

eign Secretaries. It is not that we are not in touch with them. It is not that we are not telling them. But as I said, the result has been far from encouraging.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: The Government of India from time to time has stated very clearly that we have got ample evidence to show that Pakistan has been aiding terrorists. Now I am putting the question which was asked by my learned colleague just now in a different form. In international law, an act of hostility or a hostile act has specific meaning. After the evidence which we have collected so far, have we officially declared the help given by Pakistan to the terrorists as a hostile act.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: I tried to avoid answering this question because we have to take up this matter as one of the entire gamut of relations between the two countries. That is why, technically speaking, the answer to the question is 'no'.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to refer to something relating to my constituency. I want to tell you that 70-80 fishermen have been apprehended by Pakistanis.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Mr. Speaker Sir, to the best of our information, the question was discussed at the Home Secretary level between the two Governments atleast on two occasions. In the formal announcement made after these discussions, a proposal was mooted that the border should be jointly patrolled. Now that joint patrolling has not yet come into effect. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the proposal still stands; when the patrolling is going to be introduced; and if not what are the reasons therefor; and whether this proposal shall be taken up at the next meeting of the Home Secretaries of the two countries.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, I would like to have notice to find out the

latest position on this because I have to get it from the Home Ministry.

Damage Caused to Foodgrains by Floods

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*27. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK:
SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN
SINHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made of the damage caused to Kharif foodgrains due to widespread rains and floods and its consequential impact on rabi crops;

(b) to what extent it will affect the current year targetted production of 17 crore metric tonnes of foodgrains;

(c) whether there has been any State Agriculture Secretaries meet in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details regarding the decisions taken thereon?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) and (b). No precise assessment is available of the likely loss in foodgrain production because of the floods. The Kharif foodgrain production target is likely to be achieved.

(c) A National Conference on Rabi Campaign for 1988-89 was held on 29-30th September, 1988 in New Delhi and was attended by Agriculture Production Commissioners/Secretaries of the States.

(d) A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

The important decisions of the Conference are:-

- (i) A revised working target of 171.63 million tonnes of foodgrains for the year 1988-89 was accepted by the States as against

- the official target of 166.57 million tonnes.
- (ii) The States were advised to place firm indents for their seed requirements for kharif 1989 and Rabi 1989-90 in time.
- (iii) To increase fertiliser consumption, the States were advised to further step up opening of additional outlets and also use PDS retail outlets for fertiliser sale wherever possible.
- (iv) Agriculture Production Commissioners were requested to monitor prices of pesticides from time to time.
- (v) While credit availability during 1988 kharif season was found to be considerably better than in the previous year, it was felt that higher recovery of cooperative dues should be attempted by the States to ensure credit eligibility of all CCBs in the States.
- (vi) Under Special Foodgrains Production Programme, the States suggested greater flexibility in diversion of funds from one component to another. It was agreed that 10 per cent of the total allocation for components other than seed could be diverted to pesticides.
- (vii) The States were apprised of the preparedness of NAFED to take up price support operations in coarse cereals, pulses and oilseeds. They were advised to gear up their Marketing Federations and Primary Cooperatives to actively collaborate with NAFED in these operations.
- (viii) The States were urged to draw up a detailed schedule of water releases and suitable cropping programmes to optimise use of available water and to cover larger areas.

- (ix) The States were advised to prepare special credit plan for the shallow-tube-wells / dugwells programme and speed up implementation of the programme after rains.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had asked from the hon. Minister about the damage caused to the kharif crop due to heavy rains and floods. According to the statements issued by different States and the Ministry of Agriculture, it is revealed that the loss amounts to 1.6 million tonnes whereas our target for 1988-89 is to the extent of 171.63 million tonnes. I want to know specifically the strategy devised and the programme chalked out by you to meet this shortfall and for the timely supply of inputs like fertilisers, seeds, etc. for achieving optimum Rabi production and the support measures to be adopted for the kharif harvest? Besides, I want to know whether the Minister has any information about the recommendations made by the Commission in their meeting, and if so the details thereof?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked about the arrangements made to meet the shortfall. Our target is to produce 166.5 million tonnes and we have every hope that the production will be more than our target. According to a review made on 28-29 September, it was decided that the production of 166.5 million tonne target should be revised to 171 million tonnes and we are sure that we will be able to achieve the target of 171 million tonnes. Had the crops not been damaged due to floods in some States, our production was likely to exceed our target of 171 million tonnes. We have made efforts to supply good quality fertilisers and seeds to the farmers and a sum of Rs. 70 crore has been allocated for the kharif crop. Besides our on-going schemes are also going on so that required facilities are provided to the farmers. The Government of India has made every effort in this connection.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second question pertains

to relief measures taken up by the Government in this field and the assistance provided to the States by the Centre? In addition, I want to know your reaction on my suggestion that instead of plan-advance central assistance should be provided to those States which have been facing floods for the last 4-5 years?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to place the figures before you about the allocations made to the States separately. Our scheme for achieving high yield covers 169 districts in 14 States under which five crops, viz - wheat, rice, gram, arhar and maize have been paid special attention.

In the ensuing Kharif season, a provision of Rs. 70 crores has been made for these five crops. The Central Government have made a provision of Rs. 10 crores 56 lakhs for wheat and Rs. 112 lakhs for gram and out of this amount, a part has already been given to the State Governments. The rest of the schemes are on-going schemes and it will take a lot of time of the House if I go on naming each and every scheme. The Central Government have granted funds to the State Governments for all these schemes. For some of the schemes, 100 per cent grant is provided while for others 50 per cent grant is provided. For these schemes, 50 per cent grant is provided by the Central Government and the rest of the 50 per cent is borne by the State Governments. Apart from this, facilities to marginal and small farmers have also been provided. Similarly, facilities to the Harijans and Scheduled Tribes have also been provided separately. There are numerous schemes and if I go on mentioning all of them, it will take much time of the House. We have duly given money to the States for these schemes.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has told that precise assessment is not available. It has been mentioned in the report that precise assessment is not available. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether the figures relating to the damage to crops were not presented before him in the Farmers' Conference of the States? Is

the Central Government aware that due to the failure of "Hathia rain", the crops in many areas, particularly, in Bihar are going to be badly effected? The problem has further aggravated due to non-supply of water from Rihand. The Government of Bihar has requested the Uttar Pradesh Government to supply water from Rihand so that the crops could be irrigated and thereby saved from getting ruined. If this is not done, the loss will be heavy. Keeping all these things in view, will the crop production touch 171 millions figure instead of 165 million tonnes? If so, what is the basis of his assessment?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have not fixed the target at 178 million tonnes. What I have said is that there is a possibility that the production may range between 166 to 171 million tonnes. As the hon. Member has himself said, precise assessment is not available. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reason is that floods have struck.....

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: There is no precise assessment.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: What I am saying is that if any particular area is effected by flood today, the total assessment of damage can be made only after the harvest. It is not possible to tell about the exact damage right now.....(Interruptions)

Please listen to me for a minute. I have said that our target was of 166.5 million tonnes and there is a possibility of foodgrains production touching 171 million tonnes. We reviewed the situation on 28th and 29th. I had called a meeting of the Commissioners and Secretaries of all the 14 major foodgrains producing States of the country and got all information regarding the extent of damage and estimated foodgrains production. When the figures given by each State were added up, the total came to 171 million tonnes. This figure has been arrived at after allowing for damage and resultant loss of crops. Therefore.....(Interruptions) Please listen to me. About Bihar..... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI M. R. SAIKIA: Is it based on you financial target.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member has appeared on the scene like a flood.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Secondly, about Bihar, he has said that there is shortage of water. But the question pertains to excess of water due to floods.....(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: I have said that due to shortage of water, crops have suffered further damage. After 28th-29th, the dates on which, you got the figures, the position is that there has been shortage of water. Is the hon. Minister aware of the shortage of water and the demand for supply of water for irrigation? Will the hon. Minister stick to his figures ever after knowing about it?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Sinha Sahib, so far as the supply of water is concerned, I would like to tell you to.....(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please take the next question.

MR. SPEAKER: We shall have a discussion on it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Let me reply to his first point.....(Interruptions)

Perhaps, you want to drag this matter up to 12'O clock. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the position is that so far as the supply of water is concerned, there is a separate irrigation department under the Ministry of Water Resources. That department knows better as to how long the water in a particular canal is going to last and how to regulate it. If it concerns Uttar Pradesh Government, the State Government of Bihar should take it up with that State.

So far as the Department of Agriculture is concerned, they are arranging to drain out the flood waters from the areas which have been water-logged. Sufficient funds have been made available for the purpose, so that more and more land could be cultivated. The Government has provided funds to reclaim the land so that the farmers would be compensated for their losses due to flood.

SHRI MANOJ PANDEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to tell hon. Minister that North Bihar has to face a very horrible situation every year because of floods. Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Central Government to start any special scheme in consultation with the State Government for the Rabi Crop in North Bihar?

SHRI BHAJAN LAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bihar is one of the 14 major foodgrain producing States of the Country, which has been given special grants so that the farmers could be helped and the production could be increased. The hon. Member has said that the position in Bihar has worsened due to floods. In this connection, I would like to say that special funds have been provided to the flood affected areas. Subsidy on fertilizers and seeds has been given to those areas. Efforts have been made to give more and more funds to reclaim the land which has been rendered uncultivable and to repair defective tubewell sets in order to give relief to the affected people and to push up foodgrains production in those States.

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 28. Shri Indrajit Gupta.

[English]

SHRI E. AYYAPPU REDDY: Sir, my question No. 34 may also be taken up with the Question No. 28. Both relate to the same subject.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Not much time is left now.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let Question No. 34 may also be taken up with it. Both relate to the same subject.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall get it moved by him. Mr. Indrajit Gupta, you first move it.

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA: We should have a special discussion on this. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Why can't you listen? I have already said that we are going to have a discussion on this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 28 - Shri Indrajit Gupta and Q. No. 34 Shri E. Ayyappu Reddy.

Performance of India at Seoul Olympics

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*28. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

PROF. K.V. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any appraisal of India's performance at the Seoul Olympics;

(b) if so, the main reasons for India's miserable performance in the games; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the standard of Indian sportsmen in different sports disciplines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

The XXIV Olympic Games were held at Seoul from September 17 to October 2, 1988. The Indian contingent took part in

11 sports disciplines. The selection of Indian sportspersons was done according to the selection criteria formulated in consultation with the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and National Sports Federations. According to the selection criteria, a sportsperson should have achieved performance equal to or better than the performance returned by the sportsperson who obtained the 6th place in the last Olympics or in the most recently held World Championship, whichever is higher. For non-measurable events, the selection is based upon a positive assessment of the concerned federation that persons selected stand a very good chance of obtaining at least the 6th place.

The composition of the Indian contingent for the Seoul Olympic Games was recommended by the IOA on the basis of the above selection criteria. In addition, on a request by the Indian Olympic Association, Government also allowed participation of gold medal winners of the last Asian Games provided they are still the best in the country and have achieved performance equal to or better than the gold winning performance of the Asian Games. In disciplines like Shooting, Tennis, Table Tennis and Hockey where individual sportspersons of the team had qualified through preliminary tournaments according to qualifying procedures set by International Federations themselves, participation was recommended by the Indian Olympic Association and approved by the Government.

The performance of the Indian sports contingent was by and large, according to expectation, barring a few individual exceptions. The selection criteria provide only for performance equivalent to 6th place of the last Olympics or World Championship and since most of our sportspersons barely managed to achieve this performance, we were not expecting any spectacular results. India had not won a medal in an individual event since the 1952 Olympics. In team events, India had won a Bronze medal in the 1972 Olympics and Gold medal in 1980 Olympics at Moscow in hockey but all the top Hockey playing countries had not participated in the Moscow Olympics. In the 1984 Olympics we again did not win any