

[Shri Satya Narayan Sinha]

- (3) Supplementary Statement No. XIII—  
Fourth Session, 1953 of the Lok Sabha, [See Appendix V, annexure No. 3.]
- (4) Supplementary Statement No. XVIII—  
Third Session, 1953 of the Lok Sabha, [See Appendix V, annexure No. 4.]
- (5) Supplementary Statement No. XVIII—  
Second Session, 1952 of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix V, annexure No. 5.]
- (6) Supplementary Statement No. XIX—  
First Session, 1952 of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix V, annexure No. 6.]

ADMINISTRATION OF EVACUEE PROPERTY  
(CENTRAL) RULES, 1950

**The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle):** I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of section 56 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950, a copy of the Ministry of Rehabilitation Notification No. S.R.O. 1673, dated the 21st May, 1954 making certain amendments to the Administration of Evacuee Property (Central) Rules, 1950. [Placed in Library. See No. S-285/54.]

SPECIAL MARRIAGE BILL

**Dr. Rama Rao (Kakinada):** I beg to present a petition signed by 13,303 petitioners relating to the Special Marriage Bill, 1954.

STATEMENT RE: FLOODS IN THE  
COUNTRY

**The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the statement regarding floods in the country. [Placed in Library. See No. S-286/54.]

Sir, with your permission, since the statement is rather long, I may give the House something in the nature of a

summary of this statement. Moreover, since the figures given in the statement were compiled some more information has come.

I shall give a brief assessment of the problem of floods in the country, and the existing situation on the basis of discussions with technical experts and representatives of the various States concerned, the available material on the subject and a personal survey of the conditions in the affected areas. I shall also indicate the nature of remedial action that is feasible in the circumstances and outline the programme which is being considered with a view to securing a very large measure of protection from flood hazards in the vulnerable areas. The situation created by the floods this year in the north eastern region of India may be summed up in a few words and figures. A total area of 25,650 square miles and nearly 95 lakhs of people have been affected. The floods have taken a toll of 247 lives. Over 7,700 cattle have perished. Crops have suffered damage over an area of about 137 lakhs acres valued approximately at Rs. 40 crores. There has been large scale destruction of houses. Considerable areas of valuable land have been lost on account of erosion and deposit of sand. Damage to roads, railways and bridges has been enormous and the consequent disruption of communications has been on a scale never experienced hitherto.

Elaborate arrangements have been made everywhere for rendering immediate assistance and relief. Nearly Rs. 575 lakhs have already been made available of which gratuitous relief and agricultural loans amount to Rs. 196 lakhs and Rs. 329 lakhs respectively. The Central Government has offered to share the burden which the States have to carry on this account.

Floods have been recurring in various parts of the country at intervals in the past. But in point of extent and intensity, the floods of this year have been the worst over a long period.