

### [ श्री राम अबधेश सिंह ]

मान्यवर, मैं आपको एक सूचना देना चाहता हूँ कि वित्त रहित कलेजों के शिक्षक हड़ताल पर हैं। सैकड़ों जेलों में बन्द हैं और वहाँ उन पर यातनाएं हो रही हैं, जुल्म हो रहे हैं। मुझ इस बारे में एक चिट्ठी प्राप्त हुई है। इसलिए मैं इस सवाल को यहाँ उठा रहा हूँ। प्रोफेसर दिनेश तिवारी जो उसके संयोजक हैं, उन्होंने एक चिट्ठी लिखी है। वह बड़ी मार्मिक चिट्ठी है। अगर आप आदेश देंगे तो उस यहाँ रख भी सकता हूँ। जेलों में उनके साथ बहुत ज्यादती की जा रही है। इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से केन्द्रीय सरकार तक अपनी बात पहुँचाना चाहता हूँ कि वह उनकी मांगों को मानें और वित्त रहित स्कूलों और कालेजों को ठीक करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार कम से कम एक हजार करोड़ रुपए की सहायता करे ताकि बिहार का शैक्षणिक वातावरण ठीक हो सके और समय पर परीक्षाएं हो सकें और राष्ट्रीय स्तर की जो शिक्षा है, उस शिक्षा में बिहार भी आ सके और बिहार के छात्रों को अन्य राज्यों की तरह जो छात्रों को सुविधाएं मिलती हैं, वे मिल सकें और कंप्यूटोडिव परीक्षाओं से वह वंचित नहीं हो पाएँ, यह मैं चाहता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

#### Damage due to Floods in North-Eastern region

SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TALMUR (Nominated): Hon. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this august House the flood situation in Assam and the other North-Eastern States.

Sir, the Brahmaputra and other rivers have swollen inundating fresh areas and disrupted rail and road communication in the entire region. The worst affected areas are the Dudri, Gobar, Cachhar, Darrang, Nowgong, Kamrup, Sibsaagar and Lakhimpur districts of Assam. Army is engaged to rescue thousands of marooned people in the districts which remained cut off from the State by road and rail.

In Manipur also, it is reported that Army is deployed to rescue the marooned people from flood affected areas which remained cut off from the rest of the country. Arunachal Pradesh is also one of the worst affected States by flood. It remained dislocated for a long period. Helicopter is used to drop food materials in the affected areas. Tripura State is also experiencing heavy flood this year. The State Governments are doing their best to help the affected people.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to Assam specially because the people of Assam experienced heavy flood last year also. The damage to crops, houses and communication could not be repaired adequately. Embankments, bridges and culverts which were washed away by floods have not all been repaired. The sufferings of the people have further increased due to the present flood, specially in the riverine and 'char' areas. In the present flood, 11 lives were lost till 1st of August. As you know, Sir, the problem of flood in Assam is an annual feature. The people in the affected districts are becoming poorer and poorer.

Sir, the situation in the North-Eastern States is made more complicated by the long bundhs and strikes resorted to by one section of the Tribal people. Rail and road communications in the Eastern States are poor. But the same has been further deteriorated due to the bundhs, and the result is further rise in the price level. Sir, Assam is the gateway to all the States of the North-Eastern Region. As the communication system in Assam has deteriorated due to the above factors, the people of the entire Region are in great difficulty.

Sir, so far as floods are concerned, permanent measures are necessary. This can be done by controlling the mighty Brahmaputra and the other flood-causing rivers, and for this co-operation and joint efforts of all con-

cerned States are necessary. Since these projects will require a huge amount of money, assistance from the Central Government is called for. These measures will not only prevent floods but will open up great scope for generating hydro-electric power, irrigation facilities and thereby help the all-round growth of agriculture and industry.

Sir, one of the factors leading to agitation and instability is the very poor economic condition of the people. They are backward industrially and agriculturally. Unless poverty and unemployment are effectively tackled, the discontent among the people will not be removed. This takes various forms of mass unrest. And interested parties take advantage of such a situation. We have been hearing and experiencing ravages of floods in Assam since long past. Thousands of crores of rupees have been spent on making embankments and giving flood relief during these years. But the result of such huge expenditure of public money has not been effective; floods continue to occur year after year and the people suffer.

So, Hon. Vice-Chairman, Sir through you I appeal to the Government of India and the State Government to take permanent and well-planned steps to prevent recurrence of floods. I also appeal to the Government of India to help the flood affected people liberally and adequately so that the untold miseries of the people are lessened.

#### Grave financial crisis facing the State of Assam

DR. NAGEN SAIKIA (Assam): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me the opportunity to raise the matter of grave financial crisis facing the State of Assam. Sir, Assam today is faced with serious financial crisis. At this stage the State seeks special measures from the Government of India. The acute crisis is the result of chronic imbalances accumulated for

years together since the first Five Year Plan period.

The heavy loan component of Plan financing, the method of financing, flood protection schemes, increase in the Plan outlay due to backwardness of the State and the burden of debt have imposed unbearable strain on the State with poor revenue. The accumulated outstanding debt liability on 31-3-1989 is estimated at Rs. 3054 crores, of which Rs. 2751 crores are loans and advances received from the Government of India. The block loan for financing annual plan stood at Rs. 1953 crores on the date. The loan outstanding for financing flood protection scheme stood at Rs. 165 crores and in this way the total debt liability would be Rs. 3474 crores by the end of the year. The block loan will also stand at Rs. 2225 crores against the liability of Rs. 398 crores as loan and Rs. 225 crores as grant. The State Government will have to pay Rs. 412 crores on debt servicing and it is to be paid out of the cost allocation of Rs. 635 crores to the Central Government. It is obvious that only with the remaining amount of Rs. 223 crores, the problematic State with poor revenue earning cannot be run. The State has made a humble effort at resource mobilisation in this current year to the tune of Rs. 25 crores.

The serious financial crisis of the State is attributed to the delay in the revision of oil royalty and to abrupt variation in the norms in debt servicing made by the Ninth Finance Commission. Moreover, the Ninth Finance Commission has underestimated the interest liability by Rs. 35 crores while overestimating the receipts thereof, of the oil Royalty by Rs. 50 crores, which would be calculated only after receipt of increased rate. Oil royalty is a non-tax revenue of the State and at present it constitutes 23 per cent of revenue of the State. The Ninth Finance Commission was appraised by the Government of Assam of the financial