

**Central Assistance to Kerala for
Drought Relief**

510. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since received the report from the Central Team which visited Kerala to assess the loss and damage caused by the drought in the State this year;

(b) if so, what are the details of the report;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision regarding Central assistance to Kerala; and

(d) if so, what are the details of amount proposed to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (d) Central Team had visited the State of Kerala from 21st to 25th April, 1983 to study the drought situation. On the recommendations of the Central Team and its consideration by the High Level Committee, a ceiling of Rs. 33.77 crores was sanctioned. A further ceiling of Rs. 5.69 crores was sanctioned to the State for drought relief in the month of October, 1983. The State was also sanctioned a ceiling of assistance of Rs. 1 crore, besides a series of measures of rehabilitation and rejuvenation of commercial crops.

**National Rural Employment
Programme**

511. SHRI I. K. MOHANAN:

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH
SURJEET:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of foodgrains distributed and money spent in 1981-82 and 1982-83 by the different States for

executing various schemes under NREP; and

(b) the number of mandays generated by the various schemes under NREP during the above period; State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI HARI NATHA MISRA): (a) and (b) A statement indicating the cash funds and foodgrains released to different States/Union Territories under National Rural Employment Programme during the years 1981-82 and 1982-83, expenditure incurred by them and employment generated during these two years is enclosed. [See Appendix CXXV in Annexure No. 20].

Changes in the Shipping Policy

512. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are considering to effect major changes in the shipping policy to facilitate mergers of shipping with non-shipping companies in view of the prolonged depression in the shipping industry; and

(b) if so, what are the advantages envisaged by such a step?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal under consideration at present.

**Private Capital for House
Construction**

513. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are taking steps to attract private capital to undertake house construction on Government land on some mutual