

(b) the amount sanctioned for the above purpose by Government to each state for the year 1968-69?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (DR. SHRIMATI PHUL-RENU GUHA) : (a) The information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

(b) A statement showing allocations for 1968-69 for Centrally Sponsored and State Plan schemes for the welfare of Backward Classes is attached. (See below). The expenditure borne by the Central Government is 100 per cent, in respect of Centrally Sponsored schemes and 60 percent, in respect of State Plan schemes.

STATEMENT

Allocations made for 1968-69 for schemes for the welfare of Backward Classes

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the State	Allocation for 1968-69		
	Central Sector	State Sector	Total
Andhra Pradesh.	79.65	30.00	109.65
Assam .	91.91	55.00	146.91
Bihar .	132.75	60.00	192.75
Gujarat .	114.21	75.00	189.21
Haryana .	9.31	25.00	34.31
Jammu & Kashmir.	9.15	7.00	16.15
Kerala .	11.57	30.00	41.57
Madhya Pradesh.	192.47	150.00	342.47
Madras .	59.32	89.00	148.32
Maharashtra	142.15	85.00	227.15
Mysore .	33.92	70.00	103.92
Orissa .	108.60	40.00	148.60

Name of the State	Allocation for 1968-69		
	Central Sector	State Sector	Total
Punjab .	12.81	15.00	27.81
Rajasthan .	41.25	30.00	71.25
Uttar Pradesh	112.78	55.00	167.78
West Bengal .	69.01	52.00	121.01
Nagaland .	1.07	..	1.07
TOTAL .	1221.93	868.00	2089.93

DREDGING OF THE BRAHMAPUTRA

970. SHRI G. BARBORA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state whether the Union Government have taken up any scheme for dredging the Brahmaputra river-bed or any other effective flood-control measure to avert the devastating floods in Assam almost every year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : Dredging of the river-bed of the Brahmaputra for flood control is considered to be impracticable. However, it is proposed to undertake experimental dredging at a few places to see the feasibility of this as an anti-erosion measure. Further, it is proposed to concentrate attention on raising and strengthening the existing embankments in Assam and organise proper flood warning and timely maintenance. It is also proposed to examine thoroughly the technical and economic feasibility of detention reservoirs.

HARIJANS IN GRAM-PANCHAYAT

971. SHRI M. ASAD MADANI : Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in Ramnithpur Village in Hyderabad a Harijan member of the Gram-Panchayat does not dare to sit along with other members on chairs;

(b) whether it is also a fact that he cannot even participate freely in the discussions; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?