

October—1st November, 1983 to assess the damages caused by the cyclone floods in the first week of October, 1983 is under processing. A ceiling of Central assistance is likely to be sanctioned soon. In the mean time, however, State have been sanctioned Rs. 10 crores as a Ways and Means advance, on *ad hoc* basis, to take up emergent relief measures.

National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme

2784. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBA SIVA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the recently introduced National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme; and

(b) the number of persons provided employment under the said programme in different States so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARINATH MISHRA):

(a) Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) has been launched on 15-8-1983 with two basic objectives, viz. (i) to improve and expand employment opportunities for rural landless with a view to providing employment for at least one member of every landless labour household upto 100 days in a year; and (ii) creation of durable assets for strengthening the rural infrastructure which will lead to rapid growth of rural economy. Assistance under this new programme will be provided to State/Union Territory Governments by the Central Government on 100 per cent basis. Funds amounting to Rs. 100 crores have been allocated under the programme during the current year 1983-84 and provision of Rs. 500 crores is proposed to be made during the year 1984-85.

(b) During 1983-84, 60 million mandays of employment and in 1984-85, 300 million mandays is expected to be generated in the entire country under this programme.

Allocation of funds to Andhra Pradesh under IRDP

2785. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBA SIVA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated by the Central Government to Andhra Pradesh under the Integrated Rural Development Programme during the current financial year; and

(b) the amount of expenditure likely to be incurred on the construction and repairs of roads in rural areas particularly in Guntur District?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARINATH MISHRA):

(a) and (b) Central share of allocation under Integrated Rural Development Programme to Andhra Pradesh is Rs. 1296.00 lakhs for the current year. Matching share is to be provided by the State Government. Under Integrated Rural Development Programme, funds cannot be utilised for construction and repair of roads.

Delegation to Pakistan

2786. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBA SIVA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to send a high level delegation to Pakistan in the near future to hold discussions on bilateral issues; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) Proposals for visits at different levels are under consideration including the meeting of the Sub-Commissions of the Indo-pak Joint Commission.