by floods.

MR. SPEAKER: You did not give notice in time. But in view of the importance, I am allowing you to raise it now. Please take note of it and take care of it in future.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Thank you, Sir.

The devastation caused by floods in Bihar, Assam and other parts of the country is known to all of us. The Central Government intervened in time and extended some assistance from the Central Government's CRF and NCCF and also through other mechanisms.

I am not aware of other parts, but in Assam, so far as rehabilitation of the flood-affected people is concerned, more than 5,000 people are still on the roads and embankments. The amount released from the Central Government towards the special component of IAY for building dwelling houses, did not reach the beneficiaries. One lakh metric tonnes of rice which was delivered by the Central Government in the month of December is yet to reach the beneficiaries. I hope that the Union Government will intervene in this particular issue, because it is a life and death question for them.

More over, the reconstruction of roads and bridges as also the embankments which were damaged during floods is yet to take off. Adequate money was provided by the Central Government. It is more than Rs.400 crore – CRF and NCCF combined. It is unfortunate that the implementation agency is yet to receive the grant which has gone from the Central Government.

For this year, the rainy season is going to start very shortly. For one year, it is unfortunate that the State Government has miserably failed to rehabilitate those people and to extend relief that was desired[R19].

A declaration in regard to setting up of a task force on flood and erosion was made by the Prime Minister. The amount envisaged for the control of flood under the task force project is yet to be sanctioned. The Ministry of Water Resources has not finalised a concrete action plan to implement the task force report. The utilisation of amount allocated for the protection of Majuli Island is very slow. Restructuring of the Brahmaputra Board, which was declared by the hon. Prime Minister, is also yet to take off. The Central Government may monitor

and intervene in the relief and rehabilitation work, especially in Assam so that the affected tribal people living in the embankment of the river get the benefit of the Central assistance.

13.16 hrs. (Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal *in the Chair*)

Under special SGRY one lakh MT of rice was allocated for the flood-affected people of Assam in December last year, but not a single Kilogram has been delivered to them.

Sir, with your permission, I urge upon the Government to make a statement on what work has been done in the flood-affected States of the country, especially in Assam. A statement showing the utilisation of money allocated by the Central Government under CRF, NCCF and such other assistance should be tabled in the House.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL (DIBRUGARH): Sir, I associate myself with it.