

Title: Regarding situation caused by cyclonic storm in Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): Sir, I seek leave of the House to make a statement on the situation caused by cyclonic storm in some parts of the Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. A deep depression was formed on June 5, 1998 around 600 Km. Southwest of Goa which crossed over to Gujarat coast near Porbandar in the morning of 9th June, 1998 (0900 hours I.S.T.). The Indian Meteorological Department had constantly been monitoring the movement of the system and was in regular touch with concerned State Governments. Thirteen cyclone warning bulletins were issued between 5th to 9th June by I.M.D. through A.I.R. and Doordarshan.

According to the information received from the Government of Gujarat, 205 persons have lost their lives in the districts of Kutch (140), Porbandar (10), Jamnagar (35), Junagadh (4), Bhavnagar (1), Banashantha (2), Surat (1), Bharuch (1), Rajkot (9), Valsad (1) and Navsari (1). Two hundred ten persons received injuries and were hospitalised. Due to wind velocity of 70 to 150 KMPH, the microwave tower collapsed in Porbandar city resulting in disruption of telecommunication system. Many electric poles, telephone poles and trees have fallen. The National Highways are operating normally. There have been some reports of road blockade and damage in remote areas. Twenty relief camps have been opened and over 7,000 persons given shelter in the districts of Kutch, Jamnagar and Junagadh. The State Government is taking all necessary rescue and relief operations in the affected areas.

According to the Government of Rajasthan, one person has died in Barmer district and one case of injury has been reported in Jalore district. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, please take your seat. This is a serious issue.

श्री सोमपाल : यह कोई तरीका नहीं है। आप गम्भीर सवाल को भी सुनना नहीं चाहते। सदन में इस प्रकार व्यवहार करने का कोई तरीका नहीं है। एक दुखद घटना हुई है। आप अपने आप को नियंत्रित रखें।

... (व्यवधान)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, she could have spoken after I have finished.

श्री लालू प्रसाद (मधेपुरा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्रियों को गुस्सा क्यों आ रहा है ?

... (व्यवधान)

श्री सोमपाल : हमें कोई गुस्सा नहीं आ रहा है। सदन में व्यवहार का और मर्यादा का जरूर सवाल है।

... (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मंत्री जी गुस्सा न करें।

... (व्यवधान)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Fatmi, this is an important statement.

... (Interruptions)

श्री मोहम्मद अली अशरफ फातमी (दरभंगा): उस काम के लिए स्पीकर साहब हैं। आप अंगूठा भी दिखाते हैं और शट-अप भी करते हैं।

... (व्यवधान)

आपके एक मंत्री ने शट-अप कहा। आप हम को व्यवहार सिखाते हैं।

... (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : गुस्सा मत करो। इसे कम्पलीट करो।

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (CALCUTTA SOUTH): This is a very serious matter.

... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Fatmi, what is this?

SHRI SOM PAL: Some parts of the districts of Barmer and Jodhpur received rainfall between 125 and 240 mm, causing damage to electric lines, uprooting about 150 poles and some trees, besides killing some heads of cattle.

According to the Government of Maharashtra, two fishermen are reportedly missing in Ratnagiri district.

The Crisis Management Systems at the national level have been activated. Under the Calamity Relief Fund, in 1998-99 an amount of Rs. 154.83 crore has been allocated to Gujarat, Rs. 75.64 crore to Maharashtra and Rs. 198.56 crore to Rajasthan. Seventy-five per cent of this amount is contributed by the Government of India. First instalment of Central share of CRF for the current year amounting to Rs. 29.03 crore to Gujarat, Rs. 14.18 crore to Maharashtra, and Rs. 37.23 crore to Rajasthan has already been released in April, 1998. In order to supplement the resources of the Government of Gujarat, the second instalment of Central share amounting to Rs. 29.03 crore is also being released today in advance. In addition, Rs. 50,000 to the next of the kin of each deceased is being released from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund.

A close contact is being maintained with the State Governments and all necessary assistance will be provided by the Government of India to meet the situation effectively.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us now take up Matters under Rule 377.

... (Interruptions)

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (MADURAI): Sir, you cannot do like that just because we are well behaved. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What is it that you want to say?

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : This is a matter of national security. ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you. Please take your seat.