

श्री केदार नाथ सिंह : इसके लिए नोटिस चाहिए क्योंकि इसमें कृष्णा गोदावरी का मामला नहीं आता है ।

SHRI P. K. DEO: Bodhghat Project in Bastor is in the Godavari basin. You should know that.

SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH: I know. But that is before the Tribunal and no time-limit can be fixed for the Tribunal's report. They have to take their own time in giving their report.

Central Team for Drought Hit
Tamil Nadu

+

*89. SHRI S. A. MURUGA
NANTHAN:

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) district-wise number of people hit by recent drought in various districts of Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether any central study team toured these districts to apprise of the seriousness of the drought conditions;

(c) whether Government have noted reports of distress sale of cattle, loss of agricultural production and mass migration of farm labour from the worst-hit areas of the State; and

(d) the assistance given by the Centre and the State Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) The number of people affected by drought in the various districts of Tamil Na' u is as under :—

	Rs. in lakhs
Chingleput	14.12
North Arcot	17.00
South Arcot	17.76
Thanjavur	6.61
Tiruchirapalli	15.41
Pudukkottai	11.41
Madurai	13.05
Ramanathapuram	20.23
Tirunelveli	13.55
Salem	11.88
Dharmapuri	4.79
Coimbatore	13.77

(b) Some of the districts were visited by a Central Study Team.

(c) The loss of agricultural production as a result of the drought has come to Government's notice. However, the State Government have denied Press reports of distress sale of cattle. Agricultural labourers in the worst affected districts like Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram and Madurai, have migrated to Thanjavur district in anticipation of better employment opportunities in the harvest season. The State Government is taking all possible steps to provide employment to the agricultural labourers in their local areas by undertaking drought relief works.

(d) The Government of India have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 7.50 crores as advance plan assistance to Tamil Nadu. The State Government have also sanctioned a sum of Rs. 10 crores for undertaking relief works.

SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM. The Minister's statement shows that more than 1½ crores of people out of

the total population of 400 crores, is affected by drought in Tamil Nadu. The situation is very serious. The drought is widespread in 12 districts out of 15 districts. I want to know what was the estimate of the Central team about the total amount required for relief work; if so, how much the Centre is going to allot.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: The Central team consulted the State Government and the State Government said that during the current financial year they would require about Rs 17 crores. Rs. 10 crores have been provided by the State Government and Rs 74 crores have been sanctioned by the Government of India. So during the current financial year, I think, the Tamil Nadu Government should be in a position to manage the drought in the State with these very substantial provisions in hand.

SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: In the statement it is said that the State Government has denied Press reports about distress sale of cattle. I want to make it clear that the report given by the State Government is a figment of their imagination. I have seen myself that distress sale of cattle is going on in Tamil Nadu. Since the Minister has himself visited Tamil Nadu apart from the Central team, what is his impression and what is the report of the Central team with regard to the terrible famine condition in Tamil Nadu? Has he fulfilled all the promises that he himself made in public with regard to relief and food assistance?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE: Two teams from the Centre visited Tamil Nadu. I myself covered a number of districts in Tamil Nadu. Very well-organised efforts are in through the State Government for providing necessary relief. I do feel confident that the Tamil Nadu Government, with the cooperation of the people, will be in a position to manage the drought

situation. It is well under control. Very large amount of employment is being provided to the needy people and wherever there are distress pockets foodgrain supplies are also being made.

SHRI THA KIRUTTINAN: The hon. Minister just now said that the State Government requires about 17½ crores during the present financial year to meet the drought situation. I want to know what is the total amount required to meet the drought situation for the coming 10 months and what will be the assistance of the Central Government to meet the drought situation in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: As per the programme worked out and also the estimate made by the Tamil Nadu Government, they think that Rs 50.55 crores would be required to meet the drought situation during the next 10 months. They expect the Central Government to contribute to the tune of Rs 25 crores. But as the hon. Member is aware, as a result of the Sixth Finance Commission recommendation being accepted by the Government of India only advance plan assistance can be made available to the State Government for drought situation. There is a Committee set up by the Government of India under Member, Planning Commission, Mr. Sivaraman which goes into the matter. They will review the position from time to time and see to what extent the Government of India can help the Tamil Nadu Government.

SHRI THA KIRUTTINAN: Whether it is an advance or not, I want to know whether an amount of Rs. 25 crores which is required by the State Government will be given by the Central Government.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I have replied to that.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Naik. How are you interested in this?

SHRI B. V. NAIK: I am interested in this because he has brought in the point about the Sixth Finance Commission. It is categorically stated that that has aroused a considerable amount of criticism on behalf of the State Governments. Will the Central Government henceforth follow the same pattern of assistance as has been followed by the Centre in respect of the Tamil Nadu Government in the case of other States also? Secondly, the hon. Minister has complimented the well-organised effort to help the drought-affected areas. Yesterday's papers have been howling that the drought assistance has been misused. Will he kindly clarify the contradiction?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: As far as the Sixth Finance Commission's recommendations are concerned, they are not with respect to any particular State. They enunciate certain principles with regard to all the States where there is a natural calamity and how the Centre will go to their help. The previous pattern which was in existence as a result of the Fifth Finance Commission is no longer in vogue. The recommendations of the Sixth Finance Commission are being implemented throughout the country, whether it is Tamil Nadu or any other State. As far as the misuse is concerned, drought is a State subject and the State Governments have to take the responsibility. If the hon. Member has any specific instance in his mind, he can send it to me and I will pass it on to the State Government for scrutiny.

SHRI P. K. M. THEVAR: May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that in east Ramnad district, in Mudukalathur area alone, more than 3 lakhs of people have been uprooted, they are migrating to other States and starvation deaths are also taking place?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: We have referred these migration reports to the State Government. The State Government says that they are exaggerated though migration on a

small-scale is taking place. The State Government is trying to see that maximum employment is provided in the area where migration is taking place.

SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Even in the statement, it is stated that the Central team has visited the drought-affected areas. But the hon. Minister did not say anything as to what was the assessment made by the Central team regarding the requirement of money for relief works. The State Government demanded Rs 55 crores but the statement says that only 7½ crores were allotted. Further the Minister has said that migration from one place to another is not taking place, is not serious. I come from Thanjavur and most of the people from Ramanathapuram and other places are coming to our area. Therefore, the problem of migration is very serious. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether, after getting the Central team's report the Government will sanction more money.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: As I have said, a sum of Rs 7.50 crores has been sanctioned upto end of this financial year, upto the end of March, and for the next ten months as I have already mentioned, the State Government has estimated that Rs. 50 to 55 crores would be required. There is no contradiction in what I have stated. As far as the relief operations are concerned, the State Government is taking all possible steps to provide relief.

Nationalisation of Sugar Industry

*90. **SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:**

SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 300 Members of Parliament demanded nationalisation of sugar industry; and

(b) if so, the decisions of the Government on it?