सकता है, दिया जा रहा है । वहां भी 500 रु. स्टेट सरकार दे रही है । यह बात यहां पर बराबर आ चुकी है । इसके अलावा भी राहत के काम बहुत से हो रहे हैं । चन्द बातों का जिक्र यहां पर आया है । छः साल तक के बच्चों को मुफ्त खाना दिया जा रहा है । दवाइयां वहां पहुंच गई हैं । काफी तादाद में ऐसा मैटिरियल वहां पहुंचा दिया गया है जिसकी कि वहां पर जरूरत थी । 1500 टन स्पेशल तौर पर लेवी सीमेंट भेजा है और 1500 टन कैरोसिन आयल भेजा है और 50,000 टन लेवी सीमेंट यहां पर से सप्लाई किया गया है, राहत के काम के लिए । इस तरीके से बेशुमार सीमेंट भी भेजा जा रहा है । जी. सी. आई. और ए. सी. शीट्स सप्लाई की गई हैं । सलाइन वाटर से जो नुकसान हुआ है, उसके अमेंडमेंट के लिए मैंने पहले ही जिक्र किया कि अभी से सब कुछ किया जा रहा है । पानी खड़ा रहेगा, तो उससे ज्यादा नुकसान पहुंचेगा । जहां से पानी निकल सकता है, स्टेट सरकार पम्प करके उसको निकालने की कोशिश कर रही है । जहां जमीन खराब हो गई है वहां लाइन मैटीरियल का इस्तेमाल करके उसको सुधारने की कोशिश की जा रही है । इन सब चीजों की तरफ हमारी पूरी-पूरी तवज्जह है, मैं उम्मीद करता हूं कि हाउस इस बात से इत्तिफाक करेगा कि भारत सरकार ने और राज्य सरकारों ने इस मामले में कोई कोताही नहीं बरती और राहत पहुंचाने के लिए कोई कमी नहीं छोड़ी है ।

14.49 hrs.

RESIGNATION BY MEMBER

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that a letter was received in the Lok Sabha Secretariat on 31st May 1982 from Shri Devi Lal, an elected Member from Sonepat constituency of Haryana resigning his seat in Lok Sabha. The Speaker accepted his resignation with effect from 31st May 1982.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, statements by Ministers.

Shri Pranab Mukherjee.

14.50 hrs.

STATEMENT *RE.* OVERDRAFTS BY *STATES*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as this House is aware, resort to overdrafts by the States from the Reserve Bank of India has been causing concern from some time now. At the meeting of the National Development Council held on 14th March, 1982, I voiced my concern at this phenomenon of overdrafts and cautioned the States that their overdrafts had reached such proportions that it was no longer possible to ignore the problem. I, therefore, said that it might become my painful and unpleasant duty to enforce financial discipline. Unfortunately, inspite of this warning, the overdrafts continued unabated.

Planning Commission and my Ministry have been having a continuous dialogue with the State Governments with a view to minimising the practice of resort to overdrafts by the State Governments. During the Plan discussions relating to the Annual Plan, 1982-83, it was assessed that eleven States out of the 20 States banking with the Reserve Bank of India would close the year 1981-82 with deficits. However, the figures of year-end deficit for 1981-82 since received from the RBI showed that most of these eleven States had deficits above the agreed level and seven other States also closed with deficits contrary to their assurance that there would be no year-end deficit. Therefore, it was felt that, unless some effective steps were taken to curb this tendency, it would result in a highly inflationary situation.

As this House is aware, the Overdrafts Regulation Scheme was introduced in 1972 which was slightly modified in 1978. The Government of India has so far refrained from strict enforcement of the scheme, hoping that the States would correct them-