

(4) स्नातकोत्तर चिकित्सा शिक्षा तथा अनुसंधान संस्थान, चण्डीगढ़, अधिनियम, 1966 की धारा 18 की उपधारा (4) के अन्तर्गत स्नातकोत्तर चिकित्सा शिक्षा तथा अनुसंधान संस्थान, चण्डीगढ़ के वर्ष 1975-76 के प्रमाणित लेखे (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) की एक प्रति तथा उन पर लेखा परीक्षा प्रतिवेदन।

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1221/77].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CENTRAL EXCISE RULES, 1944

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944:—

(i) Notification No. 332/77-CE published in Gazette of India dated the 1st December, 1977 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(ii) Notification No. 33/77-CE published in Gazette of India dated the 1st December, 1977 together with an explanatory memorandum.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Bill, 1977, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 28th November, 1977, and transmit-

ted to the Rajya Sabha for recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make, to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 30th November, 1977 agreed without any amendment to the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 1977, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th November, 1977."

12.48 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

(i) REPORTED FAILURE OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO GIVE ADEQUATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE CYCLONE-HIT STATES IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Chittoor) I call the attention of the hon. Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he make a statement thereon:

"Reported failure of the Government of India to provide adequate financial assistance to the States in the Southern part of our country which have suffered heavily as a result of recent cyclones."

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): Sir, my colleague, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh has already apprised the House of the damage caused by the cyclone to life and property in the Southern States. The calamity has to be viewed as a national disaster and efforts to miti-

gate the hardship have to be organised at a national level. People everywhere in the country associate themselves with their brothers and sisters who have borne this unprecedented fury of nature and I hope that they will readily render all possible assistance so that the distress of the cyclone victims is alleviated.

Sir, you are aware that the President has extensively toured the cyclone-affected areas in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. I learnt of the tragic news when was at Rome to attend the biennial conference of the FAO. Cutting short my visit, I returned to the country on the morning of the 23rd November. I joined the President in his tour to Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu immediately on my return. We visited some of the affected areas in both the States and tried to make an on-the-spot appraisal of the extent of damage and the measures necessary to rehabilitate the people and their economy. There have been, as the House is aware, extensive losses to life and property. Large areas were still inundated though the tidal wave had receded. The extent of damage to the standing paddy crop is being assessed. Damage to sugarcane, tobacco and cotton, banana crops has also been extensive and there has been large scale uprooting of coconut and palm trees.

According to the latest information received by us, the number of persons who have lost their lives is 511 in Tamil Nadu and 8327 in Andhra Pradesh. According to the information available with us, 165 persons in Tamil Nadu and about 3000 persons in Andhra Pradesh are reported missing. In Kerala, 80 persons are reported to have died and 62 persons are reported missing. I am sure the whole House joins me in extending to the bereaved families our deep distress and sincerest sympathies.

I have already referred to extensive damage to crops. The agricultural economy of the areas has been

seriously impaired by a further factor, the immense loss of the livestock population. In Andhra Pradesh, 2,30,146 heads of cattle are reported to have died. The loss is estimated at about 27,316 in Tamil Nadu.

There has been extensive damage to private houses and public properties. While the number of houses reported to be damaged or destroyed is about 3.8 lakhs in Tamil Nadu, the corresponding figure for Andhra Pradesh is 8.32 lakhs. In Kerala, 8,492 houses are reported to have been destroyed and 19,868 damaged.

The cyclone has also affected certain areas of Pondicherry and Lakshadweep Islands. In Karnataka, flood damages between 20-11-77 and 26-11-77 have been reported. There has been no loss of life in these areas.

Sir, in a calamity of this magnitude, the highest priority has to be attached to immediate relief work and provision of all facilities to save human life and livestock and to alleviate their distress. In the first few days, the lack of road and other communications made several areas inaccessible. The magnitude and the suddenness of the calamity must also have come in the way of the administration in reaching the people and providing succour to them. These drawbacks no longer exist and areas which were previously out of reach have been brought under the umbrella of relief administration. In addition to measures taken by the State Governments, the Government of India have sent 76 men of the Mobile Civil Emergency Force by air to Andhra Pradesh. The detachment is equipped for relief and rescue operations. The Defence forces have also provided necessary help to civilian authorities.

While it is true that relief operations have to be organised primarily by the State Government, measures to rehabilitate the people and help them to return to normal conditions

[Shri Surjit Singh Barnala]

would have to be organised jointly by the State and the Centre and in a spirit of perfect comradeship, harmony and understanding. There is no denying the fact that the scars of the cyclone will not heal for a long time, but we certainly will do our utmost to repair the damage.

In consequence of acceptance of the recommendations of the Sixth Finance Commission, *ad hoc* Central assistance on non-Plan account to States for relief purposes has been discontinued with effect from 1-4-1974. All the States have been provided with a margin money for meeting their relief expenses. The margin money is Rs. 4.31 crores for Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 1.52 crores for Tamil Nadu and Rs. 30 lakhs for Kerala. Wherever natural calamities have occurred, relief expenses have been borne by the State Governments. The Central Government has assisted the State Governments concerned with an advance plan assistance the quantum of which is determined after an appraisal by a Central Team comprising representatives of various Ministries. Never in the past has advance plan assistance been released before completion of the appraisal by a Central Team and the processing of the Central Team's recommendations by a High Level Committee which meets under the Chairmanship of Member (Agricultural) in the Planning Commission. Considering, however, the magnitude of the present disaster, advance plan assistance has been released on an *ad hoc* basis pending appraisal by the Central Team. The Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala have been provided with assistance amounting to Rs. 5 crores, Rs. 5 crores and Rs. 2 crores respectively. Central Teams have already been despatched to Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu and a Team would shortly visit Kerala. It may be reiterated that this unusual procedure has been resorted to with a view to

helping the State Governments immediately.

In addition, we have already sanctioned short-term credit to Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu for financing purchase in agricultural inputs. In the first instalment, Rs. 3 crores for Andhra Pradesh and Rs. 2 crores for Tamil Nadu have been sanctioned. These amounts will be augmented further after supplementary demands are voted. We are also examining the possibility of extending additional assistance under the on going Central Schemes for agricultural development.

In addition to the normal allocation of 40,000 tonnes of rice for November, 1977 for Tamil Nadu, instructions have been issued to the F.C.I. to release additional 50,000 tonnes of rice immediately out of which 5,000 tonnes have been sanctioned for use as gratuitous relief for which payment will be made by the Central Government. Instructions have also been issued to the F.C.I. to provide 1,000 tonnes of wheat to Kerala for providing gratuitous provide 1,000 tonnes of wheat to Kerala for providing gratuitous relief to the affected people. The Ministry of Railways have granted concession of free carriage by coaching and goods trains for consignments of relief material intended for free distribution amongst the victims of the floods and cyclone in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala States. Through the Health Ministry, we are in touch with the State Governments in the matter of supply of essential medicines, need for mass inoculation against cholera and other relief operations. Medicines worth Rs. 24.81 lakhs have been supplied to Andhra Pradesh and of worth Rs. 3.53 lakhs to Tamil Nadu. A request from the Government of Kerala has also been received recently. We are trying to meet their demand.

The Indian Red Cross was also alerted for arranging necessary assistance to the affected people. The So-

ciety has undertaken a Rs. 1 crore project for relief to cyclone victims. Funds to the extent of Rs. 42.00 lakhs to Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 11.00 lakhs to Tamil Nadu and Rs. 1.00 lakh to Kerala have been sanctioned from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. The Central Social Welfare Board has been designated as the nodal point for mobilisation of all voluntary efforts in the country for relief operations in the cyclone affected areas.

The Department of Social Welfare made a suggestion to UNICEF to draw on the emergency funds available with UNICEF, to the extent possible, to meet the cost of relief operations in the cyclone-affected areas of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. UNICEF Headquarters have sanctioned an immediate assistance of US dollar, 150,000 (Rs. 12.75 lakhs) from the Emergency Relief Fund. The World Food Programme has also been requested to include 7,200 tonnes of Skimmed Milk Powder and an equal quantity of butter oil/edible oil in their programme of emergency relief. This will be sufficient to cater to the needs of 10 lakh people for 45 days.

I can assure the House that there is no shortage of food and we are in constant touch with the State Governments in regard to their requirements. While the Government machinery, both at the Centre and in the States, has been activated, voluntary agencies have also been forthcoming with assistance. The total resources will be pooled for the most efficient administration of relief in cyclone affected areas and delays on account of procedures will not be permitted. The Prime Minister has also appealed to the nation to contribute liberally to relief efforts in cash or kind. He has also proceeded to the cyclone-affected areas.

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU:
Respected Sir, we are very glad that the Prime Minister visited the affected areas. We are also very glad that the

Agriculture Minister and others also went there. Our leaders, Dr. Karan Singh, Prof. Ranga and others also visited the affected areas and investigated into the facts. We must thank the President who visited not only Andhra Pradesh, but also Tamil Nadu. There is a universal opinion that it is a national tragedy and a national calamity. And when the Andhra Pradesh Congress Members went and met the Prime Minister immediately he responded and gave Rs. 5 crores to Andhra Pradesh and also Rs. 5 crores to Tamil Nadu. And it is necessary to help Kerala, Lakshadweep and also Pondicherry. It attracted the sympathy of the whole world. Russia, America and other countries also sympathised with us and have given some contributions. Edward Kennedy said that in India there is a calamity which has never happened in this country and also said that there should be a special legislation passed by the Congress so that not only temporary relief, but also permanent relief could be given to the affected areas.

Sir, in Darwin in Australia, a cyclone occurred in 1970. Only 11,750 private houses collapsed and 4,300 people in other dwellings were affected. They said that it was a national calamity and they had paid \$5 million to the owners whose property was not covered by insurance. And in Agne cyclone it so happened that only a few thousand people were affected. Even then they said it was a national calamity and made the loss good by paying a percentage of the loss.

13 hrs.

There are two things to be borne in mind. The organisation which is existing in our country is not capable of meeting this enormous calamity. Therefore, it must be revamped. When the cyclone came in 1989, the Andhra Pradesh Cyclone Distress Mitigation Committee was appointed. It made certain recommendations in which it was

[Shri P. Rajagopal Naidu]

clearly said that the radar system must be strengthened and the preparedness to evacuate the people must also be there. After that, when another cyclone came in Orissa, another Committee was appointed and it made the following recommendations in 1974.

And I quote :

"In view of the limited resources and budget provisions usually available with the State governments, the Central Government should render prompt and timely financial assistance to the State governments for the implementation of the various emergency and long-term measures recommended by the Committee for cyclone distress mitigation to the extent required."

And it also said that there should be a national organization, i.e. a national calamities distress mitigation organisation. And it should cater not only to relief required after cyclones, but also due to droughts, floods, earthquakes and land-slides. Then there should be a national organisation which can organize not only relief measures but also re-construction work needed as a result of cyclones.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Naidu, you can continue after lunch. We will re-assemble at 2 p.m.

13.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at five past Fourteen of the clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTER

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : I beg to introduce Mr. Arif Beg, the Minister of State

in the Ministry of Commerce and Civil Supplies and Co-operation.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE —Contd.

(i) REPORTED FAILURE OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO GIVE ADEQUATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE CYCLONE-HIT STATES IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY—Contd.

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU : As I have mentioned already, the problem of the cyclone in the South is not only a problem of the States, not only a problem of the country, but a problem of the world, because it is so enormous. Andhra Pradesh has asked for Rs. 227 crores, Tamil Nadu Rs. 150 crores and Kerala Rs. 15 crores. How is it possible for the Central Government to give so much money unless a separate "Cyclone Distress Mitigation Fund to the tune of Rs 500 crores is created.

As soon as the cyclone came, the Chief Minister and the other Ministers of the Andhra Pradesh Government went to the affected places to organise relief work, and they deputed 2,000 district officials who are carrying on relief operations. They have been doing very good work. In a short period they were able to undertake relief measures, but unfortunately, after Babu Jagjivan Ram's visit to Andhra Pradesh, politics has been injected into the situation. I am very glad that the Prime Minister has asked all to eschew politics, but even yesterday Shri Chandra Shekhar, the President of the Janata Party, has been talking of dismissing the Andhra Pradesh Government.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA : (Delhi Sadar) : Is it relevant?

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU : It is quite relevant... ..