

On the question of medium, to the best of my recollection, no specific reference has been made.

SHRI PRAN. B. KUMAR MUKHERJEE : Sir, it appears from the reports of the University Grants Commission that certain Universities, including some Central Universities, studied this problem and made a number of observations. In view of that, would not the work done by the committee appointed by the Advisory Board be a duplication of work? Secondly, may I know whether the observations made by various Universities on this subject and by the University Grants Commission itself have been sent to the committee appointed, for their consideration?

PROF. V. K. I. V. RAO : Regarding the first question, Sir, I don't think there will be any duplication involved, because this body does not deal with any specific examination; it deals with all examinations. Regarding the second part of the question, all the reforms which have already been made—for example, in some Universities they have already started having not numerical marking, but the grading; some Universities are toying with the idea of having periodical tests which can be included in the final examination—the experiments that have been conducted as well as the suggestions which have been made, are all before this committee, and will be taken into consideration before they come to their conclusion.

DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE FLOODS IN THE COUNTRY

*473. SHRI N. K. MOHTA : Mr. SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : SHRI L. KANATH MISRA : SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MA-
THUR : SHRI J. P. YADAV :
SHRI R. P. KHAITAN : SHRI SVSANKASEKHAR SANYAL SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH
TOHIC : SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : SHRI K. S. MALLE GOWDA :

Transferred from the 3rd December, 1970.

The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri M. K. Mohta.

SHRI DWIJENDRALAL SEN GUPTA :
SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL :
DR. DEBIPRASAD CHATTO-PADHYAYA :
SHRI SALIL KUMAR GANGULY :
SHRI MONORANJAN ROY :
SHRI NIREN GHOSH :
SHRI INDER SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central team that visited different States during the months of September and October last for making an assessment of the recent flood damage and the assistance that is necessary for relief operations, has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are its assessments; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

In response to requests received from the State Governments concerned, Central teams have so far visited Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal for an assessment, for purposes of Central assistance, of the requirement of funds for various relief, repair and rehabilitation measures necessitated on account of floods this year. While reports in respect of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Kerala are awaited, those in respect of Assam, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have been received. The Central teams have recommended the following ceilings of expenditure in these States, for purposes of Central assistance :

	(Rs. in crores)	Ceilings of expenditure
1. Assam	6.14	
2. Bihar	6.29	(includes drought relief measures).
3. Uttar Pradesh	14.35	
4. West Bengal	19.85	

The ceilings recommended by the Central teams have been accepted by the Government of India and communicated to the State Governments.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : May I ask the Minister, in view of the fact that this is not a new problem but has been going on for a very long time, so much so, that during the last 11 years as many as 10,000 human lives and 5 lakhs cattle lost their lives due to the floods and the total damage in terms of money came to Rs. 1230 crores, may I ask whether the Fourth Plan allocation of Rs. 138 crores is considered adequate by the Government to tackle this problem and, if not, whether the Government is thinking in terms of increasing the outlay on it and if so, to what extent ?

Secondly may I ask whether in view of the fact that flood control measures provide a direct relief to the agriculturists in the area and the absence of flood control measures also make them lose a great amount of money, whether the Government has any proposal to levy better levies on these areas so that the finances for this particular purpose may be augmented ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : As far as the allocation is concerned, I do not think I can assure that any additional provision is likely to be made. Naturally every State has its own provision for flood control and flood control projects. So they will include some of the projects in their own Plans. Naturally we will go on according to the plan allocation. Of course some betterment levy is possible. It is certainly a matter for the States to consider. I would welcome it if the State Governments do it.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : May I know whether out of the funds mentioned in the statement for the various States, totalling I about 45 crores whether any demarcation has been made for various measures to be taken such as afforestation of the catchment area or drainage measures or advance warning systems, etc. ? May I know whether any particular allocation has been made for any of these different aspects ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : It depends upon the information about particular project. If he asks for any specific information, I will get it from the State Government and lay it before the House.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : क्या यह सही है कि केन्द्र की ओर से जो धनराशि दी जाती है उसके संबंध में कुछ राज्यों द्वारा, विशेष तौर से गुजरात और उत्तर प्रदेश द्वारा इस प्रकार की आपत्ति की गई थी कि केन्द्र बाढ़ के लिए जो धनराशि दे रहा है उनमें वह पक्षपात करता है। केन्द्र कुछ राज्यों को ज्यादा देता है और कुछ राज्यों को जहां बाढ़ की समस्या भीषण

है वहां कम देता है। विशेष परिस्थिति में भी गुजरात को सहायता कम दी, उत्तर प्रदेश को सहायता कम दी और मद्रास को ज्यादा सहायता दे दी। तो प्रधान मंत्री जी ने स्वेच्छा से जो राज्य उनके पक्ष में है उनको कैलेमेट्री के नाम पर ज्यादा सहायता दी है और गुजरात और उत्तर प्रदेश जहां भयंकर बाढ़ आई वहां पर सहायता कम दी, तो इस प्रकार सहायता देने में किसी समान नियम का पालन क्यों नहीं किया गया ? और...

श्री सभापति : आप सबाल कीजिए।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : सबाल आखिर होता क्या है ?

श्री सभापति : मैं श्रीर लोगों को कैम बुला सकूंगा अगर आप इतना इतना समय लेंगे।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : आप इसका ही जवाब दिलवा दें।

श्री वाई० बी० चव्हाण : नहीं।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : पक्षपात का आरोप मैंने लगाया है आप पर...

श्री वाई० बी० चव्हाण : जैसा मैंने कहा, जो इन्फला मांगी गई थी उसे मैंने स्टेटमेंट में दे दिया है। अधिकतम सहायता की सीलिंग पाने वाले स्टेट का नाम एवं अन्य राज्यों की सहायता की सीलिंग क्या है इसकी पूरी इत्तला दी गई है। आसाम के लिए 6 करोड़ से ज्यादा है, बिहार के लिए 6 करोड़ से ज्यादा है, उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए 14 करोड़ से ज्यादा है और वेस्ट बंगाल के लिए 19 करोड़ से ज्यादा है। यह सब स्टेटमेंट में दिया है।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : मद्रास के बारे में।

श्री मुन्वर सिंह भंडारी : मद्रास के लिए !

श्री वाई० बी० चव्हाण : मद्रास के लिए कुछ दिया नहीं।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : श्रीमन्, इन्होंने जो कागज हम लोगों को हस्तगत कराया है, जो स्टेटमेंट हमें दिया है, उसमें कुछ नहीं है। तो श्रीमन् मैं चाहता था कि इसका पूरा व्यौरा दिया जाता। इसका पूरा व्यौरा इसमें नहीं है कि कितना कहां नुकसान हुआ। जैसा कि बिहार का उदाहरण लिया जाए तो बिहार में बाढ़ और सूखा प्रति साल प्रति साल साइमलटेनियसली आता रहता है, इस हिसाब से बाढ़ और सूखा बिहार

प्रदेश में प्राया है और जो मदद दी गई है वह सिर्फ 6 करोड़ 29 लाख रुपया है जब कि वहाँ पर करीब 45 से 50 करोड़ का बाढ़ के कारण विनाश हुआ है। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता था कि सरकार ने क्या स्थायी रूप से बाढ़ नियंत्रण की कोई योजना चतुर्थ पंचवर्षीय योजना में ली है। जिस प्रकार से कि गंगा नदी पड़ह सी मौल में बहती है और 21 करोड़ लोग उसमें प्रभावित होने हैं और उसके लिए कोई भी मास्टर प्लान नहीं है, तो क्या इस प्रकार का मास्टर प्लान गंगा नदी का और अन्य नदियों का बनाया है, उस तरह का कोई व्योम चतुर्थ पंचवर्षीय योजना में लिया है क्या !

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Sir, as far as flood control programmes are concerned, the present system of giving Central assistance is of a different type. Formerly it was based on the projects, but this time the NDC has accepted a new formula, whereby we give an entire block grant. This is on the basis of a 10 to 30 ratio, 70% as loan and 30% as grant. Naturally, the State Governments, according to their own assessment of their problems include the flood control schemes in their plans. As far as the detailed information about relief is concerned, I am right that we have not given it in the statement. But, if he wants, I can give him some information about Bihar, for example, on what basis Government have given them the grants.

There are various recommendations regarding ceiling on expenditure. For example, among the grants made to Bihar, for transport charges, etc., it is about Rs. 3.50 crores; for gratuitous relief it is about Rs. 80 lakhs; for preventive health measures it is about Rs. 20 lakhs. Then these are the grants for repair items. For repairs to State roads and roads belonging to District Boards it is about Rs. 47 lakhs. For repairs to and completion of tubewells it is about Rs. 15 lakhs. Then come the loan items. It is Rs. 1.17 crores as loans for agricultural programmes. These are the different heads for which the assistance is given.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद यादव : लाल का डिमांड कम दिया इसके कारण यह है, मुझे लगता है कि बिहार के लाल का डिमांड कम होने के कारण ही यह गड़बड़ी है।

श्री वार्डन बो० चव्हाण : बिहार का असेसमेंट कुछ कम हो तो यह ठीक है कि ऐसा हो लेकिन जो यहाँ से टीम भेजने हैं वह वहाँ का असेसमेंट करते हैं और उसी बेसिस पर तो गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया को देना है।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : अध्यक्ष महोदय, प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर। पिछले सत्र में राज्य सभा ने एक निर्णय किया था कि सरकार द्वारा प्रस्तुत जो संविधान में संशोधन करने का विधेयक था उसको राज्य सभा ने खारिज कर दिया था और उसके बाद सरकार ने राज्यों को डिस्ट्रिक्शन करने का आदेश दिया और अब सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने उसको नल एंड वायड डिक्लेयर कर दिया है इसलिए सरकार को इस्तीफा देना चाहिए।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : What is there ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no, Mr. Mathur, it is not a point of order.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : सरकार को इस्तीफा देना चाहिए। राज्य सभा के निर्णय के खिलाफ सरकार ने डिस्ट्रिक्शन किया और इस सरकार के निर्णय को सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने रद्द कर दिया, टेन टु वन उसका फैसला हुआ। राज्य सभा के निर्णय की सरकार ने अवहेलना की और सरकार के आदेश को सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने रद्द कर दिया। इस सरकार को अब कोई अधिकार नहीं है...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : You are unnecessarily raising this issue here.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : ... इसको इस्तीफा देना चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : When that is the Supreme Court decision, then it will again be brought before Parliament.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. Mr. Kulkarni.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : The Jan Sangh is for vested interests.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : ... उसने राज्य सभा के निर्णय की अवहेलना की। अब इसको इस्तीफा देना चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you not going to sit down ? Otherwise I will adjourn the House. Please sit down.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : You ask him to sit down.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have asked him already to sit down and he has done so.

श्री प्रार० पी० छेतान : मंत्री महोदयने जो स्टेटमेंट दिया है उसमें बताया है कि सेंट्रल टीम गई थी तो क्या वह बताएंगे कि जो सेंट्रल टीम गई थी उन्होंने परमनिट स्थापना के लिए क्या कुछ राय दी थी या नहीं ! परमनिट स्थापना के लिए कुछ राय दी थी उन्होंने !

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : No, it does not go into the detail of any scheme of a permanent nature. It goes for specific purposes.

SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL : According to the statement the ceilings recommended by the Central Teams have been accepted by the Government of India and communicated to the State Governments. So far as West Bengal is concerned the Government of India and the State of West Bengal are two sides of the same coin. May I humbly know whether for the implementation of the various schemes the Government of India have given any direction or recommendation to their partners as to how this should be done ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I do not think any directions in this matter are necessary to the State Governments.

SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL : But West Bengal is with you.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Even in the case of West Bengal, they have got their own plans, they have got their own ideas and I do not think any direction as such is necessary.

SHRI K. S. MALLE GOWDA : Sir, floods are not new to India and are occurring for centuries. At least during the last 23 years after independence, has the Government taken action to demarcate the most dangerous areas for human habitation and prohibit construction of houses there ?

Secondly, will the Government assure this House that houses destroyed in floods or partly damaged of those poor people whose gross income is less than Rs. 5000/- per annum will be built by Government meeting the entire cost of housing from Government funds, and thus build new modern villages turning the calamity into a blessing ?

Thirdly, will the Government assure this House that the Government will reimburse the losses of the poor people who have lost their houses, implements and oxen, if the gross annual income of such persons...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please put the question. Don't go on reading something.

SHRI K. S. MALLE GOWDA : It is the question; only the sentence is big. Will the Government assure this House that the Government will reimburse the losses of the poor people who have lost their houses, implements and oxen, if...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are not allowed to read.

SHRI K. S. MALLE GOWDA : ... the gross annual income of...

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will call the next man if you do not listen to me. If you do not shorten your question I will call the next man.

{Interruptions}

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Sir, he is a new Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, you put the question.

SHRI K. S. MALLE GOWDA : ... if the gross annual income of such persons is less than Rs. 5000 per annum as otherwise they cannot rehabilitate themselves ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why didn't you say you were a new man ?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : He appears to be a new man. Sir, I quite see his point. His main point appeals to be that wherever there are areas which are chronically flood-affected, what do we do about it ? This is really speaking the point and I am sure the State Governments must be looking after them. Some of these areas have been identified and some problems have also been identified which are to be taken up on a priority basis. The question is not one of giving compensation, the question is one of giving them some sort of relief and this is exactly what we are discussing. On the basis of the assessment made by the Central Team, the Central Government gives them some relief through the State Governments.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : Sir, the Chair was kind enough to allow me on the last day of the last session to mention about the unprecedented flood which occurred on the 6th September this year in the state of Gujarat.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now please pin the question.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : Sir, I never give any introduction or anything. I am just putting the question direct. But the Government has just fixed up till now the ceiling of expenditure for Gujarat State for purposes of Central assistance though Gujarat was the most affected among all the States which were affected by floods. I would like to know now why it is so despite my making a mention of it on the floor of the House on the 7th September. Why has not a ceiling been fixed by the Government so far?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : Sir, the Central Teams have visited seven States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Out of these four Teams have submitted their Reports and in the case of the other three the Reports are awaited. And Gujarat is one of them.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : Why is the report awaited? Mention of Gujarat was made here first.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I really do not know, what can I say? The Report is not yet received. Even then without waiting for the Report in order to help the ways and means position of the Government of Gujarat we have given them over Rs. 2 crores.

SHRI V. B. AJU : I have the same question as the hon. Member, Mr. Chavda, put. It is now nearly three months since there was actually a heavy calamity in Hyderabad city where nearly 100 people lost their lives and thousands of huts were demolished. It is surprising that for three months no report has come. Relief must be envisaged. Has the State Government indicated the assessment of losses?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I have not got any specific information here, but I am sure the Andhra Pradesh Government must have led to the needs of the situation. It does not mean that the State Government has not attended to it.

SHRI AKBAI ALI KHAN : It is not full information. What help has the Central Government given?

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : I do not think it was a flood as such. It was a heavy rain.

SHRI THILAI VILLALAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, my question is of a general nature. The actual sufferers from floods, fire or natural calamities are the State Governments. They are giving their assessment and also an estimate of their requirements. Even after getting the assessment and requirement from the State Govern-

ment, what is the necessity for sending a Central Team? I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this Government is not prepared to believe or accept the assessment of the requirements of the State Governments. Further, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this is not aggravating the already strained fiscal relationship between the States and the Centre. I would also like to know whether a Central Team will be sent only on a request from the State Government or since now, on information gathered by the Central Government itself, it is done.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY : Madras gets funds even without floods.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Please let her speak. She has been ill and we have been missing her.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY : Thank you very much, Mr. Arora.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : So many Members are absent. If you want, I am present, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have not done even three questions today. Minister, please.

SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN : There were conversations going on. There is no question of believing or not believing the reports of the State Governments. It is a question of spending the money of the Government of India with consideration, wisdom and a certain amount of caution. There is no question of any strained relations between the States and L.S. This Team is headed by an Adviser of the Planning Commission, a sort of independent person who can take an objective view of the matter. It is quite possible that in the reports of State Governments sometimes there is a local element and local pressures. Sometimes what happens is what schemes which are not exclusively of a relief nature and which are of a permanent nature are included. So, we have to see exactly which is the work involved is relief work and not of developmental nature in that sense. So, they have to go and make an assessment locally and see the work going on. Then, on that basis they make a report. It is not a question of accepting or not accepting the word of the State. I think this is a time-honoured scheme and method of giving assistance to the State Governments and, by and large they have accepted it.