Title : Regarding need to formulate specific programme to rehabilitate families displaced due to floods in Assam.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (LAKHIMPUR): Mr. Chairman, Sir, attention of the Government is drawn about the urgent necessity of drawing a special Central plan for organised rehabilitation of landless families uprooted in the flood affected States in the country. In Assam alone, more than 10,000 families uprooted by flood and erosion during the decade are now staying in temporary dwelling houses on roads, embankments and reserved forest areas whose economy are completely shattered due to loss of usable and by erosion. They are left with no practical source of income. The one time relief provided with limited Central Relief Fund could not solve their problem. They are also denied IAY houses and employment under NFFWP or SGRY under DRDA due to their temporary settlement. Unless specific programme is drawn by the Central Government for meaningful rehabilitation of these people in line with Tsunami or earthquake, there will be starvation death and social problem with wide range of economic disparity.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central government to seriously take up the issue as a national responsibility by drawing the special plans with 100 per cent Central assistance as the State Governments are unable to manage this huge task with limited resource available with them. Immediate de-siltation measures like dredging and river bank stabilisation through mechanised river training may also be taken up to prevent the recurring flood and erosion as envisaged in the task force constituted by hon. Prime Minister. The Brahmaputra Board may be directed to ensure immediate implementation of such programme already drawn with sufficient allocation of fund.