

**INCOME-TAX (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 1986***

(Amendment of Section 230A)

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : I introduce the Bill.

15.09 hrs.

**FLOOD CONTROL AUTHORITY OF
INDIA BILL, 1986—(Contd.)**

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Dr. Chandra Verma on the 21st November, 1986, namely :—

"That the Bill to provide for the setting up of a flood control authority of India to control floods and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad) : I raise to support the Bill. Dr. Verma has done a laudable work in bringing this measure before the House. The other day we discussed floods and droughts in this House and we discussed

that floods have become an annual affair with us ; it has become almost endemic in our system and it causes colossal damage in terms of loss of property, crops, human lives and cattle heads. Besides it causes untold hardships and sufferings.

Government has been aware of this problem and as far back as in 1954, a national programme for flood control was set up which studied the problem and made certain recommendations for constructing reservoirs, embankments *bunds*, etc. A reasonable degree of flood protection was provided to about 13 million hectares out of 40 million hectares which have been identified as flood prone.

So, in 32 years we have been able to provide some sort of flood protection measures to 13 million hectares up to 1985. In fact, at this rate, I do not think that it will be possible for us to cover or provide flood protection measures to the rest of the flood-prone areas. I think it may not be possible even to cover half of it. During First Plan to Sixth Plan we have spent more than Rs. 1700 crores over flood protection and much more on flood relief. Actually, we have spent thousands of crores on flood relief. The Minister himself said that on an average they are spending Rs. 400 crores per year on flood relief and still there has been no respite from the scourge of flood and we are suffering. I know that the Government of India has been exercised about this problem and in 1976 the National Flood Commission was constituted which made a number of recommendations in 1980. It took about four years to study and make recommendations. Those recommendations were considered and reviewed by the Central Government. On that basis guidelines were framed and instructions were issued to the State Governments to implement those recommendations.

In 1981 and 82 the Irrigation Ministers' Conferences were held at which these recommendations were discussed and the Government of India impressed upon the State Governments to prepare an expeditious plan for the implementation of these recommendations.

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