

[Shri Altekar]

Nineteenth) held during the Twelfth and Thirteenth Sessions. [Placed in Library. See No. S-41/56].

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 162 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Central Excises and Salt (Amendment) Bill, 1956, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 3rd September, 1956, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

PRESIDENT'S ASSENT TO BILL

Secretary: Sir, I have to inform the House that the Travancore-Cochin Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1956, which was passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current Session was assented to by the President on the 9th September, 1956.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

TENTH REPORT

Shri S. C. Deb (Cachar-Lushai Hills): I beg to present the Tenth Report of the Committee on Petitions.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

FLOODS IN TEHRI-GARHWAL

Shrimati Kamalendu Mati Shah (Garhwal Distt.—West cum Tehri Garhwal * Distt. cum Bijnor Distt.—

North): Under Rule 216, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Floods in Tehri-Garhwal and relief rendered."

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I have a fairly long statement running to a number of cyclostyled pages.

Mr. Speaker: He may place it on the Table of the House.

Statement

In Tehri Garhwal floods occurred in the night of 14th-15th August 1956 in Nailchami Gad and its rivulets affecting 5 *patties of Deoprayag Tahsil namely Nailchami, Badiyargarh, Karakot, Dagarkri and Soura Bhar-dhar. 250 acres of lands in 70 villages were affected. 10 persons are reported to have lost their lives and none was injured. 8 cattle were lost. 2 houses and 7 pucca cattle sheds collapsed and a number of houses were damaged. The estimated value of collapsed houses is Rs. 10,000. The total value of the loss in these floods is estimated at Rs. 20 lakhs.

2. Detailed report Patti-wise is as follows:—

Patti Nailchami. Floods this year in Nailchami surpassed all previous floods. Irrigated land on either side of Nailchami were devastated and dry land on higher levels were damaged. Almost all villages of the patti have been badly affected. Landslides have occurred, roads have been breached at several places and four bridges have been washed away dislocating traffic completely. Half of the community orchard of village Bhatwari has been destroyed by floods. Some *diggis and Guls* (small reservoirs and minor channels) constructed on subsidy basis have been damaged. No loss of human life is reported but some

*Patwari Revenue Circles.

cattle heads have been washed away. The total estimated loss of standing crops and fields in this patti roughly amounts to about Rs. 5 lakhs.

Patti Loto Badiyargad. This is one of the deficit patties. Due to excessive landslides and erosion, villages Panab, Bharankhal and Kanda are in the process of sinking down. People have left their houses and are living in some of the houses which are comparatively safer. Two houses collapsed in village Manjuli which resulted in the death of 7 persons and some heads of cattle.

Patti Karukot. This patti stretches on either side of Dhungsir Gad which joins the river Alknanda at Keertinagar. The main stream and a number of its tributaries were overflowed causing immense damage to the land of the whole patti. 90% of the irrigated land of villages Parkot and Kharat have been devastated. 7 pucca cattle sheds have been destroyed and six heads of cattle were washed away. One house collapsed in village Panyakot resulting in the death of one person. Pucca houses of village Dhar have also been washed away. The 'shramdan' road for mule traffic from Dhungsir to Kirtinagar has been washed away at several places.

Patti Dagar. The villages Gaur and Tola that stand on the top of the patti have been damaged by erosion and floods. 3/4th of the land of the village Gaur has been washed away. Almost all the Gharats (water mills) have been washed away.

Patti Saura Bhardhar. No details are available from the State Government.

3. Relief measures undertaken by the State Government. The State Government have sanctioned Rs. 10,000/- for distribution as gratuitous relief and Rs. 20,000/- as Taccavi. A sum of Rs. 500/- sent to the Collector from the Chief Minister's Fund has also been utilised. 1,000

maunds of food grains, medicines and other necessities of life are being distributed in the affected areas through fair price shops. Action is being taken to provide suitable sites for shifting villages which are sinking.

4. Assistance from the Central Government. The State Government has not asked for any financial assistance from the Government of India but according to the prescribed formula of financial assistance by the Centre, the State Government is eligible to a grant of half the total expenditure on gratuitous relief up to Rs. 2 crores and 3/4ths of the expenditure in excess thereof.

5. A sum of Rs. 1 lakh has been sanctioned from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund for Flood relief work in the whole of Uttar Pradesh.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Speaker: The Committee on Absence of Members from the sittings of the House in its Seventeenth Report has recommended that leave of absence may be granted to the following Members for the periods indicated in the Report:

(1) Rt. Rev. John Richardson.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): He is a nominated Member, not even an elected Member. Government should take note of it.

Mr. Speaker: I believe he is here. The hon. Member will kindly come forward. He comes occasionally to the House and he must show his face to the other hon. Members.

Shri Chattopadhyaya (Vijayawada): Not only show the face, but face the show.

Mr. Speaker (2) Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri.

(3) Shri Kamal Singh .

(4) Shri Mulchand Dube

(5) Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri.