

was paid to the Gujarat State Fertilisers Corporation for providing the necessary infrastructure. Rs. 18,183 was paid as claims to the farmers. The transaction thus resulted in a loss of Rs. 683 to the Insurance Company. This is in addition to the administrative expenditure incurred by the company for the implementation of the scheme. However, as the scale of operation of the scheme was limited and the period was short, it would be premature to take the above mentioned results as a proper evaluation of the scheme at this stage. The scheme is now being operated in Gujarat by the New India Assurance Co. Ltd. which is a subsidiary of the General Insurance Corporation.

**PREVENTION OF CALAMITY IN MAHARASHTRA,
RAJASTHAN AND TRIPURA**

112. SHRI P. K. KUNJACHEN :

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA
MENON :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to afford relief in the famine-affected areas of Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI
ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : A statement is
attached.

STATEMENT

The Steps taken to afford relief in the drought affected areas of Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Tripura are indicated below :

(1) Opening of relief works to provide employment to the affected population. In Maharashtra and Rajasthan about 46 lakh persons and about 12 lakh persons were being provided employment on relief works as at the end of June, 1975.

(2) To meet the difficulties of drinking water supply, measures have been undertaken such as deepening of wells, sinking of new wells, carriage of water by tankers to the affected areas etc.

(3) Fodder difficulties are being met by measures such as opening of cattle camps, migration of cattle, concessional movement of fodder, grant of loans for purchase of fodder, subsidy towards cost of transport of fodder, procurement of fodder etc.

(4) Schemes for distribution of gratuitous relief to the aged and the infirm have been implemented.

(5) The following amounts of central financial assistance have been released to the State Governments :—

(Rs. in crores)

Maharashtra	120
Rajasthan	21.00
Tripura	0.50

(6) Under the Emergency Agricultural Production Programme the following amounts were released to the State Governments during 1972-73 :—

(Rs. in crores)

State	Special Minor irrigation Programme	Agricultural inputs
Maharashtra	24.96	16.00
Rajasthan	3.39	4.00
Tripura	0.22	0.20

(7) Reasonable quantities of food-grains have been made available to these State Governments.

CENTRAL ASSISTANCE FOR NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

113. SHRI MOHAMMED USMAN ARIF : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state the amount sanctioned from the Central Government to the State for building National Highways during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT
(SHRI M. B. RANA) : A statement showing the funds available and intimated to State Governments for allotment during the year 1973-74 for construction and development of National Highways is attached.