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I ROF D P CHATTOPADHYAYA: I am not avare of any report that Government agencies are involved in any sort of mal-practices. Further, if any such specific instance is with the hon. Member, we will certainly look into it and do the needful if he passes on that information to us.

श्रो श्रोंकार लाल बेरवा: मैं गैर-सरकारी ऐजेसियो के लिये पृष्ठ रहा हं।

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: As I said in answer to an hon. Member's question earlier, there were some such reports to start with in 1972.

MR. SPEAKER: Have you any idea about the names of those agencies?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Yes, Sir. They have been deprived of the right to do the business any more.

Financial Assistance to Maharashtra for Drought Relief Works

*65. SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be bleased to state:

- (a) whether the Maharashtra Government have asked for a large amount of Central assistance for giving relief to the drought affected people; and
- (h) if so, what is the extent of assistance that has been rendered by the Centre to Maharashtra so far?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):
(a) and (b). As against a requirement of Rs. 180.58 crores presented by the State Government, a total ceiling of Rs. 94.09 crores has been adopted on the basis of the recommendations of

the Central teams for expenditure during the current financial year on drought relief measures for purposes of Central assistance. An amount of its. 49.00 crores has so far been released to the State Government. Further assistance will be released on the basis of the progress of expenditure under the ceilings to be reported by the State Government.

Financial Assistance to Gujarat for Drought Relief Works

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*74. SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL: SHRI D. P. JADEJA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE bepleased to state:

- (a) the total amount demanded by Gujarat Government to face drought situation in the State:
- (b) the total amount sanctioned by the Central Government; and
 - (c) the total amount paid?

MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c). In response to a request from the State Government, a Central Team visited Gujarat in September, 1972 and on the basis of its recommendations a ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 6.9 crores on drought relief measures was adopted for purposes of Central assistance. On the basis of the progress of expenditure reported by the State Government under this ceiling, an amount of Rs. 1.5 crores has so far been released to that Government: further assistance will be based on the progress of expenditure to be reported by the State Govern-Another Central Team of ment. Officers is presently visiting the State to review the ceilings in the light of the continuing drought situation and its report is awaited.

SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL: Maharashtra has been facing drought conditions for the last three successive years and this year's and this year's famine is unprecedented. Thousands

of relief works have been started and more than three million men and women have been employed on these relief works. The people are facing the calamity with courage and the State Government is doing its best to give relief with the aid and assistance of the Central Government.

Out of Rs. 94.09 crores sanctioned by the Centre, Rs. 49 crores have been released so far. May I know from the Finance Minister whether the remaining Rs. 45 crores will be released before the 31st March as the expenditure under the ceiling has already been incurred by the State Government?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: As I said, reimbursement and release of money etc. depend upon the actual expenditure that is incurred. So, if it is incurred during that period, certainly, the money would be released.

SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL In view of the fact that there are four months more for the rains to come and relief works have got to be continued up till July and even upto September and in view of the fact that many more people will have to be given employment and in this situation more expenditure has to be incurred by State Government, can the State Government ask for more from the Centre?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: It all depends upon the State Government's judgment and the State Government's assessment.

श्री ग्रारविन्द एस० पटेन : जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि महाराष्ट्र में अभूतपूर्व सूखा पड़ा है इसी तरह से मैं भी कह सकता हूं कि गुजरात में अभूतपूर्व सूखा पड़ा भीर पशुभों का चारा, पानी तथा अनाज की इतनी कमी हो गयी है कि उसके लिये लोग मारे मारे फिरते हैं। इसलिये मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहुंगा कि गुजरात में इस विकट परिस्थिति में जो भी चाहों, राज्ञि के रूप में, चारे के रूप में, या धनाज के रूप में सबसे अधिक आज जरूरत है सहायता की, इसलिये उसको यह राजि तुरन्त दी जाये और सबसे अधिक उसको सहायता पहुंचायी जाये।

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Things in Gujarat are equally grim and we have assured Gujarat Government that they certainly will be supported by the Central Government in this matter.

SHRI D. P. JADEJA: The Minister stated that Central team has visited. Gujarat. It had visited, and it is going to visit also. Now Sir, may I know how many districts have been drought-affected, which were not touched by this Central team which had already gone there?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN It is very difficult for me to say exactly how many districts they visited, etc. But we have the State Government's information that the total area of kharif villages which were affected were 81 lakh acres and the total area under rabi villages were 88,000. The total number of cattle population was more than 49 lakhs etc. So, the vastness and the magnitude of this problem is indicated by these figures.

SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Why I purposely asked regarding districts was because Jamnagar district is one district which has never had such a drought situation as it is having now. But unfortunately no central officer nor has any Minister from Centre been able to go to that district. Will they go to this district in future?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: When any Central Team visits, its programme is arranged by the State Government because, naturally, the State Government is expected to know more about the nature and the type of famine, etc. It depends upon

the initiative of the State Government. Equally these people also should go and see and I have no doubt, Central team people also can take the initiative and take action in the matter. If the hon. Member gives any suggestion in this regard. I will certainly forward them to the concerned persons in the Planning Commission.

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PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE. Maharashtra Government made two specific demands from the Centre. Number one. They said, as famine relief work West Coast Konkan Railway should be started imme-In the Railway Budget the diately House was informed that it is under active consideration of the Finance Ministry. Since fortunately the Finance Minister is here, we would like to know how far the active consideration has proceeded? Will it be over before the famine is over?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: It i_S not only under consideration of this Ministry, it is under active consideration of this Ministry, it is under active consideration of the whole Government

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: This is what we have been told. We have been told by the Railway Minister that it is under active consideration of the Finance Ministry.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Yes, I am also speaking on behalf of the Government.

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI: He asked, will the active consideration be over before the famine is over. He has not replied.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Two ministers from the same Minstry have given contradictory replies.

I think you should protect, Members who are seeking clarification.

MR. SPEAKER: He may send it to me in writing, and I shall see how it contradicts, and I shall get the clarification from him.

SHRI PILOO MODY. If they do not give the clarification, then you must dismiss them.

MR. SPEAKER: When he will be the Speaker, he may have this authority.

SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Is it true that the assistance so far given to the Government of Maharashtra is far below the demand made by them, and if so, what is the difference between the demand made and the assistance given? Thirdly, how are the State Governments expected to meet this shortfall?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Normally, whatever demand is made is ultimately assessed according to certain criteria that the Planning Commission has accepted, and it is on that basis that this is done.

MR SPEAKER: The main questions are confined to Maharashtra and Gujarat only and I shall try to accommodate Members from these States.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I belong to both States.

SHRI S R DAMANI In view of the change in the policy of the Government that the States can take up works which would afford permanent relief in the famine-affected areas, may I know whether the schemes for irrigation and rural electrification in the famine areas, which are under consideration would be cleared and if so, the extent to which money will be sanctioned for these schemes?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN; The hon. Member is referring to certain normal schemes of plan etc., about which I have no information.

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SHRI S. R. DAMANI: I am not referring to the Plan schemes, but

MR SPEAKER The hon Member has gone beyond the scope of the mam questions

SHRI PILOO MODY From what I understand what I study, the fammes in Maharashtra and Gujarat are both equally serious and of the same magnitude, and it is a tremendously great problem which both Governments are facing, but from the figures which I have seen so far, I find that something like Rs 44 crores or Rs. 45 crores has been released to the Government of Maharashtra while only something like Rs 35 crores to Rs 4 crores has been released to the Government of Gujarat

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA
Only Rs 15 crores

SHRI PILOO MODY I would like to know why this sort of discrepancy has crept in into the release of funds?

AN HON MEMBER Not discrepancy but discrimination

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN. There is no discrepancy As a matter of fact normally the amounts are released on the basis of expenditure actually incurred and the reports that are received. That does not mean that there is going to be

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA What is the authorisation? Is there any authorisation for a higher amount? Less expenditure might have been incurred, but what is the authorised amount?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN Authorisation by the State Government

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: By the Central Government

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: By the Central Government? We have laid do yn certain criteria and we have laid down certain sectors for allocation of money It depends upon the actual expenditure on those sectors.

SHRI P G MAVALANKAR Before I ask my supplementary question, may I seek one clarification from the hon Minister? In his original reply, he has said that Rs 49 and odd crores had been released to Maharashtra, but the press reports today say that it is Rs 74 and odd crores What is the discrepancy due to?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN
The discrepancy is between the
amount which is sanctioned and the
amount which is released. These
two different things. Allocation is
one thing and the actual release is
another thing.

SHRI P G MAVALANKAR The press reports say that it was Rs 74 and odd crores

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN Let him go by my reports Why should he go by press reports?

G MAVALANKAR SHRI P Having got this claiification, I would ask whether it is a fact that although the situation in Gujarat is almost as serious -undoubtedly, it is serious in Maharashtra—as in Maharashtra Central assistance is not forthcoming to Gujarat because the lack of political pressure in Delhi in the Congress circles because of the fact that there are no persons and pulls m the Centre to agitate for more assistance to the State?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN I have assured the Government of Gujarat and I can assure this hon House that whatever be the necessary requirements of Gujarat in regard to tackling the drought situation thereas a matter of fact, not only in Gujarat but anywhere in the country—so far as the suffering of the

people is concerned, whatever be the difficulties, we will certainly stand by the people.

SHRI DHARAMRAO AFZAL-PURKAR In view of the fact that there is a serious drought situation in Mysore affecting the districts of Gulbarga, Bidar, Raichur, Bijapur, Balgaum and Dharwar....

MR SPEAKER. Ine question is about Maharashtra and Gujarat.

SHRI G VISWANATHAN: Mysore must also be allowed.

MR SPEAKER I have asked him to sit down. (Interruptions). Do not get excited at every stage.

श्री हुक्तम चन्द कृत्रत्य मध्य प्रदेश में हैं भी सुखा पड़ा हुझा है। (यवधान) 🞉

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: A full-fledged discussion should be allowed on this

MR. SPEAKER: There are so many members getting up from other States besides Maharashtia and Gujarat.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI It is everywhere.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The Chief Minister of Gujarat stated in the State legislature that his request for famine relief has been of the order of Rs. 92 crores. It is a specific figure which was stated. In view of this, what has been the amount sanctioned?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Exactly. That statement is there. In the second team, we will go into this particular matter.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Please allow a discussion on this. Half the country is suffering from drought.

MR, SPEAKER: I am giving first chance to members from Maharashtra and Gujarat. Shri Gotkhinde.

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Please sit down. Why are you disturbing the House? D_0 not make it a practice. Please sit down, all of you. D_0 not try to do like this.

SHRI ANNASAHEB GOTKHINDE: In view of the fact that whatever the allocation to the Maharashtra Government it has been spent properly by the Maharashtra Government, and in view of the fact that hundreds of people are migrating to the cities because there is no water in most of the villages there, may I know from the Government whether they are going to give more allocations for drinking water purposes, for the expenditure to be met by the State Government on this behalf?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Well, I cannot give any particular provise ab ut it. I have generally given an indication of the savings and the release of money according to the basis of expenditure.

Here, may I request you to permit me to say one thing? I do not want any Member from any State to feel that their problems are not looked after, say, Madhya Pradesh or Rajasthan—(Interruption).

AN IION MEMBER. Mysore.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Mysore also.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Please allow a discussion on this.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS rose-

MR SPEAKER: Order please,

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: I will put a very relevant question. Give me a chance.

MR SPEAKER: I know that you always put a very relevant question.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: The Minister was suggesting something. We could not hear him properly. MR. SPEAKER: I have not been able to hear him myself.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBATAH: Let him complete it.

MR. SPEAKER: Let him tell us.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: There was a feeling as if we are giving information about some States and not giving the information about others. (Interruption). Please listen, Mr. Sathe. Let us not be technical about it, because it is not right to have a feeling in the minds of some Members that they do not get a reply. I have got some information here, because, the drought conditions that are prevailing—(Interruption).

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Sir, I take it that you do not allow any Member to ask a question which does not arise from the subject mentioned in the question. If you have allowed such questions, then I submit that it should become a precedent in future also. (Interruption).

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS rose-

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I see so many Members rising. (Interruption). Sit down, please, Mr. Mehta. What I propose is this. There are so many Members interested in this; not only those from Gujarat and Maharashtra but others from other States also. In that case, when this question is very important, I will fix some time to be given for this.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: Let him give the information.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: About the drought situation, he may reply. (Interruption).

MR. SPEAKER: I have already said this is not something which is going out of the way. I have said it. But if he gives some information, I will allot time for discussion on this. It is not in reply to those questions; he has independently got up; he said

that he has certain information for which I say I will allot some separate time for discussion, because I see, besides Members from Maharashtra and Gujarat, several others from other States are also affected by it. I see many of the hon. Members standing.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I have got a statement. (Interruption).

MR. SPEAKER: For the present, let him make the statement.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: During 1972-73 up to 22nd February, so far as the ceiling and the releases are concerned, I have got information about some States. For example, for natural calamity; drought and cyclone Andhra, the in Government's estimate by way of grants and loans was Rs. 74 crores and 7 for cyclone; the ceilings on extent of damage for the purpose of Central Assistance by the Ministry of Finance was Rs. 28 crores, and 71 cyclone. In the case of lakhs for Assam it was Rs. 4 crores and 72 crores. In the case of Bihar it was Rs. 30 crores and 30.4 crores. In the case of Gujarat it was 6.9 crores; in the case of Kerala it was 1.27 crores. For Madhya Pradesh unfortunately it is not indicated; but a Central team has been asked to assess the situation and its report is awaited . . . (As Hon. Member; what about Mysore?) For Mysore the ceiling which was accepted was 7.75; in addition to that I have also agreed provisionally to release Rs. 10 crores, out of which nearly Rs. 8 crores had been released already.

श्री श्रोंकार साल बेरवा: राजस्थान को क्या दिया गया है ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN:
Rajasthan? For this year it was Rs.
6,60 crores; Tamil Nadu—Rs. 1.5
crores; U. P. Rs. 8.10 crores; West Bengal Rs. 10.8 crores and Orissa Rs. 14.6
crores...(Interruptions).

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE. Some of us have demanded a discussion on the statement of the Food Minister on the drought situation.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Sir, in Maharashtra....

MR. SPEAKER: The time is over.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: At least you kindly hear. The situation has deteriorated so much lakhs of people who could not get food in the villages go to the cities and the traders and the black-marketeers are taking advantage and they being employed at half the wage in the towns and cities. Not only that. workers who are already working on Rs. 8 a day are being froced to work on Rs. 3 a day in Bombay city; it is under the Congress rule; here is also the Congress Government and Chavan is the Finance Minister The situation has so much deteriorated.

MR. SPEAKER The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Conducting of survey by R.B.I on the pattern of investment of scheduled commercial banks

*66. SHRI S. A. MURUGANAN: THAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India had recently conducted a survey on the pattern of investment of scheduled commercial banks; and
- (b) if so, the salient features of the findings of that survey?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):
(a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

A survey of investments of scheduled commercial banks is conducted by the Reserve Bank of India as on 31st March every year. The latest survey for which information has been published relates to the year ended 31st March, 1971. The details of this survey are contained in the Reserve Bank of India's bulletin for November, 1972.

- 2. The survey covers investments in Central and State Government securities, other trustee securities, shares and debentures of joint stock companies, fixed deposits with banks etc. of scheduled commercial banks in India and those of Indian secheduled commercial banks offices in foreign countries. Some of the important findings of this survey are
- (a) The total investments of the scheduled commercial banks including the Indian Banks' offices abroad amounted to Rs.1871 crores as on 31st March, 1971 The increase in investments during the year under review was higher at Rs. 284 crores compared to an increase of only Rs. 176 crores in the preceding year.
- (b) Between end March, 1970 and end March, 1971 there was a fall in the proportion of investments in central Government securities and a rise in the proportion of investment; in State Government and "other trustee securities"; and
- (c) The maturity pattern of investments in Government securities showed a shift from short and medium term securities to long term securities between end March, 1970 and end March, 1971.

Rise in Prices

*67. SHR1 JYOTIRMOY BOSU: SHRI M. M. JOSEPH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a report published in the 'Economic Times', Bombay dated the